

Claiming His Tempting Mate novel chapter 36

Savannah's POV

Next morning I woke up only to find myself in bed alone again. I sighed, shaking my head. Looks like I need to get used to it. Hardwick left me alone on bed under the warm blanket. Though the bed is too comfy and I enjoyed my sleep here but him leaving me all alone is something I can't tolerate. I wanted to see him lying just beside me when I woke up in the morning but unfortunately that day never happened, not yet. He could play with me all the way he wants yet he couldn't accompany me to bed, at least till I wake up? The image of last night flashed in my mind. I couldn't help but blushed again. It's like even if I want to shake it away, I just couldn't.

Such a shameless mate I have got!

"Do you always think about 'it'?" I couldn't help but ask him. I don't know how I ended up in bed again when a few minutes ago I was talking with Tanea.

"Why? Don't tell me you don't enjoy it darling. As far I know you are the one who moan my name at the end" he smirked.

"That's not what I was talking about" I sighed and lay on the soft bed. Can I help it? Naturally I can't.

Hardwick removed his shirt and hovered over me. His muscular body almost covered my small figure. I must say, he has a drool worthy body that I can't help but shamelessly stare at. The way his muscles flexed with each move had my mouth water with desire to lick every inch of it.

~ So horny ~ Red mocked suddenly in my mind. I rolled my eyes.

~ Shut it, go away ~ I yelled at her.

~ Where do you want me to go? I am your wolf, a part of you ~ she retorted.

~ You are too noisy ~

~ And you are horny. Look how you are staring at him not blinking at all ~

~ Is that my fault? Who told him to build his body like this?~

~ Well ask him that yourself ~ then she disappeared.

"What are you thinking again?" Hardwick knocked my forehead.

"Ouch ..that hurts" I frowned, rubbing the spot.

He tilted his head to the side before lowering it a little “your focus should only be me darling. I won’t allow you to think of other things when we are alone”

“It was Red, my wolf,” I replied.

“Doesn’t matter, when I am here, your all attention should only be me”

I smirked, “are you getting jealous of my own wolf?”

“Do I need to use vocal power to show it?” He raised his eyebrows.

I was surprised by his confession. He really did admit that he got jealous of his own mate? Is this man even real? I couldn’t help but shake my head.

“Hardwick you are....” I stopped. I don’t know what to say to him. Everytime I he shows me another side of him.

“I am what?” He asked.

“I don’t know,” I sighed.

He laughed “messed up mind isn’t it?”

He knows clearly what he was doing yet still pestering me to say it to him.

“You were-” he silenced me giving a quick smooch.

“Shhh....no more talking, we have wasted time while talking and now it’s time to do some action”

I felt hot. Damn it even his simple words are enough to make me burn. I never knew my desires were so high until I met this man who is currently on top of me. I bit my lips as I looked at him intensely.

His eyes darkened and he leaned “you are so fucking beautiful” he whispered using his husky tone and claimed my lips.

Our lips collided and played with each other with a familiar rhythm, dancing our tongue with passion and full of desire. He bit my lower lip then sucked it hard causing me to wince.

“You taste so fucking sweet baby, this lips are mine to devour” Hardwick whispered again. I arched my back pushing my body above only to be pressed with his chest. My breast rubbed on his bare chest and he groaned.

“Fuck, do you want me to cum right here sweetheart. I haven’t even started enjoying your sweet cunt”

God, his dirty words made me wet. I felt hotness pulling in my core slowly reaching its release. His words are like a hard push to make me wet all over again.

“So sweet, I like this blush when you become so wet with my words” he said and bit my earlobe “you love the dirty talk isn’t it darling? Tell me does it make you cunt to release its milk making it ready for me to claim you?”

“Oh god...” I moaned loudly when he reached out and pushed his fingers inside my panty and touched my already wet fold. He rubbed the area using his fingers in a slow motion.

“So wet baby, you are liking it too much isn’t it?” He let out a sexy chuckle. His other hand grabbed my breast against the cloth and squeezed it hard.

“Hardwick” I moaned loudly, closing my eyes. His hands are like a evil claws torturing me to reach my end point.

“I can kiss you all day long baby” he sucked my neck hard. His sharp teeth nipped my skin and pulled it a little. I hissed in pain but the pleasure shooting inside my body made me unable to complain.

“Relax baby, enjoy the moment. You just need to relax your body” Hardwick traced my clit before pinching it.

“Oh...my...” I moaned again. I almost felt it explode as my body jerked.

“Like it?” I can feel his smirk against my neck.

“I am about to explode you evil” I cursed him but instead of getting angry he chuckled.

“Not so fast” he uttered and before I could understand he removed his hand then in a swift moment he flipped me around. I was now lying on my stomach. His sudden action made me shocked and I tilted my head to look at him over my shoulder.

“Don’t worry, I am not going to fuck you baby. It’s still not the time to claim your sweet little pussy. But that doesn’t mean I won’t play with this beautiful body of yours. Let’s try something different today” he smiled.

“What are you trying to do?” I couldn’t help but ask. Though I am not afraid because I know he won’t hurt me no matter what. But the way he used to pleasure me is something that jerks my body with excitement and nervousness at the same time. I was never intimate with anyone like this let alone to have experience in this field.

“Are you scared?” Hardwick said after sometime. He leaned his body on my bed until it’s almost lying on top of me. He reached near my ear and said huskily “you don’t have to worry about it sweetheart. All you need to do is to enjoy the pleasure I am about to give you”

Once he completed he kissed my back and reached out his hand tearing the dress apart. I gasped when I heard the sound of the soft material ripping.

“Why do you have to tear it?” I asked.

He chuckled “I don’t have so much patience”

I almost rolled my eyes but before I could do that I felt his fingers on my back. He traced the fingers on my back slowly. I shivered with his touch and dipped my face into the pillow.

“So beautiful...” Hardwick whispered “got a birthmark darling”

I didn’t say anything but next second I felt him kissing my back softly. Then he traced his tongue over the pattern of my mark. I arched my back but he held me down on the place and continued to lick on my back.

“Hardwick” I moaned with pleasure.

“You are such a beautiful baby, inside and out. Everything about you is so beautiful. My mate, my beautiful mate” he said sensually against my skin.

“You are torturing me” I said to him. He removed his hand at such a time when I was about to explode and it made me so frustrated.

He chuckled “are you angry sweetheart?”

I rolled my eyes and didn’t reply.

“Since you want me so much then I will give you what you want” he said again before I felt his hand against my wet core. He parted the folds of my pussy and thrust his two digit inside it. My body jerked forward and I gasped.

“Fuck baby, you are still this tight even after so much orgasam?” He hissed as he thrust his fingers fucking me.

The pleasure this time was kind of different. He is fingering me from behind and his each thrust causes my body to move forward. His fingers are so forceful that I couldn’t help but close my eyes. It didn’t take time for me to release because of his hard thrust. After a few more thrust of his fingers I cum all over his hands.

“Hardwick” I moaned loudly as I released myself. I panted as I closed my eyes.

