

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 116

~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 she 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.

Wilson 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.

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~Tamia~

I could feel Linda and Avery’s excitement while we walked.

“I can’t believe you went ruthless on Lilly,” Linda said excitedly.

“That bitch had it coming from the moment we met her in the general banquet hall for breakfast. She was so full of herself, trying to control all the women with her lies and nonsense. Honestly, she had it coming, and I must say, you went a bit too easy on her, Tamia,” Avery said, and I giggled.

“What is all that about Stephanie? They are trying to pin a lot of shit on the woman. These people would stop at nothing. Jenny is a member of the organisation and disqualifies anything she has to say. As far as we are concerned, it might have been her last card should all fail,” Linda said, and I stopped and hugged Linda. She had just made a complex issue easy.

We did not have to do anything. The fact that Jenny was part of them already disqualified whatever she tried to accuse Stephanie of.

I felt terrible that my friends did not know about what Stephanie did. Sylvester and I had kept it between us so we could keep it secret. I was glad that Linda’s ignorance about the issue had allowed her to find a solution.

“What’s with you, Tamia?” Linda said, wiping the cheek I kissed.

“You solved a major issue because I know they would want to use it,” I said, and Avery laughed.

“Sylvester will be king by then. Good luck with antagonising the king,” Avery said, and we chuckled.

“We got to the door of the room they kept, Olga and Annika, and I was about to step in when Avery stopped me.

“I know Annika is personal, but you can’t have all the fun. We are lunas, too; we will be ladies when you are queen. We deserve to have some fun with these women, Tamia. Come on,” Avery pleaded, and I giggled.

“Trust me; we increased the silver concentration in the water for these two. I want to watch them suffer. The thought that they threatened that poor boy makes me want to give them pain,” Linda said, and I opened the door and walked in.

Annika and Olga were chained against the wall, naked.

“Who requested that they be kept like this?” I asked, wondering what was happening.

“I did.’ I wanted to treat every inch of their bodies,” Avery said, and I realised it was just the three of us.

“There was a silver whip on the table, and I doubted we would need to exert the energy when there were buckets of Avery’s unique mix.

We picked up the rubber gloves and wore them to protect our hands. While we picked up the bowls, we would take the water and splash it on their bodies. I knew we would have fun.

“How is it going, darling,” I heard Sylvester’s voice in my head, and I told him we were having a wonderful time.

He told me David was almost at the mansion, wished me luck, and we ended the conversation. I knew they were planning the massive arrest for tomorrow night, but I did not ask him any questions even though I was nervous about meeting his brother and eager to see what he looked like and know why he stayed away. I just had so many questions I might not get to ask in one day.

“Annika Richford,” I said, and she growled at me.

“Some attitude you have there,” I said and looked at Olga, who was crying. I guess Annika was the leader.

“So what do you have for me, Annika?” I said, and she spat in my direction.

I did not have the time to fight her.

“I think she is thirsty,” I said and being from the east, she knew exactly what it meant.

Her eyes opened, but it was too late. I took some water and splashed it on her body.

She screamed, and I heard the sizzling sound of the silver searing her skin. That was definitely leaving a scar on her skin.

“I do not have a lot of time, Annika. I would like to put my legs up and sleep. Avery and Linda would ask you questions, and you are to answer to the best of your ability with the truth or else we will continue to quench your thirst until you can take no more,” I said and went to sit.

Avery moved forward to Annika, while Linda moved to Olga.

I watched my friends torture these women for over an hour without asking questions. It got to the point that Annika was pleading with me to interfere, but I had promised to give them free rein. Soon they finished; I connected the hose to the tap in the room so I could wash their bodies with it.

“Annika was panting heavily by the time I finished cleaning her skin.

“My uncle sent me here,” She started speaking without being prompted.

"That was the only way I could earn my keep. Amanda wasn't cooperative, so he sent me here," she said.

I had to commend Avery for her skills in torture. The girl must have dreaded Avery working on her again, and she felt her best bet was to tell it all.

