

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 111

~Tamia~

Linda and Avery were stunned by my revelation. They, too, had done the math, and I could see their surprise build up to rage.

“People died during that attack,” Linda said, sounding angry.

“I knew Kyle was a douchebag, but what Ramsey did was wrong. He framed him for it, making everyone mistrust the guy, and then he divided the east in the process. I wonder how Kyle got out of the mess. All that waste because he wanted to get Anika into the Volkov estate,” she said and then looked at me.

“Do you think Amanda is in on it?” She asked me with anger in her eyes. She already hated Amanda. This would make it worse.

“I do not know if she was a willing participant,” I said, and Avery growled.

“Maybe they were hoping Leo would give her as tribute, too, so she would get in,” She said, and I shook my head.

“I doubt if that would have been her purpose. She was most likely to keep an eye on Leo. It was a good plan. They would get Anika into the Volkov estate. Hopefully, she will be in the harem and get some information. While Leo, Max and Kyle would give us as tribute giving Amanda room as head luna of the east. After all, we were the ones that teamed together to unseat Ramsey as the eastern leader, so it would serve as sweet revenge,” I said, and Avery growled.

“He was a good-for-nothing leader and had caused too many deaths. Someone had to remove him,” Linda said because, just like my parents, her parents were killed by the bastard. No one talks of it because our parents were executed as traitors, but we all know the truth.

“So you mean this man did all this for revenge and to get Anika into the north?” Avery asked, and I nodded.

“They were hoping Sylvester would be like his father. Anika is pretty, and she is a virgin. All she had to do was impress him during their fuck sessions, and she was in. Unfortunately for them, our men are decent, and we came along with the package spoiling their chances, so they had to find another way.

They had to become informants and maybe recruit more people within the estate for the cause, like Sofia, Lilly, and others. They would tell us once we were done with them,” I said, and Avery sat down because she was sweating.

I went to get shorts and a t-shirt from the closet to change.

“Bring us something similar. I want to get my hands dirty, and I can’t do it in a dress,” Linda said, eager to question the women we caught and Liam’s mother, Amy.

I went through my things in the closet and got some new shorts I did not wear for them to choose from. I did the same with the t-shirts and exited the closet, bringing them the clothes.

I laid them on the bed and asked them to choose. I began to strip my clothes to change into what I wanted.

“What would be his gain in all this?” Linda asked, curious as to why Ramsey would go to this length. She was also right to ask. If revenge was all he wanted, all he had to do was run circles around our exes and have us disgraced and exiled, but somehow I knew ruining us was an extra benefit to his plan.

Ruining Sylvester was Ramsey’s plan, and I knew our parents were murdered for the same reason.

He might have restarted the failed take-over in a subtle but more deadly manner.

Knowing the western leader that led the uprising back then was dead, I wondered who he was working for now or if he was the original mastermind.

They were planning to overthrow the Volkovs. I did not know what Ramsey would have received as payment for his loyalty and diligence. There was no way he would be lord because there were many more prominent people in our world. He had to be under someone else’s command, so he had to have a benefit to be this diligent and meticulous.

“There is no way Ramsey would be lord, so he has to have a bigger benefit in this,” I said, putting on the shorts.

“I guess we will find out. First, we will deal with Amy,” Avery said. I nodded.

Anika would have to be saved for the last because I needed to know what motivated Ramsey. I also hoped Leo and Devin would help Sylvester.

When I finished dressing up, I linked Sylvester.

“How is it going?” I asked him.

“They are on board,” he replied, and I could feel his relief because the mark on my inner thigh tingled.

“Long live the king,” I linked him back, feeling joy bubble to the surface.

“So, did Liam catch anyone?” He asked, and I nodded.

“Ramsey’s niece, Anika and a western Luna, Olga,” I replied to him, and he was silent.

“That is great,” he finally responded.

“By the way, Leo requested I lock up Amanda; I had them put her in a room because she is pregnant and almost due. I do not know if you would like to question her,” He said, and I was shocked that I gasped. Avery and Linda looked at me immediately, worried about my reaction.

“Why?” I linked Sylvester back.

“Well, let’s just say everything we suspected was true. She claimed she was afraid for her life, but Leo won’t have it. I think I will let you talk to him. Will you be up for it?” he asked me, and I did not know how to tell him how I felt. Not wanting him to think I still had feelings for Leo, I responded quickly.

“Sure, I will see him tomorrow. Today will be busy. We have three women to question.” I said

“Amy?” He asked.

“Yes, Amy,” I replied, and he wished me luck. He also made me promise that I won’t get too excited because of my condition. I let him get to it, and I put on my shirt.

“What made you gasp?” Linda asked, and I looked at her.

“Leo asked Sylvester to lock Amanda up. She was working for her father,” I summed up, and Linda smiled.

“Sweet justice. I know Amanda isn’t Rebecca, but I am gloating now. That bitch deserves everything coming to her,” She said, and Avery laughed in support.

“Once we are done for the day, I will pay her a visit,” Avery said, smiling. I honestly did not want to be in Amanda’s shoes at the moment, but she wasn’t my problem.

We finished dressing up and headed for the dungeons.

Wilson told me he had arrested Anika and Olga, and they had also prepared Amy for questioning, and I thanked him.

We got to the cell where we would question Amy, and she was looking confused and tired.

“Lady, Volkov,” she said to me. Her tone made it seem like there was a mix-up.

I pulled a chair and sat in front of her.

Her hands were chained to the table, and she was wearing her underwear. I had told them to strip and chain her hand to the table to make her uncomfortable.

Avery and Linda pulled chairs, and I looked at the woman.

Liam also looked like her. He had her brows and lips.

“Head Luna of the north,” I said, and the woman blinked away her crocodile tears.

“Do you know why you are here? Do you know why Christian gave you up?” I asked her, and she shook her head, looking very afraid.

“Where is your son, Liam?” I asked her and her eyes widened.

“He was kidnapped by some terrorists in Gad,” she said, quickly reiterating what her husband had told us before he found out the truth.

“What about his roommate, Elaine?” I asked her, and she shook her head.

“I do not know. She is an orphan, so we could not track her down,” she said, and I sighed. Then looked at her.

“I will start from the top again, Luna, and this time, I want you to be honest with me,” I told her, and she began to weep.

“I have answered your question and told you what I know. If you do not believe me check my email, you will see the email my son’s kidnappers sent to me. I do not know anything about Elaine. Since my son went missing, she had been missing too. Maybe something has happened to her; I cannot tell. I just pray it is otherwise,” She said with tears flowing freely.

“Very well, Luna,” I said, standing up.

“I see you do not want to do things the easy way. I guess we will have to take the hard route,” I said and looked at her.

“Life is precious, don’t you agree?” I asked her, and she nodded quickly.