“So good, your riding my fingers like a fucking sexy goddess darling” Hardwick said from behind then suddenly slapped my butt.

My eyes widened but he just chuckled “I can’t help it”

Slowly he turned me around and smiled “enjoyed much?”

I nodded my head slowly. I couldn’t find my voice to speak and all I could do was nod my head. After the pleasure torture I was so tired that I felt my eyes becoming heavy.

“So adorable,” I heard Hardwick whisper. He kissed my forehead and uttered again “have a tight sleep sweetheart”

“Mistress”

“Mistress?”

I was jerked back to reality when I heard the voice. I turned to look at the side and found Luina was standing holding a towel.

“Good morning mistress. Do you want to take a shower first?” She asked.

I felt blush crawling on my face making it all hot. Hell, I was just daydreaming in the morning. Last night’s action lingered in my mind like a recorded video. I shook my head trying to shove the blush.

“I would like that” I replied to Luina who was already waiting for me to answer.

She nodded “I will get the water ready”

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“Master will be here after sometime. He said you can have breakfast if you are hungry” Luina said once I sat in the dining area.

“I will wait for him” I smiled at her.

“Am I late?” a woman around mid 40 walked in with a smile.

“Mistress, she is Marga, the head of the maids in the pack. She is also incharge of the kitchen” Luina informed.

“Welcome to the pack Mistress” Marga smiled warmly. “I was on leave so I did not about your arrival”

"It's fine," I smiled.

"What would you like to eat?"

"What does Hardwick eat everyday?" I asked her.

She looked quite surprised but smiled again "master usually drinks coffee in the morning. He rarely has his breakfast meal"

"He skips breakfast?" I frowned. It's not good to skip the first meal of the day. He always disappears in the morning saying he has work. But even though he has work, he couldn't neglect his health. I shook my head.

"I will wait for him, I want to eat with him today" I said to her.

"Okay" Marga nodded her head.

"Where is he anyways? Why does he always disappear in the morning?" I frowned at Luina.

Luina had a helpless expression as she smiled "I don't know mistress. Master does not inform us about his whereabouts or his works"

I sighed "I am sorry, I didn't mean to pressure you" I should not have asked like this. Of course he won't find it important to inform the maids about him. Next time I think I need to do this personally.

After almost waiting for 15 minutes Hardwick finally decided to grace us with his presence. He smiled when he saw me then kissed my temple.

"Are you waiting for me?"

I nodded and watched him sitting on the head chair. Marga again came to us with a smile.

"What would you like to have for breakfast?" She asked.

Hardwick asked me, "What do you want to eat?"

"Anything is fine, I am not picky" I shrugged.

He nodded then turned to look at Marga "bring something hot and tasty"

Marga nodded and about to go when I called her "Marga please make it two"

Marga smiled then left. Hardwick turned to me and smiled “slept well?” There was a smirk playing in his eyes.

I know what he was talking about. I will never let him know that I had a daydream about our erotic action. I shook my head.

“I heard you skip breakfast every time” I said focusing on the topic.

“I have less appetite,” he smiled.

I rolled my eyes “you are not a robot or something. Even if I know you are strong and has more power but you still need to eat to keep yourself healthy”

He chuckled “you are worried that much?” He leaned towards me while his eyes were pinning me with dominance “if I am not wrong, I would think that you have fallen for me”

I was startled with his statement. Fallen for him? Am I really? I have encountered the most painful tragedy because I have fallen for the wrong person in the past. But now the present is more promising and more different from the past. Though I am bound to Hardwick because of the mate bond and truly speaking I do care for him a lot, and there’s a kind of strong pull towards him but can those feelings be referred to as ‘love’? A love that ruined me in the past?

For some time I couldn’t reply to him. I trust Hardwick more than myself and also want to obey everything he says. But whenever I want to put myself in the love matter I don’t know why but there’s still some insecurity building inside my heart.

“You don’t have to fight,” I heard him say. I looked up and found him looking at me playfully.

“There’s no need for you to go through the internal turmoil. You are my mate, and as long as you know the fact that you are mine, that’s enough. Other thing does not matter anymore”

Suddenly guilt stabbed my heart. He is so caring and understanding. He knows my thoughts and also never tries to judge it. My eyes watered instantly. How come I ever doubt his affection and love that is shining in his eyes?

“I am yours”

I blurted out before I could stop myself. It’s like my mind and my thoughts are working together to push the words out even before my heart could permit it. Hardwick gave me his handsome smirk.

“Yes, you are mine”

We looked at each other deeply in the eyes. Forgetting about our surroundings. It felt like I was drowning inside his dominating orbs which always managed to pull me with invisible shackles.

“Master, Mistress, breakfast is served” suddenly Marga’s voice pulled us out of our own trance. I averted my gaze and looked at the empty plate on the table while Hardwick just cleared his throat and picked the coffee cup to drink. Marga served pancakes on my plate then added the delicious looking syrup on it.

“Serve me the breakfast too Marga” Hardwick said suddenly and I looked at him.

“Uh ...” Marga was surprised but she still served the pancake on his plate before turning around and smiled at me.

I gave her a smiling nod before picking my spoon and fork to start eating. The morning in the Dark Forest Pack is as sweet as the pancake on my plate.

Claiming His Tempting Mate novel chapter 37

Savannah’s POV

“This is the library Mistress” Luina pushed the door and led me inside. I gasped once I looked around. It was huge, with 7 high shelves circling the whole room. And each shelf was filled with books.

“Why does it feel like this place has not been in use for long?” I asked, looking around.

“You are right, Mistress. Most of the pack members are interested in practicing in the field. Only a few come here to read” Luina informed.

I nodded and raked my eyes through the books. This library is bigger than I had in the Snow Moon Pack. Looks like the ancestors of Dark Forest were interested in collecting. I walk towards the huge shelves. There was also a ladder and stairs for the upper shelves. Everything about this room feels good. After the breakfast Hardwick left again leaving me alone. I had nothing to do. Though he said he will be back early, what will I do in the meantime? So I asked Luina to show me around the pack. And after visiting some other room she led me in this room and I am really glad that it’s a library.

“I like this room” I uttered satisfied then turned around “but this room still needs something”

“You can order whatever you want, Mistress,” Luina said.

I nodded “sounds good, arrange a desk, a chair, few writing equipments and yeah a couch please”

“Anything else Mistress?”

“No, these are fine” I smiled and walked towards the book shelves to pick a book. Though this place is huge, there’s no sitting arrangement where one can sit to read. Maybe because this is rarely used so no one cares about it.

Luina left soon to arrange while I stared at the books in front of me. My eyes fell on the green covered book at the corner. I walked towards it and pulled it out.

“Under The Lone Star” I uttered the title of the book. And my eyes raked down to see the author name “Kenny Sujan” I mumbled.

I have never read a romantic one. What I was interested in was the historical events so I preferred to read in that category. And this is the first time I took interest in such a romantic book. There was a silhouette of a couple on the cover and the fonts were written in italic style. I flipped the cover and turned the pages. I started to read the first chapter of the novel.