"I was to come here and recruit people in the estate to work for him. My Uncle planned it all. He caused a few attacks in Brent to frighten Alpha Kyle. Then he visited immediately after the attack so Alpha Leo would not find out. He planted it in Alpha Kyle's head to team up with Devin Corrigan. Since Kyle and Leo were close, Leo signed off on the alliance. He used that opportunity to create trouble that forced Lord Volkov to attack.

That was the opportunity he needed to give me off as tribute and get rid of the three of you so that Amanda could run things in the east. Still, My cousin is stubborn, and she did not do what he wanted.

This thing is bigger than all of us, and the people are powerful. I am just taking orders from my Uncle," she said, and I figured we knew everything she would tell us.

"You have nothing useful to tell us, Like who the king is?" Linda asked her, and she shook her head.

"We do not know who the King is, but I can give you the names of the council members in exchange for a lesser punishment," Annika said, negotiating for herself.

"Me, too," Olga said, and I was surprised at how quickly these women gave up.

"What was your gain in all this," I asked them, and Annika bowed her head.

"I had no choice, Luna. My parents are dead, and I depend on my Uncle. I had to do as he said, or I will be alone." Annika confessed, and her reason was plausible.

"What about you, Olga," Linda asked.

"I just wanted revenge for my mate," she said, and I realised they would not gain anything from this.

"Very well, I will give you all softer penalties if you can tell me the council members in this thing and prove it," I said, and Avery looked at me.

"I do not care about people outside the council. I need to know the council members that are part of the organisation," I said and looked at Annika.

"You seem to be close enough to your Uncle to know he associates. I need you to give me names," I said, and she nodded quickly, eager to please and sell her bully uncle to save her life.

"They used to visit us secretly. The activities started three years ago," she said

"I do not know their names, but if you can call it out, I could remember the sound from memory," Annika said, and I pulled out my phone because they were nine council members, and I did not know all their names by heart.

"Vino Lawrence?" I asked, and she shook her head.

"Larry McMillian?" I asked, and she shook her head, so I called a known member's name to see if she was lying to me.

"Jacob Ma..." I started, and she nodded before I could finish the sentence which meant she was being truthful.

"Joan Clayman?" I asked, and she shook her head.

"Pamela Rivers?" I asked, and she shook her head.

I felt a tinge of disappointment because I wanted that bitch to be guilty. I still thought she was. Maybe Annika did not know all their names.

"Lucas Vanhill," I asked the quietest person on the council, and she shook her head.

"Gaston Wayat," I said, and she frowned a bit and nodded.

"Neil Peakman," She said quickly, which was the next name I would call.

"I remember him, Neil Peakman," She said.

"Uncle said he is reticent in the council and makes no sound, but he passes all the orders before the council leader signs them. He was the one who connived with Jenny Lawrence to murder Louis Lawrence, head of the council, Vino's father. I think they hate Vino Lawrence too. He might be on their hit list," She said and sighed. Though the information was fragmented, I planned to piece it together.

"I will give you the password to my computer and email so you can piece together the information on your own, Luna. Please, I want to reduce the sentence for my cooperation." She said quickly.

"Not yet, until your information checks out," Avery said, and Annika agreed. Her confidence let Tamia know she wasn't lying, but they would still crosscheck to be sure.

"It will check out alright. I am not a liar like that, Lilly girl. You know she doubled-crossed you, right? She told them you were on to them, so they changed strategy," Annika said, and I realised she wanted to cooperate.

I doubted it had anything to do with reduced sentencing. She wanted her Uncle to get caught.

“It seems to me you want us to catch your uncle,” I told her, and she bowed her head.

“I am tired of the man, Luna. Locking me up in a cell for the rest of my life will be freedom compared to this. I am tired of everything, and I doubt what they are peddling is what they are planning,” she said, and Olga exclaimed and asked her what she meant about that.

Annika began to laugh.

“They claim every pack will be free yet want to install a King. Do the math, Olga, and stop being dumb.” She said and chuckled.

The girl was mentally unstable, and I felt genuinely sorry for her.

Realising there was nothing more to learn from them. Avery, Linda, and I left them and returned to my wing.

I planned on resting before I visited Amanda.