“If you are honest with me, I won’t kill you, but if you are not, I will have them execute you, and nothing will happen. Your husband has given his consent. I need you to buy your life back with the most useful information you have,” I told her, and she frowned at me.

“Very well, Amy. Liam is in my custody and has told me many disturbing things, which checked out,” I said; fear crept into her eyes, and I saw doom written on her face.

“His information was so good that I let him use it to buy his life back. I am offering you the same opportunity,” I told her, and she swallowed.

“Before you start, I want you to tell me why you got an underage boy involved in this,” I said, and her face hardened immediately.

It was as if a switch had gone off.

Amy did not want to pretend anymore. Which was great.

“I see you are being yourself now,” Avery said, laughing at the woman, and I studied Amy.

“Why did you expose Liam like that?” I asked her, and she looked at me.

“Can’t you see Volkov and his officers are sick? Look what they did to your region. They have been doing it for years. All we want is a government that we will have a say in, not tyranny,” She said, and I did not want to tell her she is yet to see tyranny.

“So you will overthrow a lenient lord to install a false king?” I asked, and putting it the way I did, made her sound stupid.

“It is for the greater good,” She said with her nose in the air.

“So what do you think would have happened to Liam?” I asked her.

“He would have become a fine governor of the north,” she said, and I shook my head, laughing at her stupidity.

“I guess you do not know what happened to your son.” I said and looked at her. She still had a look of pride and defiance in her eyes, and I wanted to slap her, but what I was about to tell her would hurt her deeply.

“Your son wasn’t only observing. Elaine made him collect a transfer that blew his cover, and they tried to kill him. Even while locked in our dungeon, they have tried using their members working the estate to execute him. I doubt your king planned on sharing his victory with your family. You were just pawns. If you think I am lying, I will have them bring him here to tell you how we saved his life,” I said, and tears began to stream down her cheeks. She knew I wasn’t lying; I had no reason to. She felt betrayed.

“Those bastards promised nothing would happen to him,” She said and began to weep.

“What do you expect from terrorists?” I asked her, and she looked at me.

“Let me see my son, and I will tell you everything I know. I do not care if I die, but I want you to get Ramsey Richford for helping the king to put a target on my son to cover their track. They were not to make him active,” she said, and my heart soared at what she had said.

It was apparent that we had found Ramsey’s coffin.

Destroying the bastard would be easier than I thought.

Amy was angry, but I could not pity her because she endangered her son’s life. No matter how strongly she believed in the cause, hated Volkov, or thought she was helping our world, her duty was first to her family before anything. It was her duty to care for her son and protect him. Exposing Liam the way she did showed she had no business being a mother.

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~Tamia~

Amy seemed angry and broken, but I could not feel sorry for her. She was careless and selfish. Gambling with her son’s life was just stupid. I could not sympathise with her, but I linked Wilson to bring Liam to us just so she would know I wasn’t lying about her son.

Avery did not like Amy, and neither did Linda. I could see it in their eyes. Their anger was the same as mine. I was highly disappointed.

“I want to know, Amy, why you will use your son in the most despicable manner?” Linda asked her voicing out her contempt towards the stupid luna.

“I understand you being adventurous or trying to be a vigilante, but involving your son and endangering his life is careless and extreme. You are not fit to be a mother. People like you are a disgrace to motherhood.” Linda said, and Amy could not speak. She was silent.

I did not feel sorry for her. Her husband had washed his hands off her and told us to do as we pleased.

Even if she managed to get out of the mess, she would have no home to go to. She deserved worse than abandonment.

Wilson walked Liam in, and he looked well-kept in new clothes.

Since the people threatening him had been caught, he had been set free. It was only a few hours of freedom, but it showed.

To think I have been busy all day was killing. Sylvester and I had decided to go ruthless this morning, and I was still at it. I was tired, but I needed to finish Amy's session and get something tangible.

The boy looked at me, bowed to pay his respect, and then looked at his mother. There was a sudden rage in his eyes that I knew only the betrayal by a loved one could bring.

"Why am I here?" He asked, not wanting to be in the room.

"She wanted to see you," I told him calmly, and he shook his head. His eyes were misty.

"I do not want to see her," He said, voicing his anger, and Amy sobbed.

"Liam.." She cried, and he growled at her. He was an Alpha, after all, so it was expected.

"I hate you!" he yelled at his mother with his command, and I must say, I felt it too. The boy might seem timid, but he was strong. His father must be a strong Alpha too.

His command made Linda uncomfortable, and Wilson touched his shoulder to calm down because his mood upset everyone, including me. I tried to be assertive about it and mask the discomfort, but I felt it too.

"You got me involved with those people. You encouraged it. I hate you. They tried to kill me. They set me up and put a target on my back. Moses put a target on my back, and Elaine ran away. If I hadn't been arrested, I would have been dead by now!" he yelled at her, and I could see and feel his pain.

Amy was weeping, seriously realising now that I did not lie to her and everything I told her was true.

"I did not know they would do that. They promised me you won't be active," she said in tears, looking at her son, and he shook his head.

"Why get me involved in the first place. I started talking to that bitch when I was fourteen, mother. Who exposes their child like that. You helped them manipulate me. I thought going to the west was my idea, but it was yours. You exploited my weakness. You knew I wanted friends and used my longing to get me into your gang. I hope they find you guilty and you rot," he told her and wiped away his tears.

"Father will lose his position because of you, and we will be in exile. Even if they kill you, we will be exiled. You ruined us," He told her, spelling the truth to her. Sylvester must have told the boy what to expect.

Amy could not say anything.

"I will make it right, I promise," The woman said, trying to redeem herself in her son's eyes, but that ship had sailed.

"You can't do shit," he replied to her and looked at me.

"I want to leave Luna," he told me, and I nodded, letting him go.

His pain had gotten to me, but I had to keep it together.

This wasn't the time to allow my tears to fall freely. I still had people to question once we were done with Amy.

I looked at her, and she was still weeping. Longing, looking at the door her son had walked through, he left her alone, and she deserved it.

"Your love must be sick and twisted for you to do that to your son," I told her. If they had killed him, it would have been worse.

I pulled a chair and sat in front of her. Her eyes were tearing and out of focus. I snapped my fingers to make her focus. She must have escaped into her mind after seeing her son and knowing what he thought of her. I could not feel sorry for her, really. She blinked, and her tears fell. Then she looked at me and bowed to show submission.

"I want you to tell me all you know, and I want the truth. If your story does not check out, I will execute you," I told her, reminding her of the cost of her keeping her life. She nodded and looked at me.

"I will tell it all." She said with determination and pain in her eyes.

I put on my phone recorder to record her words. I hoped to get something good that would lead somewhere. She was the head Luna of the north, so it had to count for something.

"I was recruited five years ago. I am part of the northern elite core. My husband doesn't know, but my duty is to keep an eye on the activities in the north and get close to the influencers.