It seems that life wants to test me until I have drawn all my energy I was left with. My mother was right, living is hard and death is peaceful. At the end she proved this quote and chose to die. I wanted to do the same, I want it to end but unfortunately I can’t. I wish I could-

The crack sound of the door opening made me stop reading and I turned around to look at the door. I was startled when I saw a familiar face who just walked in. She stopped suddenly and looked at me with the same expression as mine. Isn’t she the girl beside Daisy? Looking at her reminded me that, since I came in the pack, I have not seen them. Not Daisy nor the other two who were with her. And now seeing Cora in the library I was quite surprised.

“Mistress” Cora smiled “I am here to deliver the stuffs you have asked”

“Uh....thank you” I nodded and closed the book.

“It’s my duty” she added before instructing the men behind her.

Soon the library was set up as I wanted and now it looks like a study rather than a library. Luina worked fast. Though I expected her to work fast, I never thought she would do it right away.

“Do you need anything else Mistress?” Cora asked after checking.

“No, these are fine,” I smiled.

“Then I will leave now. If you want anything please tell us” her voice was respectful and she looked sincere. She smiled and was about to go but I stopped her again.

“Cora?”

“Yes?” She turned around.

“Where is Daisy and Mark? I mean I haven’t seen you since I came”

She looked at me for sometime then replied “uh...Mark has gone out of the pack to the border for work”

“And Daisy?” I asked again. She only said about Mark but not Daisy.

Cora sighed “Mistress it’s better not to talk about her”

“Why?” I frowned.

“Mistress Daisy committed a mistake and she has gone to take her punishment”

I gasped “what?”

“Yes” she nodded her head.

So this is why I haven’t seen her all these time. She has gone for punishment.

“Where is she? I mean she is not in a pack but somewhere else?”

Cora gave a bitter smile “it’s rule Mistress. Besides it was master who gave the punishment so whether she likes it or not she had to take it”

Hardwick did it?

~ Of course he would. After all he is our mate ~ Red said in my mind. ~ how could he forgive that woman who tried to kill us?~

“Where did he send her?”

“East Side” Cora replied.

“What’s that?”

“I can’t say anything more, Mistress. I have work to complete” then before I could ask she left the room hurriedly. I stood there staring at her, closing the door.

What just happened? She left like a ghost is chasing after her? It’s better to ask Hardwick personally. The rules of Dark Forest are much more active than our pack. Shaking my head I walk towards the couch and lay down before opening the book again and starting to read.

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“Wake up sleepy head” I felt something poking my cheeks then it was like a soft feather touching my lips.

I groaned and pushed the thing away but I heard a chuckle ringing in my ear. Wait, what’s that? I opened my eyes only to greet the handsome face of my mate.

“You are up” he grinned.

“You....I....” I rubbed my eyes and looked around. Then realisation hit my head. Oh god, I am in the library. The book slipped from my hand and fell on the rug.

“You were reading a romantic novel?” Hardwick glanced at the title of the book then looked at me.

“When did you come?” I asked, sitting on the couch.

“Half an hour ago”

“Why didn’t you wake me up?”

“You were looking so cute when you were sleeping. How could I wake you up?” He asked.

Cute? Hardwick knows how to use words to flatter me. I shook my head before smiling.

“You are done with your work?”

“It’s just some normal pack matters,” he replied.

I nodded and about to say but I heard him speak again “are you hungry?”

“No, I ate fully in the morning”

“It has been hours since you had breakfast. You are still not hungry?” He frowned.

“I have less appetite” I mimicked his words.

Hardwick laughed “are you copying me darling?” Then raised his eyebrows in a teasing manner.

I shrugged “I really can’t help it”

Suddenly he hovered over me keeping his arms on the couch “you know copying is a bad habit don’t you. It’s an act of a naughty girls and naughty girls are meant to be punished”

My heart raced instantly at the proximity. I looked into his eyes and gave a small smile. Batting my eyelashes seductively I circled my arms around his neck and pulled him towards me.

“Do you think I am naughty?” I asked.

Hardwick was shocked at first then suddenly he revealed his evil smirk. He leaned more and stopped only when our faces were inches apart.

“Aren’t you?” He asked huskily.

“I beg to differ, Master...” I said seductively.

Instantly Hardwick’s eyes darkened and he looked at me with his dominating orbs.

“Fuck” he cursed and pulled me for a kiss. He bit my lower lip and sucked it hard.

“Do you know how seductive you look right now? Like a sex goddess trying to put her seduction to seduce me” he said huskily and bit my lips again.

“Ummm...” I tried to pull away but he didn’t let me.

“You are fucking seductive baby” he whispered then again claimed my lips for a hot passionate kiss.

I don’t know how long we have been kissing but after sometime I couldn’t breath. Hardwick didn’t seem to plan on letting me go so I used my hand and slapped his back. After a few seconds he finally let me go from his brushing kiss.

“You taste fucking good” he licked his lips as he gazed me with lust shimmering in his eyes. I panted trying to catch my breath. I almost thought I was choked to death. Tilting my head I glared at the man in front of me.

“What do you think you were doing?” I barked angrily.

He smirked “what? You are the one who seduced me baby”

I glared at him but stayed silent. Hell, I never thought he would be this aggressive. I just wanted to tease him but he flipped my plan and bruised my lips in return. I am definitely not going to use this act again. It’s better to stay safe than cry later.

“Come on, let’s go. You need food” he chuckled.

"I am not hungry" I hissed.

"Are you angry sweetheart?" He smirked.

"How would I dare to do that?" I rolled my eyes.

He chuckled again "I am sorry. I was a little carried away. Now comes one you need to have some food. You ate breakfast hours ago" he grabbed my wrist and tried to pull me up.

"Wait" I stopped him.

"What?" should ask or not but I wanted to know and he is the only

"I wanted to ask something," I said nervously. I don't know if I one who can tell me about it.

"What is it?" He asked, frowning at me.

"What is the East Side?"

Hardwick's playful expression vanished in a second as his expression turned serious now. I was nervous inside but didn't let it show on my face. He is my mate and as his mate I have the right to know about it.

"What did you say?" He asked but this time his tone is quite hard.

"I heard you sent Daisy to the East Side. I want to know what kind of punishment you have given her?" I tried to explain.

"Who told you that?"

"Does that matter?"

"Savannah I asked you who told you that?" He used his Alpha tone. My heart skipped a beat. He never used such a harsh tone before. And looks like this matter is more serious than I thought. But I won't let it go.

"Cora. I asked her about Daisy so she hesitantly told me"

"What did she say more?"

"She didn't said anything else"

"Good," he mumbled.

“Hardwick, why are you hiding it from me?”

“Hiding what?”

I fought the urge to roll my eyes. Is he treating me like a kid or playing an innocent game again?

“Daisy tried to harm me in the hunting event and now she is sent to the East Side for punishment. Why is that?” I asked.

“Because she deserves it. Since he tried to hurt you, she needs to go through the punishment as well” he replied.

“Okay I get that, but I still can’t understand why you don’t want to talk about this matter?”