I told the additional names to Sylvester, and I could feel his shock.

The council members that were mentioned came as a shocker to him, but the baffling part of all this was that we were still yet to get the name of this king. It would have been nice to pick the king up along with the others tomorrow night, but as things were looking, we would just have to go after the names we had and hope that the king and the rest would rear their heads.

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~Tamia~

Avery, Linda and I decided to kick back before seeing Amanda. I was happy about how fast we were moving. First, we did not have people to deal with, and now we had a list. However, I would have been happier if the king had been on that list. It would mean our troubles would end, but it was better than nothing.

I wondered what Sylvester was still doing, but I did not want to disturb him. The operation they were planning was very tedious, and I knew it would need a lot of care. Paying attention to detail and being meticulous about it would ensure success.

“I really think Lilly got off easy,” Avery said, and Linda giggled.

“There is nothing worse than mental torture. Tamia sent her to the dark dungeon to await the trial. Who said she would have her day in court ever?” Linda said, and we all laughed.

There was nothing worse than not being able to plead your case.

Death would be an easy escape for the bitch. She did not strike me as someone that wanted to live. If she wanted to live, she would have taken the gift of life given to her and made the most of it, but she decided that she would throw it all away for nothing. I do not know how her mind functions, but the girl is very stupid.

“I will need you to receive David and his family on my behalf when they arrive. We are still planning, and our plans have hit some challenges. Do you think you are up for it, Green-eyes?” Sylvester teased me, and I sighed.

“I need some stress-relieving activity to be up for it,” I teased him. Giddy about what we have been able to achieve so far.

“Meet me in my office,” he said, closing the link.

I was shocked; I actually meant that as a joke. I did not think he would take it seriously. The way he said it was mind-blowing, and my walls began to clench just thinking of what he would do to me in there. Linda and Avery were speaking, and I wasn't listening.

I stood up immediately.

“Excuse me, ladies. Sylvester sent for me,” I said, not wanting them to know what I was going to do.

“Okay, we will wait for you here,” Linda said, and I felt a tinge of guilt.

I left the lounge and walked briskly down the hallway.

Sylvester was so spontaneous that I liked it. I hoped I wouldn't come immediately because of how I was feeling.

My body temperature had gone up a bit. Excitement wasn't good, especially when there was a task to complete.

It always gets in the way.

I reached the office door and took a deep breath before stepping in.

Sylvester was sitting on the couch with his shirt open, and I could see the lust in his eyes.

“Lock the door,” He ordered me, and I obeyed.

“Stress relieving activity, you say,” he said, and I felt my cheek colour. I didn’t know why I felt shy, but he had brought that out of me.

“Strip”, he ordered me, and I took off my clothes without argument. I was very wet too. I felt it when I rolled down my panties.

My body was anticipating his touch. It had been a long day, and I needed it.

Sylvester asked me to kneel across his lap on the couch with my butt in the air.

His thumb caressed my entrance.

“Wet,” he said, and I wanted him to stick it in.

Grinding my pussy against his hand, he smacked my entrance, and I moaned.

“You are too greedy, green-eyes,” he said, and I did not care; Kaira was growling; his wolf scent filled my senses, and I wanted to mate badly.

He smacked my entrance again, and I moaned.

I became wild, wanting him to penetrate.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, grinding impatiently. Wanting the release badly and wanted to ease my wall.

He made me get up, and then he made me sit on the couch and open my legs for him.

His eyes were dark when he knelt before me and rubbed my clit with his thumb. He put his thumb in his mouth to taste me, and Knight flashed. The sight was so erotic that I moaned. The breath that escaped my lips was hot, and I was thirsty.

He rubbed my clit with his thumb and teased my entrance with his index finger.

“Sylvester, please,” I said, unable to bear the teasing anymore.

He groaned and then bent to do his work.

Just as I suspected. It did not last at all. It wasn’t long he began to suck on the nerve bundle that I came.

He smacked my clit for coming too soon, but the sensation was sweet.

I turned around and knelt on the couch while he rammed into me from behind and began to pump.