The idea was to cause tiny pockets of trouble, make the people revolt and cause a revolution.

They promised me a sit on the council when the king is installed, and my son will be governor of the north. Everyone that they hope will be governor and council member when the king ascends is in the group.

Ramsey is the one mobilising us, but he isn't the king.

The king is very shifty, and I don't know who it is, but I doubt he is young because they are following the same plan they used during Lord Maurice's time. I might be wrong also, but I am just saying." She said and sighed.

"I need you to be more detailed," I told her calmly, and she nodded.

"Ramsey is our leader. His task is to unite the east and the south so we can get our men into the south through the east and overthrow Devin Corrigan to install our leader there.

We thought we had almost succeeded with Leo Albert but later found out that our informant, his current Luna, had been deliberately feeding us false information, and Ramsey declared her an enemy two weeks ago. I do not know if they have carried out the order.

Once you were taken from the east, she was supposed to report everything Leonardo was doing and his movement so he could be ambushed, killed and replaced.

She did not know that part, but I guess she figured her father had ill plans for her fated, who happened to also be the man that overthrew him in the past.

I do not have the full story, but I believe you know it better than me since that was your life.

Of course, some people suggested we just attack the east and Kill him, but the elites know that Albert might be peaceful, but he is deadly.

It had to be planned in a way that Maxwell Blanch and Kyle Nikson would not be able to aid him.

They, too, were on the hit list, but our plan did not work.

We were hoping the attack on the east would force Leo to take the initiative and execute or exile Kyle to reduce his strength in the east. When that didn't happen, we had to lean on our informant," She said, and I had to interrupt her.

"Why all the scheming and hiding in the shadows. This is a lot of tedious mental work. Why not just attack and try to kill everyone? Why scheme against them? That is not a leader's trait," I said, and she smiled at me.

"They do not have an army. A few loyalists here and there, but the numbers aren't enough to guarantee a win, so this is their best bet," she said. I understood their handicap, which would have been to our advantage if we knew who this king man was. I guess I would just have to be satisfied with ending Ramsey and everyone on our list, hopeful that the king would show up, which I doubt anyway. He did not seem like the irrational type.

Not wanting to spoil the confession, I prompted her to continue.

“Please continue,” I said, and she sighed.

“Amanda Richford has not been cooperative. The plan was to place our member Alpha Gabriel as leader of the east. He would, in return, support us against Lord Volkov, putting his position in a precarious situation.

Even though we had failed with Leonardo Albert, the infiltration of the south was successful.

I do not know if they have given the order, but Corrigan would soon be no more. We have been able to buy a few people close to him to finish the job.

Christian was supposed to champion the petition and make sure Lord Volkov stepped down as Lord. Which will automatically make him head of the council as he is both a Volkov and a Belyaev.

Once that happens, the governors and Alphas in the association will sack the council and install our person as the king.

The king will then create a new council which Ramsey will head. Every Elite will have a seat there.

The king promised that there would be equality and that every pack would be allowed to make their decision and keep most of the revenues to develop their lands which isn't what is happening in the current council. The Lord keeps sixty-five per cent as tax to use as he sees fit,” she explained the situation.

Besides their greed for being on the council, I saw nothing attractive about the situation.

“Tell me the people in the Elite and others,” I said.

“Ramsey, Gabriel, Gezel Sidorov, Carla Orlov, Kate Bloomberg, Jacob Mikhailov, Jenny Lawrence, who is late now. Nikolas Sullivan, Glenda Sullivan, some eastern and southern Lunas,” she said, and I realised that she would need to write down all their names.

“What about Moses and Elaine. The bastards you entrusted your son too?” I asked her, and she looked worried.

“Elaine is Iris Brighton, and Moses is Alpha Renold's son, former Leader of the west,” she said, and Avery whistled at Iris's name.

I took certain deep breaths.

“Did your team instruct that Iris should kill me?” I asked her, remembering the poisoning, and she shook her head.

“You weren’t a matter of concern until recently,” She said, and I was interested.

“Certain things have not gone the way we planned, and your name seems to always come up as the reason. You also seem impossible to recruit. Unlike Arya, Maurine and Lin. The three of you were unapproachable, so there has been an order to take you three out, but it was very recent.

I also think they planned on doing it publicly with a gun. I am not sure. It wasn’t my department, but I heard it in passing,” she said and looked at her chained hands and smiled. It was a painful smile. She was laughing at herself, seeing where all her scheming landed her. In a dungeon in her underwear, chained with silver like a common criminal. How low had she fallen?

“Lilly and Sofia were the team leaders of the Volkov Estate. Lilly informed us that she had been caught, and you asked her to work for you, so she had been doing it. Moses asked her to do as you say and report back to us,” She said, and I balled up my fist in anger. That bitch never learns. I will make a spectacle of her when I become queen. I couldn’t wait.

“Is that all the information you have?” I asked her, and she thought about it before speaking.

“They found David Pavlishchev. I do not know if you know who he is, but he is very important in this. They are trying to recruit him. It will be wise if you get to him before they succeed.

They sound pretty convincing, and soon he will think working against the current order is the right thing, just as they did to me,” She said, and I asked her where David was without showing excitement.

“He is in Pridewood pack in the south,” she said, “ He is currently living there with his mate, Lisa and two children. He is a peaceful man living under the alias of Thorn Lucas,” she said, and that was a piece of very important information because I knew Sylvester was looking for his half brother.

I looked at Amy, realising she was more valuable to us alive than dead, especially now that we were trying to get ahead of the bastards. I needed to put aside my personal feelings towards her and make use of her.

“So, do you know their plans in detail so we can counter them?” I asked her, and she nodded.

"I know some of it, but now that I have been arrested, they will just change their plans," She said, and a crazy plan came to my mind. I knew it would be risky, but we needed to take risks.

"How about you be our informant in that society. We have your son, so we know you won't misbehave. Do you think it is something you can do?" I asked, and Avery exclaimed, indicating it was a bad idea, but I knew what I was doing.

"What about Lily?" Linda asked, and I laughed.

"Lilly won't matter soon. Sylvester and I do not trust her," I said, knowing that Sylvester planned on arresting everyone that was involved.

All we have to do is make sure that Amy isn't arrested. There is no way we can catch everyone, but reducing the amount of field players would force them to promote the survivors. Amy will be promoted and might get to see the king or the one closest to him.

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~Tamia~

I knew my idea of using Amy was crazy. It wasn't as if I trusted her, but we needed people in their ranks. It was a shame that Lilly did not take my kind gesture and chose to continue working against us. I would have spared her, but she had shown me there was nothing worth saving about her.

I attached Kappa Wilson to Amy to get all the names of the people she knows in the organisation. He was to submit the names to Sylvester when he was done.

We left the questioning room, and I linked Sylvester to find out where he was. I felt a bit tired and knew I needed to rest before drilling Annika and Olga.