“Why don’t you calm yourself down first then we can talk about it later?”

I frowned “you are doing it again?” I gasped.

“Doing what darling?” He asked.

“You are trying to avoid this matter again. Why? Why can’t you just tell me about it?” I shook my head. What’s the problem with this Daisy girl? Why is Hardwick not telling me about her? What is he trying to hide?

“There’s nothing to talk about it” he said and pulled me towards him. “She is just a mere wolf who did bad deeds and is now taking her punishment. It was her choice to end up like this. It’s the rule of our pack darling, and no one can change it”

“Fine, since you don’t want to talk about her then tell me something else. What kind of place is the East Side?” I looked at him.

“This place is built for or for those who commit sin. Those who went there are to take punishment for their guilt” he replied.

“That’s it?” I frowned.

“Why? You wanted to hear something else?” He raised his eyebrows.

“No” why do I feel like there’s something missing. Like a piece of part that Hardwick did not want to reveal. Besides, the look on Cora’s face was somewhat strange. It felt like she felt pain when she was talking about the East Side. I couldn’t help but frown.

“Why are you frowning?” Hardwick asked.

I shook my head “you are not hiding anything?”

“No,” he smiled. “Now come one. It’s already past lunch time” he pulled me up.

“I am still not hungry”

He chuckled “then I am hungry and you are going to accompany me”

This time I didn’t protest and let him lead me out of the room. I am still not familiar with the way so it’s better if he is here. But I couldn’t rest my heart because I still felt there’s something missing about Daisy and the East Side.

But what?

Claiming His Tempting Mate novel chapter 38

Savannah’s POV

“Do you think it’s a good idea?” I asked Hardwick again. I don’t know what came into his mind that in the morning he suggested to stroll around the pack. Though it is an opportunity for me to meet the pack members, I am still quite nervous inside. It has been a week that I am living in Dark Forest yet I never got the chance to go outside. Almost everyday I would spend my time in the library or with him.

“You are the Luna, though the title has not become official but all the members have already taken you as one. You need to go out and meet them. Once you get familiar, you will feel good” he said as he wore his shirt in front of the mirror.

I sighed. He is true to his point. I can’t possibly live my whole life just inside the pack mansion. I have seen mom, accompanying dad whenever he goes and how the pack members show their respect to her. I always thought mom is special because she knows how to deal with things and hard situations.

“Are you ready?” Hardwick walked towards me and stretched his hand “just let your anxious feeling go. It will make more nervous”

I couldn’t help but smile. This man, how did he know about my feelings? It’s like he can see through me.

~ Because he is our mate. He can feel our feelings ~ Red replied in my mind.

~ Yeah, it’s only me who can’t understand him ~ I mocked myself.

~ you are lazy that’s why ~

I rolled my eyes mentally. I don't know why but my own wolf is mocking me. Great. Hardwick led me towards the door. He pushed the door open and I saw Luina was already standing outside.

"Everything is ready, master," she informed him.

Hardwick nodded "good" then he turned to look at me "let's go"

We walked outside the pack mansion and strolled around the area. Hardwick was holding my hand as we walked. The whole area was covered with forest and high mountains. I can see the peak of it. We walked past many houses and a few pack members greeted us when they saw us walking.

"Why are there only a few people? How many people actually live here?" I asked, looking around. The starter houses look beautiful at the sides. There're rumours saying Dark Forest is secretive and rich. I never believed in those gossips but now coming here, I guess they are kind of true.

"Most of the youngsters are in the field training. So only the elders are here" Hardwick replied. He pulled me more into the area where the houses started to become deep.

Though the population of Dark Forest is quite heavy, I must say the whole pack is neat and clean. The way it was situated and decorated, the people living there must have worked hard to keep it in this way.

"How many pack members does Dark Forest have?" I couldn't help but ask.

"Over 3000 families"

I gasped "what?"

Hardwick looked at me amused "what? Can't believe it at all?"

"Wait, you are saying that Dark Forest has over 3000 families?"

"It's not accurate because not all of them live here," he explained. "Our ancestors have parted the pack. Though most of the members residence are located in this forest part but there's some who lives on East Side"

East Side? Isn't it the place that Cora said? Daisy was also sent there. According to him, the East side is also part of the pack. But why did they divide it in the first place? This is the first time I heard about a pack being partitioned like this.

"The East Side?" I frowned "since the pack has two difficult locations then is that also in your control?"

“Partly, because East side still has elders who used to supervised dad during his rule”

I sighed, “looks like Dark Forest is really dark with its mysteries”

He chuckled, “don’t worry. You will get accustomed with it soon”

“You-” I was about to say when something bumped me. Frowning, I looked down only to see beautiful blue eyes staring at me. There was a cute little girl wearing a wolf ears headband with chubby cheeks.

“Alisa, don’t run-” a voice stopped in middle and followed by apologising tone “I am sorry Master, Mistress, my daughter is little naughty”

I looked up and saw a woman a little older from me looking down.

“It’s fine” I smiled then squatted down and pinched the little girl’s cheek “your name is Alisa?”

Alisa nodded fiercely but while doing this the wolf ears headband suddenly slipped from her head and rested on her cute little nose. I chuckled and made her wear the headband properly.

“Why are you running so fast?” I asked softly.

“I wanted to show my ears,” she said pointing towards the headband.

“Wow, you have such lovely ears” I complemented making her blush. Her chubby cheeks turned red as she shyly looked down. I couldn’t help but feel amused. She is so little and the way she is blushing makes her more adorable.

“Alisa, give your thanks to Luna, sweetheart,” her mother said.

Alisa looked up and grinned “thank you Luna”

I laughed and ruffled her hair “your welcome honey”

“Mistress, I hope you won’t mind. My daughter is a little naughty and always runs around” Alisa’s mom said as I got up.

“How can I mind such a cute little thing?” I smiled. Alisa ran to her mother and grinned.

“Thank you, usually she behaves well but today she got her new headband so she couldn’t control”

I chuckled “it’s fine, kids are angels”

“Thank you Master, Mistress” then she led her daughter away.

“So adorable,” I whispered, still looking at Alisa’s jumping figure.

“Shall we? my love?” Hardwick’s voice pulled me out of my trance. I almost forgot that he is here too.

“Yes” I smiled at him. Intertwined our hands before taking me to a farther stroll.

Reese’s POV

“How are you feeling?” Mom asked as she put the tray on the table.

“I am bored” I replied “mom, why can’t I go out? I am bored to death sitting here all the time. I can’t control anymore”

“Reese, don’t talk like that. You need to control yourself because the current situation is not in our hands” mom said sternly.

I rolled my eyes “what do you want me to do mom? Die here? What kind of sin did I do that they are not letting me go out of this room? Are they trying to confine me here till I give birth?” I felt anger rising inside me. It has been a week already yet I am still stuck here. Besides, Avan also refused to meet me.

“My dear, why are you so angry?” Mom said sitting on bed “how many times I have to tell you that, the greatest weapon a woman could have is her gentleness and calmness. If you behave like this then how will Avan feel anything for you?”