"Where are you?" I asked Sylvester through the mind link.

"Still in the lounge discussing our strategy," he replied.

"I am sending you a recording of Amy's questioning. Make sure Devin and Leo are there because it involves them," I linked him, and he was silent.

I wanted to spare him the trouble of recanting whatever he learns to Devin and Leo and move on with it. It was best they heard Amy's confession so they could understand the severity of the matter.

I emailed the voice recording to Sylvester and went to my bedroom.

Linda and Avery left me to retire to theirs.

I was hungry, and I needed to take a short nap.

I shifted the questioning of Olga and Annika to the following day. As eager as I was to arrest Lilly, I did not want the idiot to know that we knew what she was playing at, but I had ordered Kappa Levi to ensure Sofia was in a more secure cell in case some people tried to break her out.

The names were disturbing.

Glenda's father and Glenda were on the list. I wondered if Susan was a part of it too. The mention of their names made me want to look into why Susan left because the conversation between Glenda and Stephanie indicated Susan had no choice. It might be nothing, but we needed all the information we could get. Information is a weapon in an intellectual hunt, and this was an intellectual hunt.

I laid down on the bed and wondered if Sylvester had received the email and if they were listening.

"How did it go?" I heard Stephanie in my head, and it startled me a bit because she was the last person I expected to mind-link me.

"Aren't you on a date?" I asked her.

"Tamia, you know why I took him away," she said, and I giggled.

"It went well, but I am resting now," I replied.

"Anything juicy?" She asked me, and I sighed.

"She told us everything. Something like this happened during Maurice's time," I linked her.

"Yes, it did, Tamia, and that was why the guy went tyrant. He caught and slaughtered all of them," she told me, and I doubted if that was true since Amy said this king was an old man.

"I doubt he caught all of them; Amy said the Kingman isn't a young person," I said, and I heard a knock on my door. I did not need magic to know it was Stephanie.

"It's open" I linked her, feeling too lazy to get off the bed.

The person turned the doorknob, and Stephanie walked in, then came towards the bed, staring with concern.

"You need to take it easy, Tamia," she said out of concern, and I nodded and smiled.

I was trying to rest, but here she was, disturbing me and telling me I needed to take it easy. I kept my thoughts to myself and sat up in bed.

I told her all Amy told me, especially about Iris, and she gasped.

“Poor Jake, he will be broken by this,” She said, feeling sorry for her new friend, and I nodded, knowing that was what would happen.

“Why would she allow herself to be used like that? The girl is ungrateful and stupid,” Stephanie growled, and I nodded.

“He will have to deal with it eventually. Please let me know when they pick that Glenda bitch up,” she said with so much rage that I laughed.

Learning Glenda was one of them was unsettling. She lived with us, ate, and slept in the same house. It was just upsetting. I did not know how Dominic would take it, but I knew he would not be happy.

“Do you think we can trust Amy?” Stephanie asked me, looking concerned.

“No, we can’t, but I plan on using her regardless, and she seems to want to redeem herself in her son’s eyes, so let’s just see how much she wants to keep her life and redeem herself,” I said, and she smiled.

“You tried to do the same with Lilly.” She pointed out, and I sighed.

“That was a different case,” I said, ashamed that I had entrusted the wrong person with an important task. I tried to brush it off.

Knowing I did not want to discuss Lilly with her, she smiled at me.

“I was thinking of what you said about the king guy coming from Maurice’s time, and I disagree. It is all too easy,” she said, and I was attentive.

“Sylvester is nothing like his father. Maurice was ruthless. The only reason Ramsey escaped his wrath was that Ramsey could prove his innocence beyond reasonable doubt and plead his case with the council. That was the only time Maurice hated being a lord. If he were a king, he would have executed Ramsey without a trial because he knew Ramsey worked against him.

Back to what I was trying to tell you, I do not think this person is a spillover from that time. Maybe he is surrounding himself with some of the survivors of that time, but the mode of operation is so different that it is a new person altogether. He might be young or my age, but it isn’t the same people,” she said, and I was surprised at how deeply Stephine was thinking.

"Anyway, the good news is Leo and Devin are on board to install Sylvester as king," I said, trying to change the topic because I wanted to rest, and she squealed.

"Unfortunately, we might have to keep the two Alphas here because these people have a target on their backs, and we do not want anything to happen to them," I said, and she frowned, not wanting to speak because I was tired and sleepy.

I played the recording of Amy's questioning for her while I closed my eyes to rest. It wasn't long after I closed my eyes that I fell asleep.

I woke up, and it was dark. Stephanie wasn't in my room, and Sylvester was sitting next to me with his computer on his lap. He seemed calm.

I managed to sit up gradually, and he looked at me and smiled.

"Sorry, I did not want to wake you," He said, closing his computer, and I smiled at him.

"How did they take it?" I asked him about the recording, and he sighed.

"Devin did not take it so well. But we have decided we will arrest everyone at the same time in two days, but they will stay in the estate in the meantime," he said.

I wasn't comfortable with his words, but I did not say anything so Sylvester would not worry. I didn't particularly appreciate Devin and Leo being in the estate. I still felt like we had unfinished business, and I did not want to face them yet. Most especially Leo.

"Are you okay?" He asked me, and I nodded.

"When will you question Amanda?" he asked me, and I had forgotten about her completely.

"I have shifted it all for tomorrow," I said, and he sighed.

"What is the matter?" I asked him.

"We are supposed to be planning our wedding, Tamia, but look at all this," he said, and I snuggled into his arms.

"Do not trouble yourself, darling. I am having fun," I told him, and he gently patted my hair.

"Marcel and Theodore suspect Jenny's son is the culprit," he said, and I looked at him.

"We all thought it was David, but now that we have found where he is living and realised he is on their list, it only comes down to Jenny's son," He said, and I asked him to elaborate.

“No commoner would wake up one day with a decision he wants to be king. This person is going after this agenda as if it is his entitlement. Calling himself a king is extreme. If it were a common person, he would have been satisfied with just putting the council in charge but going further to sack the current council and reinstate a new council while he installs himself as king speaks volumes, Tamia.

The painful part about all this is how blindly these people follow this man. It is as if they are stupid, Tamia, and I am worried about it.

We need to hunt down the guy. Whoever Jenny’s son is, he is still out there, and I bet he is behind all this. I do not think he is an older person. The elderly nature of the culprit might be a deliberate characteristic to throw us off his trail.

If anything, the guy is a genius, and we should not give him too much time to recuperate after we have arrested everyone,” he said with a strong determination. I knew he was right, but I wasn’t eager to discard the fact that it might be a spillover from Maurice’s time.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 114

~Tamia~

I woke up at five in the morning. Although it seemed early, I knew it was because I slept early.

I was famished, too, because I skipped dinner.

I linked a staff to bring me a sandwich so I could eat something before breakfast.

I dreaded breakfast.

Knowing Leo and Devin were in the estate made me nervous. How was I going to face them? I didn’t owe Devin anything, so he was the least of my concerns, but Leo was another ball game entirely.

I could not bear seeing the hurt in his eyes. I could tell he was hurting, and I could not handle it. I wasn’t in love with him, but we still had ties that bound us. He was my best friend, and we went through a lot together. He kept all the promises he made to me except one. I did not know how I would face him.

“What is the matter?” I heard Sylvester’s sleepy voice.

I did not know I was pacing the room until he saw me. I looked at him; he was trying to sit in bed.

“Nothing, darling, just hungry,” I said, and he sighed.

“Are you sure that is the problem?” he asked, and I looked at him.

He said and focused his gaze on me. He had pity in his eyes.

“I know you are avoiding Leo and Devin,” he said, and I was busted.

I went to sit at the foot of the bed, my nerves all over the place because I did not want him to think I felt anything for them.

“You need to be calm, Tamia. Your hands are shaking. I am not mad,” he said and moved to where I was.

He wrapped his arms around me and kissed my neck. His scent calmed me down, and I wrapped my arms around him.

“Oh, Sylvester,” I said, letting my tears fall.

The truth was Leo was a situation I did not know how to handle. It was easy to write a letter and truly forget about him. Seeing him was a different ball game.

“Oh, green-eyes,” Sylvester said, gently stroking my hair.

“I know how it feels. It is not easy to break the heart of someone you care about. I know you saw the hope in his eyes and you are avoiding telling him to move on because you think it will crush him,” he said, voicing out my real fear, and I held on tighter.

Then he pulled away so he could look into my eyes.

“It is not your fault. What happened is not your fault. You would have remained loyal and faithful to him. You loved him genuinely and supported him. You kept your promises, but he broke his. He created the problem and lost you.

He should have publicly rejected Amanda;

none of this would have happened. He didn’t want to let her go. He wanted you to understand. Ramsey only took advantage of an opportunity he created. This is not on you, Tamia.

Do not feel guilty for moving on and falling in love again. Do not let his hurt get to you. If you had not come up north, would he have left her for your sake?” he asked me a fundamental and genuine question.

Just like that, images of Leo and Amanda flashed through my mind.

How he took her everywhere and asked me to watch the pack, how I had to share him with her.

People mocked me, and there was nothing I could do about it.

He broke my heart, both him and his wolf. I thought of it, and I realised that I owed him nothing but friendship. I should not feel sorry for moving on. Kaira and I did nothing wrong.

I looked at Sylvester, and he wiped away my tears.

“Everything led to you, darling,” I said, focusing on the only man that mattered in my life. The one that did not care about my past. The one that loved me through my pain and helped me forget. The one that kept all his promises and is still keeping them. The one that completes me.

I stared at him and was mad at myself for allowing the past to plague me like this.

“I am sorry, darling. I am so sorry,” I said, and he placed his index finger on my lips, shutting me up. He kissed me sweetly, and I was lost in his embrace.

His tongue probed until my mouth opened so we could taste each other. Taking off my night dress, he moved to my breast and sucked on the nipple. It was hard, and so was the second one. I moaned, forgetting my pain, and he laid me down to admire my body.

“My Queen,” he said to me, making me giggle. I was excited at the route we were finally taking.

He bent to kiss my bump, and I felt butterflies in my tummy. His love bite tingled, and Kaira called onto Knight. When Sylvester looked at me, his eyes were utterly dark and beastly.

Moving down, he spread my legs to pleasure me, but I wanted him inside me.

“Inside,” Kaira moaned, feeling impatient, and he groaned, then drove his cock inside and began to pump.

We were at it for two hours until we were exhausted. I figured the sandwich I ordered might have come in between the session, but we ignored the knock on the door.

After catching our breaths, we got up to get dressed, but the hunger had returned, so I checked the mini fridge, and there was yoghurt in it. I picked the one with strawberries in it and ate six packs.

They were too small to satiate me, but I knew it would hold until breakfast.

What Sylvester helped me see boosted my confidence, and I wasn't worried about seeing Leo again. In fact, if anything, I would encourage his relationship with Amanda, that is, if he still wanted her.

She had loved him in her way, and after what Amy said, I knew she wasn't an enemy, just someone caught in a bad situation.

I wasn't going to get involved with their relationship, but if the pups are indeed his, then it was wise he tried with her.

Raising children in a broken home is wrong, and it was worth the try if they could work out their differences.

As for Devin, he was a douchebag that blew his chance. He knew I was his; he knew I was suffering, and he saw it, yet he sent me home. My love and heart wasn't something he could just put off until he was ready. He chose his alliance with the east over me and should live with it and move on.

It was sad that even the coalition that happened was him playing into Ramsey's trap. Kyle was a fool, and he paid for it dearly. They all paid for their stupidity.

I joined Sylvester in the shower after brushing my teeth. He washed my body gently, and we went another round in the shower.

I knew what he was doing.

He wanted me to have his scent so strongly that Devin and Leo would get the message.

It was cute, and I enjoyed the orgasms that came with it.

We got dressed and headed to the dining room for breakfast. I had a lot to do that day. Questioning Amanda, Annika and Olga were high on the list. I also wanted to question Lilly about her 'update'.

It wasn't like I wanted her to know that I knew she was a two-timing bitch, but I just wanted to study her body language with the new information I had.

We entered the room, and everyone was present. Leo looked at me longingly, and I looked away.

"Good morning," I greeted everyone respectfully, and they all replied.

Sylvester pulled out my seat for me to sit on.

"I was so tired yesterday that I passed out," Avery said, and I smiled at her.

"Me too," I said, and Linda giggled.

"I ate before sleeping. Could not miss dinner," she said, and I laughed. It was great having them around. They always knew how to light up my mood.

“You reek of Volkov,” Avery teased via the mind link, and I looked at her. Her eyes widened, realising the reason, and she made a false sad expression.

“Poor Leo and Devin,” she linked me, and I smiled at her.

The food smelled delicious, and I dug in as soon as Sylvester served it on my plate.

“So, how are we going to move?” Marcel finally asked, breaking the silence. I looked at Jake Brighton, and the look on his face said it all. He must have found out about Iris.

“Donald is bringing his sister today. She has been arrested.” Jake told us, and I wondered what he was going through right now.

“We had no hand in the poisoning, Tamia. Please, spare my son and nephew,” he said, and Leo exclaimed.

I saw his hands shake a bit, and I remembered how protective he used to be.

Even though they had heard the recording of Amy’s confessions, Amy and I never discussed the poisoning. All I asked was if they had put a target on my back, so it was expected that everyone would be shocked that I was poisoned in Brighton.

“You poisoned my wife?” Leo exclaimed, and he had said the words before he knew it.

The whole room went silent.