“Mom, he knows already. He knows that this pregnancy is a planned action. Now he doesn’t even want to look at me or want to listen to me. What should I do?”

“You need to use this baby as a weapon,” mom suddenly smiled.

“What do you mean?” I frowned at her.

“Even if Avan knows that we have planned this action, you are already pregnant and he is still single. So no matter how much he is angry with you, he couldn’t hurt you. Because you are carrying his only child. This baby will be the heir of Bright Shine. Since that bitch is already out of the line, the only person remaining by his side is you and now you are pregnant. This is the great advantage you have in your hand. You need to use this situation to win back Avan”

“But he doesn’t want to see me”

“Then make him see you. How can a man ignore the woman who is carrying his baby completely?” Mom suggested.

“Do you think it will work?” I asked, still unsure.

“I heard that these days Avan is quite busy handling the pack affairs and staying late at night doing work. You should go and confront him and tell him how much you care about him. No man can resist a woman in such a situation. Though he might be angry at first but then he will definitely cool down. All you need to do is use your charm” mom smiled.

Though the suggestion is quite tempting, Avan is ignoring me these days. He didn't even visit me here but also refused to let me out of the room. How can I just go and use seduction at this time?

“Mom, are you serious? You want me to seduce him at this time? Even if he won't hurt me, what if he gets more angry and what if the plan doesn't go as per our wish? I don't want to risk anything”

Mom frowned “what are you saying? I have put so much effort into getting you this position. Reese, are you doubting me?”

“Mom” I sighed “I am not saying that”. I shook my head “I just think that this time is not right to take action. Can't we wait for a few days?”

“You need to work at the right time darling. If you just want to wait then it will only delay your time. Currently the situation in the pack is not favourable for us. Avan is angry and so does Alpha and Luna. Even your dad is not talking to me. And if you can't secure your position then it will be too late for you to hold it”

“Why is dad not talking to you?” I frowned.

Mom sighed heavily “he is accusing me of being irresponsible. Alpha is angry with him because of your pregnancy matter so your dad is a little upset”

“Is he blaming you?”

“He is” mom nodded “but this is not the concern. As long as Avan accepts you everything will be fine”

“But I can't go out now. If I sneak out then he will be more angry” I shook my head. I know Avan more than anyone. He is aggressive and moody. Things are not going according to him so he will be more aggressive towards anything. Though I know mom just wanted to reconcile our bond but I also need to think of it clearly. If it was before then I wouldn't have given much thought to it but now I am pregnant and if anything happens during our talk the only person who will get hurt is me. And I don't want to take any risk regarding this baby. This baby is the only hope left for me and I will never do anything that risks its life.

“Reese, I just want you two to behave like before. I don’t want you to end up like me” mom suddenly sobbed.

“Mom please, don’t cry. We have come so far yet you are still crying like this?” I hold her hand “ I promise I will use my pregnancy to make up with Avan but I also need time okay, I know him well. If I try to pester him he will doubt me and I can’t explain myself. Just give me sometime before I persuade him again”

Mom nodded “fine, as you wish. I have brought your favourite dessert. Do you want to taste some?” She opened the lid of the bowl.

“It looks delicious” my mouth watered instantly.

“Here have this” mom handed me the bowl.

“Thanks mom” I thanked before happily eating my dessert.

Later in the evening Avan visited me. I was surprised at first but instantly calmed myself again. He was ignoring me all these days but finally decided to show himself again.

“How are you?” He asked as he walked in.

“I am good. This pregnancy makes me tired all the time” I smiled at him.

He nodded, “are you resting properly?”

“Of course. I need to care for the baby properly”

“It’s good”

I looked at him. He looked exhausted but still looked so handsome.

“Were you busy these days? I mean you haven’t visited so...”

“Pack work”

“Avan don’t exhaust yourself so much. I know you have work to deal with and many problems to face. But you also need to care about your health too. Don’t forget this time it’s not only me or the pack that need you but also our baby” I said gently, trying to put more sweetness in my words.

He looked at me for sometime before finally giving a nod “don’t worry. I know what I am doing”

“I understand your problems” I smiled “I am just concerned about you. You look so tired right now” I said as I reached out to hold his hand. But before I could touch him he suddenly moved a little avoiding my touch.

“I have so many responsibilities to take care of. You only need to nourish yourself and the baby so that both of you are healthy and don’t need to think about other things”

I bit my lips but nodded. It’s better not to argue with him right now. Our relationship is not like before. Any single mistake will lead him away from me more.

“Okay, you take care”

He nodded “I will visit you again” then he walked out of the room.

I looked at his retreating figure then clenched my fist tightly. My nails dug in my skin bruising it but I don’t care. Right now the pain seems more comfortable.

He is still so indifferent but there will be a day when he can understand my worth and at that time I will see how he stays indifferent like today.

Claiming His Tempting Mate novel chapter 39

Savannah’s POV

The next few days went smoothly. These days I meet Alisa frequently and spend time with the little girl. At first she would shy away but then she started to get comfortable around me and started to chat happily or I should say she is one kind of chatterbox who would never stop once her mouth is opened. Her mom Elsa is a wonderful woman. After spending time with her I got to know so many things. She would chat about how she met her mate and came to Dark Forest to settle down.

“How old is Alisa?”

Elsa smiled “she is 5 this year but that kid is more naughtier than other kids of her age”

“I have not seen many of the kids here. The first one I saw is Alisa”

“It’s because most of the parents sent their kids to watch the training”

“At such a young age?” I raised my eyebrows. Though I know Dark Forest is different and has some rules, sending the kids to watch the training at the age when they should play and enjoy it’s kind of surprising.

“You don’t think like others?” I asked Elsa “I mean Alisa is here, when others are in the training field. Don’t you want to send her too?”

Elsa laughed “I thought about it. And also talked about it with Hunter, but he said there’s no need for that. He want his daughter to enjoy her life other than exhausting herself thinking about the training”

I nodded “I guess Hunter planned well. I also agree that kids should be disciplined from young age but 5 years is not something to put them under heavy rules”

“Alpha didn’t make such rules” Elsa stated “actually he never said that kids should join the training. It’s just the reputation of the pack grew with time and the mindset changed”

“I guessed so,” I smiled. Hardwick is a hard ruler but I also never thought he would be too cruel to place heavy burdens on innocent kids. And I guess I was right.

“I am happy that you are finally here Luna”

I looked at Elsa’s smiling face.

“After so many years we could finally see Alpha behaving normally”

“Normally?” I frowned “what do you mean by that?”

“I shouldn’t be saying this but looking at you I can’t help myself. As you know our pack is considered strong compared with other packs. And this was only because Alpha is really strict. Starting from training to battling everything needs to be perfect in his eyes. Why do you think the parents send their kids to the field to watch the training? It’s because they want their kids to understand and become accustomed to it. We all were worried that Alpha was alone and even after so many years he couldn’t find Luna. There’s also rumours that the Elders of the East Side wanted to select Luna for Alpha, as the rules say an Alpha couldn’t rule the pack without Luna” Elsa explained.