I looked at Sylvester to be sure he was not pissed off, and I felt Knight trying to come to the surface. The alliance was important, so I placed my hand on his thigh.

“It was a slip,” Leo said to Sylvester apologetically.

“She no longer bears my mark. It was a slip. Please ignore,” he pleaded, and I rubbed Sylvester’s thighs gently so Knight would calm down.

Leo looked at Jake angrily.

“I helped your people, and they poisoned Tamia. For what?” He asked, sounding angry.

“Iris acted on her own, Leo. Let it go,” I told him, and I heard him try to calm himself down.

“You mean your daughter poisoned Tamia when she visited?” Devin asked Jake. Devin didn’t find the revelation funny, and the poor Alpha felt he was on the spot.

"Please let it go. Jake has helped us so much. As I said, Iris acted alone, and I think it was because she was mad at Sylvester for not choosing her at a ball," I said and nudged Sylvester to make light of the situation.

Avery and Linda chuckled, but that was all. No one laughed about it, and we all felt awkward.

"Okay, if we are all going to remain on this topic, I might as well get with my duty today," I said, trying to get up, and Sylvester stopped me.

"Let us talk about our operation," He said, looking at Marcel, who cleared his throat. His words had alleviated the awkward mood, and everyone was back on the topic.

"I have informed my beta and sent him the list for the people in the south. They will be arrested and placed in the dungeons tomorrow night," Devin said, and Sylvester nodded.

"Kyle and Max are on it, and boy, are they pissed. I sent Casper the list; he is working with them to round the people up. The only issue we have is that most of them are in the north at the games, so we have to move in on them here," Leo said.

I knew Max and Kyle would be his best bet. They were the only people he could trust to have his back. However sick they were, they were useful.

"Very well, we will work together and round them up," Sylvester said.

"I think we should lead this charge ourselves. All the western, northern, eastern, and some of the southern names are in Lucland. Theodore would make the council prison available. The operation will take place tomorrow night. We have to do it when they are sleeping to avoid fighting," Sylvester said, and everyone agreed.

"The council?" Marcel said, and Devin smirked.

"We are installing a king, Marcel; they wouldn't count. Once me, Leo, you, Theodore and Christain agree, there is nothing the council can do but accept it." Devin told Marcel.

"What about Vino Lawrence? This will weaken his power." Linda asked, and Leo shrugged.

"The Lawrences aren't originally from the north. They were bumped up to noble status by the last king. Vino's feelings and opinions do not count. In fact, he should be happy he isn't going into exile because his late aunt is on that list," Leo retorted, and Theodore shook his head.

“She is on the list, but Jenny occupied the Babanin’s seat. Whatever she does would reflect on the Babanins and not the Lawrences.” Theodore said, and Sylvester cleared their throat.

“Once I become king, I am scrapping that law. Only the culprit should be punished. We have already learned that no one has the capacity to control the actions of every member of their family. It is wrong to hold an entire family accountable for the blunder of a member,” he said, and Devin smiled.

“Well, you have to, Volkov, or else Marcel and Theodore will be in deep shit because of Gezel and Carla. I just do not know what those women were thinking. Why would they want a seat on the council? They were royalty already. Just stupid.” Devin said, and we all agreed with him. Some of us even laughed because he was right about Sylvester not having a choice but to toss the law. It was really stupid of Gezel and Carla to get involved in this mess.

Avery, Linda and I were the first to leave the dining room. I did not want to speak with Leo yet, so keeping busy will be the best option. I wanted to speak with Amanda before I talked to him.

While we walked down the hallway, Leo called out to me, and I froze in my tracks. I guess getting away from him would not be possible.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 115

~Tamia~

I took a deep breath and turned around to see Leo approaching.

Avery chuckled, knowing I had been avoiding Leo.

“We faced ours. It is time for you to face yours,” Linda said, laughing at me, and before I responded, she and Avery walked away giggling. They were just naughty.

“Hey,” Leo said softly when he approached me.

“Hey,” I replied, and he sighed.

“Do you mind us talking in the lounge? I promise I won’t take too much of your time,” He said, and I looked at him.

There was a time he did not need permission to talk to me at all. Everything had changed, and my heart had left him behind.

“Sure,” I said and led him to Sylvester’s lounge.

"Sylvester said we can be friends," He said while we walked, and I frowned and looked at Leo.

"He did?" I asked, and he nodded.

"Yes. He said we had a history together, and he did not want to erase that. Moreover, he trusts you," he said, and I smiled, knowing that Sylvester could say something like that.

We entered the lounge and went to sit on the couch. Leo sat on the couch next to mine so he was close.

There was an awkward silence between us, and he broke it with a sigh.

"Tamia," he said, his voice shaking and broken.

"I am sorry," He apologised, and I shook my head, wanting to stop him, but he covered my mouth with his palm gently, and I looked into his eyes. They were pleading with me to let him speak, so I relaxed, and he withdrew his hand gently.

"I fucked up. I had just one thing to do, and I fucked up," he said with misty eyes.

"I threw everything we had away on that Balcony that day. I should have remained by your side, and I should have let her go, but I was weak and stupid. I guess deep down, I thought you would always be with me. I thought you would stay with me no matter what. I thought I could handle it. My twisted mind thought it would be okay.

The hurt in your eyes when I told you she was pregnant let me know I failed. I threw it all away. Love, life and peace. I threw it all away.

We have been together for so long. You are all that I have ever known, and I threw it away.

You were there before my wolf. You were there when I was a nobody, and the mountain was a small pack in the east. You were there.

All my happy memories are with you. I did everything with you. You were my strength and my wisdom, and I threw it all away," He said, and his tears began to fall freely.

"I cry every day. I have cried so much more this year than I did in my entire life, yet the tears are not enough, and the pain is still raw.

When Sylvester rejected Susan, I was relieved and ashamed at the same time.

Relieved that you would not go through the same pain twice, ashamed because I had failed the test." He said and held my hand.

“My heart still beats for you, Tamia, and there is nothing I can do about it. I love you. I know I shouldn’t feel that way anymore, but I can’t stop loving you.

What happened to us isn’t your fault or Amanda’s fault. It was mine. All I had to do was reject her and love you, but I wanted to keep it all. I was greedy and mean.

I was cruel towards you. I may not have beat or disgraced you like Max and Kyle did to Avery and Linda, but I made you share.

I slept with her in the very house we bought together.

I left our room and went to hers to please my wolf.

What I did was despicable, and I deserved to lose you,” she said and wiped away his tears.

“Sylvester is a great guy, and I am happy you ended up with him. I was scared he would put you in his harem, but he did the right thing by you and loved you beyond my capacity,” he said, and I relaxed a bit.

“I want you to know that I support your love, and you have my blessing,” he said, and tears streamed down my face because I knew he was speaking from his heart.

However painful it may be to him. He was speaking from his heart.

His wolf flashed, and Kaira acknowledged him.

There was a time we bore each other’s marks and loved each other. It was only fair that we acknowledge our wolves.

“I want to be your friend Tamia. I did not want to lose you completely. I have learned to love you from a distance and accept my life.

Please do not take away your friendship. I will never betray you gain.

I will always have your back, and I will never try to make things hard for you, Tamia. Please.

I want you to know that I bless your upcoming marriage, and I wish you and Sylvester the best life has to offer. Do not shut me out,” he said, pleading with me with his eyes, and I wrapped my arms around him and cried.

My heart was glad and broken at the same time. Leo slowly wrapped his arms around my waist, and I felt him breathe in my scent. He was letting go.

My hug lingered, and I soon broke it. It was time for me to talk to him about Amanda. I wasn't going to force it, but I needed to tell him what I thought.

"Leo," I said, and he was attentive.

"Amanda," I said, and he became angry and shook his head.

"Please hear me out," I said, and he tried to compose himself.

"Maybe you two can start over," I said, and he disagreed.

"She never really helped them. She fed them lies until her father declared her wanted. As sick as she was, she loved you and fought dirty. I agree she shouldn't have lied to you, but you must understand where she came from. With a father like that, she would do anything to survive and get away." I said, and I knew my words were falling on deaf ears.

"All I am asking is that you try again with her. With Ramsey out of the picture. Try again with her. I have forgiven her. Sylvester and I are fated, so I believe all this was meant to happen.

You were meant to find her, and I was meant to find Sylvester. The events were ugly and painful, but I am happy where I am. If there was anything I knew while we all lived together, it was that she loved you in her own way. I am saying you give it a chance for the sake of your children," I said, and his eyes softened.

"I am going to get the babies tested. There is no way she will trap me like Rebecca did to Kyle," he said, and I nodded.

"That is alright. Test the babies, but if they turn out to be yours, I will implore you to try. She risked her life for you," I said, and he shook his head.

"She should have told me the truth," He argued, and I disagreed, knowing Leo would have been impossible for her to approach.

"I know you, Leo. When you are unhappy, you are difficult to speak with. I am sure you ignored her most of the time.

Amanda might have been trying to survive while she held on to you. I am saying you should start afresh with her. I have forgiven you, and I have forgiven her. I think both of you should forgive yourselves and move on. Her father is looking for her to kill because of you, do not crucify her," I said, knowing my words did not get through to him.

I had tried and hoped that Leo would see the light and try with his mate when everything was settled.

Since Sylvester and I had been fated, the feeling had been different. I did not want him to lose that.

We discussed Kyle and Max and laughed about the two idiots a bit. I had a glass of milk while he drank juice. It was like the old times when we were younger, and love had not complicated our lives.

I saw some light in his eyes. It was as if some weight had been lifted.

I prayed for all our sakes that the operation we planned on carrying out worked, and this king guy surfaced so we could deal with him.

I left Leo and headed towards the Harem quarters to talk to Lilly. I could not wait to hear her lie through her teeth.

Once she was done lying to me, I would have her locked up and thrown in the dungeon under the worst circumstances. I wasn't going to have mercy on her.

As for Annika and Olga, they were going to suffer at my hands.

I linked Kappa Wilson to be ready.

I planned on applying some torture where Lilly was concerned.

I wasn't prepared to see Amanda yet. I planned to save her for last. I doubted with all that happened, Amanda would lie to me.

I also doubted Leo would give her a chance. It wasn't my business, really. She blew her chances when she did not trust Leo enough to tell him the truth.

~Tamia~

I walked into Lilly's room and found her lying on the bed. She sat up immediately, and her roommate left the room to excuse us.

"How are you, Lilly?" I asked her pretending as if I did not know she was a two-timing bitch.

"Luna," She said. I drew a chair close and sat in front of her.

"Why are you lying here?" I asked her, and she shrugged.

"There isn't much to do today," She said, and I raised my eyebrow.

"Shouldn't you be at the Arena in Lucland? Are you not supposed to help me get intel on Gezel and the others?" I said to her, and she nodded her head.

“Gezel isn’t coming to the Arena today, so I stayed indoors,” She explained, and I smiled.

“Do you know what they used the seals you gave them for?” I asked, and he shook her head.

“Do you have anything tangible to tell me?” I asked, and she shook her head. I sighed, letting her know I was pissed.

“We had a deal, Lilly. To keep your life and freedom, you must report everything about the uprising. So far, I haven’t gotten anything from you, and you are making me wonder about your loyalty.” I said, and she bowed her head.

“I am trying, Luna, but they are all closed off. All of them are silent about their plans. I think they suspect I am no longer with them,” She said, and I sighed.

“And why would they think that?” I asked her, and she did not know how to respond.

“Something about you arresting people,” She said, and I realised she was trying to get information from me.

Yesterday’s line-up must have spooked her, and she wanted to know what we were up to. I had given her a chance, and she had fooled me once, not again.

“Did I arrest anyone?” I asked her, and she shook her head.

Olga and Annika’s arrests were secretly made, so we do not alert everyone working against us in the estate.

“So I guess you are not useful to us then,” I said, and her eyes widened.

“Your main purpose was to bring me information, but you have failed woefully,” I said and linked Wilson to come and arrest her.

“Luna, I tried, but,” She started and stopped when she saw Wilson enter the room. Her eyes showed she knew what I was doing.

“You promised, Luna Tamia. You promised,” She said, tears streaming down her cheeks, but I was numb to her pain.

There was a time when I believed she was misguided and needed a little faith, but I was wrong. She was evil to her core.

“The price has to be right, Lilly. The price was clear, and you were not willing to pay. It was information for your freedom, and you promised to do your best, but you haven’t

done your best," I said, and she shook her head while Wilson clamped silver on her wrist.

"I gave you Gezel and Sofia. I gave you the people I was dealing with directly. I was forthcoming," She said, weeping profusely while Wilson dragged her away.

I followed behind because I had yet to start with her. I would have a lot of fun getting information from the two-timing bitch.

"You promised, Tamia. You promised!" she said, and I shook my head.

"But you did not keep your side of the bargain. I wanted useful information frequently. Instead of being out there and gathering information for me, you were busy lying on your bed, claiming you had done your best. You bloody ingrate," I said and she began to wail, but Wilson clamped his hand on my mouth to silence her.

"Avery, Linda, meet me in the room prepared for Lilly's questioning. Ensure you bring me juice, a sandwich, and your special mix for Lilly. It will be a long day." I said, and I knew they got the message. Wilson did not release her mouth until we were in the dungeon hallway, where only prisoners could hear her.

Her tears were falling, and there was fear in her eyes.

"You are evil, Tamia. I hope Sylvester knows what he is getting into. You are a monster," she said, crying, and I realised she had dropped the pretence.

"You went about telling people you were closest to his heart, implying he was screwing you; well, I have a problem with that," I said, and she sobbed.