My eyes widened “what? You mean to select a random girl as a Luna even if she is not bound with bond?”

Elsa nodded “it seems like that”

I couldn’t believe it. How can they just paster any random girl as Hardwick’s Luna even though she was not his real mate? What did the elders think before coming to such a cheap conclusion? I wanted to grit my teeth till it hurt. I looked at Elsa who was quietly looking at me.

“Do you know who these elders are?” I asked.

She shook her head “actually most of the pack members have not seen any of them. Only a few close ones have seen these Elders. Hunter once went to the East Side so he told me about it. Though he didn’t get the chance to meet them personally but he heard many things about them”

“What kind of things?”

“It said that those elders are 3 old men who once worked as advisers during the rule of Alpha’s Grandfather. Alpha Hudson, Alpha’s Grandfather used to live on the East side. He ruled the whole pack from there. Later when Alpha’s father was born and took the title he settled here in the forest. Since then the East side has become the elders territory”

There are so many things. I thought inwardly. Dark Forest is more puzzling than a mystery book. But even after hearing this why do I feel like there’s more to it which is still unknown to me.

“That’s all?” I asked.

“I don’t know how true it is but this is all Hunter heard from East Side”

I nodded “it’s fine, whether it’s true or not there will be a chance to know. I think I should leave now. The sun is setting already” I got up from the couch.

“Alisa likes you so much Luna. She kept nagging when you don’t visit her”

I laughed “I will surely visit her in free time”

“Thank you for coming and spending time with us. Usually Luna does not visit the pack house personally unless it is a serious or important matter”

“I guess I am different then” I smiled while she laughed.

“Of course you are”

=====

I walked out of Elsa’s house with Luina. Luina is always with me whenever I go. But I am also glad that she is here because the path of the pack is still unfamiliar in some parts so it’s better she is here to guide.

“Is Hardwick free from his work?”

“I don’t know Mistress. Master doesn’t have a fixed time for that, ” Luina said from behind.

“Maybe I can wait. He usually finishes when it’s dusk” I said and about to step forward when I bumped into something.

“Oh, that my-” my apology stopped in the middle when I saw the person’s face. Surprised in heart I took a step backward.

“Daisy?” I mumbled the name. She is here? Didn’t they say she was sent to the East Side for punishment? But today she is already back?

Daisy looked at me darkly. Her face was pale and void of any emotions. The pale skin makes her look like a ghostly figure. I don’t know what is wrong with this girl. She always gives me a cold look and her eyes are filled with hatred.

“You are back?” I said again.

Suddenly she chuckled “why? You were not satisfied?” Her mocking tone pierced my heart like a knife. What kind of feeling is this?

“What are you talking about?”

“Please, Luna. Are you pretending to be innocent now?” She asked “are you not satisfied with the punishment that master gave me? Do you want to add more?”

“Behave yourself before Mistress” Luina said in a warning tone from behind.

Daisy glanced at her then smirked before looking at me “oh, I almost forgot about that. How can I disrespect her? She is Master’s favourite isn’t she? But let me tell you, whether she is the mate or not but she will never be able to compare with Delaney”

Delaney? I frowned. Who is that? And why is she talking like this? From the side I saw Cora was running towards us with an anxious expression. When she heard the name Delaney her expression changed instantly and turned pale. She grabbed Daisy’s arm forcefully.

“Daisy what the hell are you talking about?” She yelled.

“What did I say wrong?” Daisy almost shouted. She shook off Cora’s hand and stared at her angrily. “Is that not true? She is taking her place and how can I stay silent watching all these?” Daisy pointed her fingers towards me.

Anger started to boil inside me. Though I guess this girl is somehow dissatisfied with me, she has no right to point her fingers towards me like I am somehow inferior to her. I thought she don’t like me that’s why she is always rude but the more I care less about her behaviour, the more she thinks she can say anything about me.

“Shut up. Did you forget your punishment already? Do you want to piss Master more?” Cora hissed.

Daisy didn’t give any heed to her as she turned around and glared at me fiercely “it’s all because of you. If you were not there, Delaney would be here taking her rightful place but now you have to come and ruin everything. Because of you Master punished me and all the happenings are all because of you. I will never forgive you for that. You and that

family of yours only knows how to act and attract-" before she could complete my hand flew and fiercely slapped her face. The force of the slap was so hard that Daisy fell on the ground.

Cora's eyes almost popped out of its socket as she looked at Daisy then to me.

"You better watch your words before opening your mouth. I have been tolerating your nonsense because I thought you don't like me. But it doesn't mean you can say whatever you want even dragging my family in your curse. You should know your position before pointing your finger. You have no right to judge people with your narrow mindset. Let me clear your confusion, I don't fucking know about whoever Delaney is nor I have any relation with her. If you are that dissatisfied then go and complain to your master about it. If I saw you behaving like an unruly brat before me I would forget that you are a member of this pack and I won't wait for your master to make a judgment" I hissed at her before walking away.

Dealing with such a brat is not hard. It's just I don't want to force myself to look bad when I just arrived. But that doesn't mean I will restrain myself every time.

Luina didn't say anything as I walked inside my room.

"I want to be alone," I said and closed the door.

What's wrong with this pack? One is trying to kill me and the other one is refusing to tell me anything. How will I understand anything if he doesn't want to talk about it? How will I solve this problem when I don't know the root cause? At first I thought it was just a misunderstanding. But looking at Daisy and how she behaved today I can clearly say that there's more that I don't know. But more importantly who is Delaney? And why Daisy was saying it should be Delaney in my place?

What kind of relation does Hardwick and Delaney have? If there's nothing that Daisy would not be this angry. That girl even went forward killing me. Is it all for that girl named Delaney? But why? I never know who Delaney is but Daisy is throwing all the blame on me like I have snatched someone's mate? My eyes widened.

Wait... Mate? Is Delaney Hardwick's mate? Could that be possible? Because I also have two mates and if I put things in possible chances then I guess it could be possible too.

"What are you thinking?" I jumped in shock when I heard the voice behind me. I turned around and saw Hardwick standing behind me.

"Do you want me to die out of shock?" I rubbed my chest trying to smooth the racing heart.

"What happened? You looked annoyed today?" He frowned.

I threw a hard glare at him “should not I?” Forcing a smile I said again “I have encountered such a good omen that I couldn’t help but feel angry”

“Good omen?” Hardwick looked at me with confusion.

“The good omen is named Daisy”

“What?” He looked startled then something flashed in his eyes “what did she do?”

“You didn’t know that she was here?” I frowned.

“Tell me what she did?”

“Oh, she was delighted to see me. Her excitement could be seen in the curses that she threw towards me. Looks like she was not satisfied cursing me alone so she decided to drag my family too”

I can see Hardwick’s eyes darkened hearing me.