"We were screwing, Tamia. I cannot lie about something like that. I just could not own up to it since he wanted to deny it because he is lord. I had to let it be. You aren't the first woman he would ask to marry him, Tamia, do not let him deceive you. This is what he is good at; using women and dumping them," She said, and I could see that she believed her lies.

"I believe we aren't talking about the same man Lilly and if we are, then know that I did not care," I said, knowing that was the best way to shut her up.

"Tamia, please," She said, and Wilson took her into the room.

"String her up," I told Wilson, and he looked at me with fear in his eyes.

"Do you need me to repeat myself, Kappa!" I told the guy, and he shook his head. I guess the punch Theodore gave him on my account when they first brought me to the north had tamed him.

He moved quickly, and I watched him tie her hands up to the bar that was hanging from the ceiling.

“Put a stool under her feet to support her weight,” I said with rage in my eyes, and Lilly cried.

“You didn’t do this to Sofia. Just lock me up, please,” She pleaded with me, and I laughed.

“Do you know what betrayal looks like?” I asked her, and she cried.

“I have repented and given them up. Why are you doing this? I admitted that what I did was wrong and changed my ways, only doing what you asked me to, please, Tamia. I am sorry for not going to the Arena. I am sorry that I have not gotten new information yet. I will try harder. I would do my best.” She said without answering my question.

Just then, Linda and Avery walked in, and there was a nightmare in Lilly’s eyes. She was scared of my friends but little did she know I was the one she should be afraid of this time. I was the one that would punish her.

Linda handed me a bottle of orange juice, and I took a sip.

“Did you come with water?” I asked, and Avery laughed, knowing exactly what I meant by ‘water’.

“We did, even though you did not request it; we were able to create water for Lily on short notice,” Avery said. Someone opened the door, bringing in two buckets of water.

“I think Lilly is thirsty,” I said, and just like that, some water was poured on Lilly, and she screamed because it wasn’t water. Silver dust was mixed in it. It was a special mix of Avery’s. We used a lot of silver dust to fight in the east. As the person keeping the arsenal, Avery knew what we needed and always ensured it was available. We planned on dealing with the traitor’s eastern style.

“I will ask you a question, and if you answer well, I will wash off the silver. Am I clear?” I asked, and Lilly screamed yes.

I could see Wilson’s shock.

“What does betrayal look like, Lily!” I asked her, angry and mad.

“I don’t know, Luna, I swear I don’t know,” She said, crying and screaming. I accepted the answer.

‘It looks like you,’ I said and nodded for them to wash the silver off so she could calm down.

Wislon attached the hose to the faucet in the room and used the water to wash Lilly's body. The water was much that her feet were slippery, and she tried not to fall off the stool; she managed to balance herself with a lot of effort.

"I tried to do it the easy way. Lilly. I tried to redeem you. I tried to save your life. I told my mate you were misguided and we should give you a chance. I stuck my neck out for you. Everyone warned me not to trust you, but I said I wanted to give you the benefit of the doubt and that I was sure you would help me out. I was sure you would give me the information I need, but you disappointed me, Lilly, and proved me wrong," I said, and she shook her head.

"Now answer me this," I said.

"Did you or did you not tip Gezel off about your arrest and our deal?" I asked, and she shook her head.

"I think she is thirsty," I said, and Lilly began to scream out of fear.

"I did! I did! I told her everything. Please don't pour that water on me!" she said, wailing.

The burn of the first session was still on her skin because of the silver that was used to bind her. The longer it took to heal, the more likely she would develop scars when it healed.

"Why did you betray me, Lilly? You gave our enemies information and still had the effrontery to stay here; why?" I asked her as she looked at me.

"I wanted to be someone, and they promised me that. They said they had people on the council and they would elevate my status. I do not want to be a trophy anymore...." She said, and I shut her up.

"Bathe her," I said because she was still lying.

She wasn't a trophy. She did not come to the Volkov estate like the rest of us. She was sent so Sylvester would consider matting with her. Her father sent her for the sake of having an alliance.

She screamed for a while before they washed it off.

"Every time you lie about something, and I know it, I will wash you with silver". I told her.

"I do not care why you did it, Lilly; I want information now. What did they do with the seals you took?" I asked her. I already knew what they did with it, but I wanted to be sure that she understood my message and would tell the truth because I figured she was the type that needed motivation before she could speak the truth. It was pathetic, but she was a liar.

“They used it to create attack ordered in the south. It was sent to the council to approve so the north could deploy troops to the south to cause a problem between the two regions,” she said, voicing the truth for the first time.

“Now, was that difficult ?” I asked her, and she shook, still sobbing.

“What is their next move,” I asked her, and she looked at me as if she were scared.

“If you do not tell me, Lilly, I will force it out of you, and it is painful”, I assured her.

“They are planning to do something to Lady Volkov. Something about her committing a crime. I did not have the full details, but they plan to arrest her after the games to force Lord Volkov to step down,” She said, and I composed myself.

“After that, what next?” I asked, and she shrugged.

“Do you happen to know what they have against her?” I asked, and she nodded.

“Jenny Lawrence’s confession that she sent to the council. She said it would be sent and played for the council if anything happened to her. According to them, Lady Volkov has been trying to kill Jenny because Jenny knows her secret,” Lilly said, and I knew where they were driving.

“And, what is that?” I asked, and she was afraid to say it.

“Say it!” I yelled at her, already knowing what it was, but I wanted to discredit it and make it seem like propaganda.

“They said she was the one that gave up lord Maurice’s cover and had him killed so her son could be lord because Lord Maurice wanted his other son to be lord instead of Volkov,” she said, and I shook my head.

I was secretly worried that that was why they were looking for David, but I kept it to myself.

“How many more lies would these people peddle. This woman has buried her mate, and they want to use his death against her. Do they have proof of this allegation other than Jenny’s confession?” I asked, wanting to know what we were up against, and she shook her head.

“Not that I know of Luna. I am just an underdog.” She said, and I knew she wasn’t lying.

I walked up to her and looked at her body.

"You had a bright future, Lilly. Sadly, you dared to throw it all away for nothing. I tried to make it easy for you and give you your life back, but you threw my kindness back at me," I said and looked at Wison.

"Lock her up in the dark cells. She would be tried for treason with the maximum penalty," I said, and she began to cry and pleaded, knowing she would be found guilty.

"You have proven you can't be reformed, Lilly. I can't have you roaming about the place creating troubles for my husband and me," I explained my reason to her and walked out of the room.

I was done with her. She cried and called after me, but her pleas fell on deaf ears.

She deserved pain. Waking up every day knowing she would be sentenced soon would torture her. I might not push for the death penalty, but it wasn't my decision. I instructed Wison on what to do. They had already prepared the second questioning room for Annika and Olga; I planned on questioning them and then visiting Amanda.