“I don’t know what kind of enmity she has with me but I won’t tolerate anyone who insults my family. I do respect the pack members and can also ignore some of their mistakes but there’s some things which can’t be ignored. So I slapped her today. I am telling you because I want you to know everything. I can endure anything but not insults when it’s triggered my self respect and the respect of my family”

“I didn’t know that she was here. Looks like I have just put some bunch of fools who can’t even inform me about serious matters in time. I need to deal with him properly so there won’t be any mistake next time” Hardwick said through gritted teeth.

“You are against her?”

“I don’t want anyone who harms my mate. She has done something that unforgivable”

I looked at his eyes and could see the sincerity in them. His dominating brown eyes always bewitched me and managed to drag me in some fantasy. Whatever Daisy said flashed in my mind again. There’s so many points of doubt in my mind currently which I don’t know how to deal with. But suddenly mom’s advice rang in my ear.

No, doubting him could only lead to dissatisfaction and then it will create misunderstanding. I really don’t want our relationship to build like this. I sighed, shaking my head.

“Daisy said something else too. I don’t know if I should believe her or not. But things has become like this so I have to interfere in between even if you don’t like it”

“What are you trying to say?” He asked.

I looked into his eyes. I want him to know how determined I am that he could not back away from my question.

“At first I thought it was kind of a misunderstanding but today she behaved like my presence was a huge sin for her that she wanted to kill me right away. I would have ignored her but even if I wanted to I couldn’t. Because she said something that might be related to you”

“What did she say?” Hardwick’s voice became hard and cold.

“Forget about what she said. I want to ask you something”

He didn’t say anything but his eyes were answering everything.

I didn’t back away before I looked at him and asked what I wanted to know.

“Who is Delaney?”

Claiming His Tempting Mate novel chapter 40

Savannah’s POV

“Who is Delaney?”

Hardwick looked at me seriously. His face was cold and emotionless. I couldn’t fathom what he is thinking right now. I wish I could invade his mind and know his thoughts.

“Who told you that?” He asked after some time.

I sighed “who do you think?”

“That bitch” Hardwick curled his fingers in a fist. His eyes darkened as anger flashed in his eyes “I should have killed her instead of sparing her life and sending her away. Looks like it was my biggest mistake”

Oh god, he is getting angry now. What can I do? Anger always ruins things and if he gets angry then I can never get the answers I want. I have to do something to cool him down. I grabbed his hand which was slightly warm.

“Hardwick, you don’t have to get angry now. Last time you backed away avoiding my question. I let it go because I thought it would be just a trivial matter so I didn’t think about it much. But today things have gone overboard and I can’t handle things if I don’t know anything about it” I tried to explain.

“Handle? You don’t need to do anything. This time I won’t let her have the next time at all” he almost roared and about to go but I held his arm in a tight grip, refusing to let him

go. Because I know, with this anger he would definitely do something that might create trouble later. Even if Daisy is the pack member and Alpha's do have the right to punish but he couldn't punish her just like this and especially when he is in anger.

"Where do you think you are going?" I asked widening my eyes "you can't go outside like this"

"You are stopping me? Why?are you forgiving her?" His eyes narrowed towards me.

"Of course not. How will I forgive someone who tried to harm me? But not forgiving doesn't mean I will just go and kill her. Hardwick this is unreasonable"

"Unreasonable? She tried to harm you and this reason is enough. No one, I tell you no one has the right to bully you in any way"

I looked at him seriously but inwardly I was too surprised. The way he is putting me in such a position made my heart to form butterflies inside it.

"You can't make a decision on the basis of this Hardwick" I shake my head.

"I am their Alpha and I can" he hissed.

"No you can't. I won't let you do something like this" I went on insisting. "I will never allow others to accuse my mate for being partial towards his pack because of his mate"

I can see his jaw clenched "who would dare to do that?"

"You are still not understanding? Daisy is accusing me of taking Delaney's place. Why is that? Who is Delaney that suddenly popped out of nowhere? Why is her matter raised that bound you and me altogether?" I asked.

Hardwick gave me a hard look "Delaney is no one. You don't need to concern yourself with it. Just leave this matter to me"

I shook my head "you are trying to avoid this matter again? Trying to make me put in the dark? How long are you going to hide it from me?"

"Daisy is no good, so is Delaney. It's better if you don't think about them. They will only create problems for me and for you. So it's better to put an end before this matter leads us somewhere we will regret" Hardwick said and freed his arm from my clutch before walking towards the door.

I can't believe he is still reluctant to tell me. Why is he trying to hide it? If it was before I would not have thought much but now there's another woman who might have some relation with my mate. Like Resse and Avan? Just thinking about them made me cringe in disgust. What if Hardwick and Delaney have the same situation? I watched him open

the door and my heart jumped. No, I need to know about this matter. I can't let the past repeat in my present again.

"You want me to stay in the dark so that they could accuse me more?" I yelled, making him stop abruptly.

"What did you say?" He turned around and frowned.

"Didn't you hear? You want me to stay unknown of the things that are poking me at the present? How long can you hide it from me?" I glared at him "fine, since you don't want to, then I will find my own way" I said and walked towards him. Ignoring his presence I walked past him and about to open the door he grabbed my wrist.

"Where are you going?"

"I am going to meet Daisy and I will ask her. I guess she will be more than willing to tell everything you don't want to" I spat angrily. Now I am tired of persuading him to tell me the truth. If he doesn't want to tell me himself then I would find a way to do it.

"You are not fucking leaving" Hardwick growled angrily and in a second hoist me up and threw on his shoulder.

I squealed loudly "what are you doing Hardwick?"

"I am doing what I should do earlier"

"What-" before I could finish my words he threw me on the bed.

I looked at him with wide eyes as he started to remove his shirt. Instantly his muscular abs came before my vision. I gulped hard as my eyes raked on his upper body. I wanted to smack myself to force myself out of the thought.

What the fuck I am thinking? I scolded myself inwardly. Pushing all erotic thoughts I glared at the handsome specimen in front of me.

"What do you think you are doing? You won't tell me when I ask you and now that there's actually someone who can answer me, you are stopping me from going to her too?"

Hardwick didn't even pay any heed to my words as he started to climb on bed. Oh god, I really need to stop him or I don't know how long I can keep my calm posture. I pushed myself up in a sitting position but I couldn't even sit properly as a large hand suddenly pushed me down again. And this time I could not move at all because he was lying on top of me.

“There’s no fucking way I will let you see her again. She has already damaged enough and I am not going to take any risk at all” he roared in my ear.

I closed my eyes. Why is he angry now? He really doesn’t want me to know about Delaney? But why? Why is the matter of Delaney so sensitive to him that he doesn’t want to talk about her? What kind of relationship did they share before? The more he is refusing, the more my mind is determined to find whoever Delaney is.

“Is it my fault? Your pack member wants my life because of this yet you are refusing to talk about it? Daisy has already included me in this mess so I have the right to know about it”

“Don’t take that bitch’s name,” he warned.

I gasped. Did he really curse again? Though I know he is not innocent, I never thought he would curse his own pack member like this. Hardwick really hated Daisy. So much that he could not wait to tear her apart.

“Did you just-”

“You are so beautiful” he cut me off in the middle.

“What?” I looked at him with confusion. What happened to him suddenly?

His dominating brown eyes pinned my conscience and I forgot to form any word. What’s happening to me? I felt him tracing his lips towards my neck. I shivered as his lips connected with my skin. I can feel Hardwick smirked suddenly.

“After today you won’t be able to leave my side”

“What-”

Before I could finish I felt a sharp pain in my neck. I felt his fangs piercing my skin forcefully. The pain shot my body like a wave and I couldn’t help but scream.

“Ahhh.....”

Reese’s POV

I looked at the steamy bowl and smiled. I heard Avan is busy and couldn’t eat his meal properly so I took the chance and made his favourite hot chicken soup. I have added extra flavours to it. He always likes it this way. I need to persuade him again. My pregnancy has caused a great effect on our relationship and it made him more indifferent. But today I will win his heart again. I can’t let him avoid me or our child. Once he accepts reality fully everything will be fine. Thinking about it I couldn’t help but smile.

I can imagine Avan's happy face while walking with me and our son in his arms. Yes, it should be a baby boy.

I walk towards Avan's study with a smile on my face. Today he will definitely be happy to see his favourite soup. It has been quite long since I made this soup. Even when Savannah used to cook for him, he always tasted my soup first and praised it so much until Savannah's face turned pale. It was quite a sight to see. All those memories always reminded me of how much he pampered me and loved me.

"Avan you have to give me back the old Avan" I mumbled and smiled when I saw the door of his study. I took a deep breath and strengthened myself again. I raised my hand to knock on the hard surface of the door. The voice inside the room stopped me abruptly.

"You will always be someone who is willing to help us. Just find that certain someone" Avan said.

"It's hard to search for Alpha, especially when the opponent is too powerful. Besides, invading the Dark Forest is not easy at all" Ben replied.

Dark Forest? I frowned. Why are they discussing Dark Forest?

"Nothing is impossible Ben. We need to get hold of it no matter what. The more secretive and powerful it looks like, the more the story in it. Even if Dark Forest is powerful, there will always be weaknesses. Besides Savannah is also there, I heard that the Alpha took his mate a few days ago" Avan said again.

My eyes widened in shock. Savannah is in the Dark Forest? And she has a mate? I can't believe what I am hearing at all. How come Savannah got a new mate? And that mate happened to be the Alpha of the Dark Forest? My jaw clenched and I gritted my teeth in irritation. How come all of these things happened and I never knew about it? Savannah got a mate means there's no chance for her to come here again. I guess she has already moved in with her mate. She really did leave Avan for good and never planned to return here again. A wave of relief washed over me. Since this is the case, I really don't need to worry about her now. Mine and Avan's road is clear without her muddling in. But I can't help but feel envious of her good fortune. She got a second chance mate yet fortunately that person happened to be the Alpha of the powerful pack like Dark Forest? I gritted my teeth in anger. Why does she have to have all the luck when I am still struggling to secure my position and also needed to use it in such a way?

"It's true, Alpha of the Dark Forest has taken his mate back in the pack. There is no one who doesn't know about this" I heard Ben say again.

"What a show off" Avan mocked with an annoyed tone. I stood on the doorstep listening to their conversation. I wanted to know more about it. What Avan is planning by asking

about that woman again. She already left him and moved in with her mate yet he is still here gathering information about that bitch.

“Try harder. I want you to find any weakness that can help us. I want Dark Forest to the point of ruin” Avan said through gritted teeth.

I clenched my fist. I still couldn't believe it. He is still after her. Even after all this happening he is still trying to bring her back. Looks like that bitch won't leave me in peace unless she dies.

“I will try” Ben's words are heard again followed by some noises. I moved to the side and after a few seconds the door opened and Ben left without looking back in hurry. I looked at Ben's disappearing figure then calmed myself down before knocking.

“Come in” Avan's voice came instantly.

I put a smile then pushed the door open and entered inside.

“Why are you here?” Avan asked as soon as he saw me.

“I made your favourite soup” I answered smiling. I walked towards him and stood before him. He was sitting on the chair and the only thing separating us was his study desk.

“Soup?” He gazed at the steamy bowl before looking at me “you shouldn't have tired yourself in this condition. You need to take care of yourself”

I smiled more “I am not tired but worried”

“About what?” He frowned.

“Avan, I heard you have been stuck in this study because of heavy work. Although I understand your position and work, working too much will affect your health. So I thought to make your favourite soup to relax your body” I said with concern.

“I am not tired. It's just some works, you don't have to worry about it”

“How can't I get worried? You are working hard and I can't see you exhausting yourself like this. So I made this soup for you” I said, opening the lid of the bowl.

“I am not in the mood to eat anything now. Just keep it here and I will eat it later” Avan said without glancing and turning his head towards the bunch of files on the desk and started to search for something.

I looked at him then to the bowl “you never rejected it before why are you refusing?”

“Reese, don’t make trouble. I am not in the mood for an argument right now. I told you I will eat it later and you should relax your body and not need to cook for me. There are maids to do that work” Avan said, still searching for something.

My eyes blurred with tears as I looked at him. Did he just compare me with a maid? How could he do that?

“In your eyes now I am just a maid?”

He looked at me, narrowing his eyes, “what are you talking about now?”

“I am saying what you just referred to? Tell me Avan, is this the only value left in your eyes for me?”

Avan took a deep breath “You should leave and rest. Your mind is not good right now”

“I am totally fine. It’s you trying to avoid this matter” I gritted my teeth. I knew it. He is still after that bitch.

Avan got up from his chair suddenly. “I said go and take a rest. Don’t make me force you Reese”

I shivered at his tone but I didn’t back away “no, I won’t leave until you give me proper explanation. You are trying to avoid me even when I am carrying your child. Instead of caring for me, you are more interested in that bitch who left you alone. I was there to hold you, to share your burden but now that I am carrying your child you are not interested in me but to that slut? You are even planning to bring her back even though she already has a mate? Why? Is she became more beautiful in your eyes or you are tired of me after fucking me all these years and now my body is useless because I am pregnant?” I shouted at my top lung.

Avan’s eyes darkened and he walked towards me with heavy steps. My heart jumped in fear but I boldly looked at him holding my tears. Today I need to know the answers and I won’t leave until I get it.

“What did you say?” He asked through gritted teeth. His jaw clenched which was the clear sign of his anger. But today I won’t give in just because of fear. I need to secure the position of mine and my child in his heart.

“Didn’t you hear?” I hissed “I said you are trying to persuade a slut to satisfy your ego rather than caring for me who is carrying your heir. If I was not here you would have stayed mateless and childless for your entire-”

I couldn’t complete my words as I felt a sharp pain on my cheeks. My eyes widened in shock as I held my cheek. Immediately tears started to fall from my eyes and vision became blurry. My cheek was burning with pain and hotness because of the tight slap. I

guess it would definitely leave print marks on my skin. But the most shocking thing was He never raised his hands on me. But today he went beyond his personality and showed me something that almost changed my thoughts about him.

He really did hit me and it's all because of that bitch.