My walls went wild, and I could not control the intensity of the sensation I was feeling. I was making a lot of sounds, and I did not care if anyone could hear me. I loved it so much.

“Sylvester,” I moaned, and he continued to pump.

He had no mercy on me. I cried for mercy, and he increased his thrust and speed.

I crashed all over his cock. He pumped right through the orgasm, building up another one and sustaining it until I felt pins on my skin. It was a good type of pin. I believe my hair was standing. I was cold and hot. I did not know how to describe the orgasm, but it was wild, with a ringing in my ear that faded everything out.

“Yes, yes,” I moaned, agreeing with what he was doing and how he was doing it. Pumping and hitting the right spot. I crashed again, and he stilled and buried his cock deep inside before releasing it into me.

I was out of breath by the time he pulled out. He caressed my butt cheek and kissed the right side gently.

Then I turned to look at him.

He had a smile on his face.

“Are you still stressed?” He asked me, and I shook my head.

We both laughed. I got up and began to wear my clothes.

“How did it go with Lilly and those two?” Sylvester asked me, and I told him all that had happened. He was stunned at how ruthlessly we dealt with the girls.

“And they call me the dark one,” he said, laughing.

“You should be called the Dark Luna. You and your friends. Goddess, that was something else,” he said, and I laughed.

“Never have I ever thought of bathing a wolf with silver. Their skin is marred for life,” he said, and I shrugged.

“They should be lucky if they get to ever show it again. Treason is a huge offence,” I told him, and he sighed.

"I actually saw Lilly as a younger sister. To think she could be so wicked like this breaks my heart. I feel like my kindness has been thrown back at me, Tamia," He said, and I went to hold him.

He was sitting on the couch, and I stood before him and hugged him; with his head against my belly, I ran my fingers through his hair to calm him down.

"It will be alright, darling. We are on the right track." I said, trying to calm him down.

He held on tightly and kissed my tiny bump.

"It will be alright. Once we arrest them, you will be king, and we can have our wedding. No one can work against us again," I said, and he held on tight, squeezing me. I could feel his anxiety and fear. Although our love-making session had given us temporary ease, I could feel his building up again.

"Darling," I said, and he looked at me.

"It will be best we receive David together. I know you are nervous about seeing him, and I am sure he feels the same way. He will be at ease and feel more welcomed if he sees us instead of just me," I told him, and he sighed.

I knew he was avoiding seeing David, and I could not blame him. This was someone he did not know existed. Seeing David makes everything real, and he must deal with it.

"Okay," he said reluctantly, and I sat beside him on the couch and rested my head on his shoulders.

"We will be alright, darling. I am sure of it. You will have nothing to worry about," I told him, and he held me close.

I linked Avery and Linda to inform them where I was and let them know Sylvester and I had decided to wait for David to arrive.

Avery and Linda decided to retire to Linda's room. They said they would ask Katya to join them, so she does not feel alone.

I told them it was alright and closed the link.

Sylvester and I decided to freshen up and wait for David to arrive.

We returned to our bedroom and showered together then lay on the bed naked in each other's arms.

The clothes that we would wear were ready. We just wanted to be nude on the bed for a bit. It wasn't long after we laid down that I drifted to sleep.

Sylvester woke me, and I noticed I had been asleep for two hours. He was dressing up, and I realised that David must have arrived.

"They are here. They are in my lounge." Sylvester said, and I became nervous.

"Dominic will be joining us too," He said, and I did not think it was wise that I would be there.

"I do not think I should come with you, darling. I think the three of you should get acquainted," I said, and he smiled at me.

"Nice try, Green-eyes. I need you to help with his wife and children. He came with two girls and a boy, and they seem to be triplets, according to Kappa William," he said, and I was surprised.

David was older than Sylvester, so he should be in his thirties.

"That is beautiful," I said and got up.

"What wing will they be staying in?" I asked him, and he shrugged.

"Put them in our wing. Two rooms, one for the triplets, one for the couple," he said, and I shook my head.

"We need three rooms. The boy should have his own room while the girls can share a room." I told him, and he nodded.

"I will give David and his wife my former room and allocate two smaller rooms to the children," I said, and he smiled at me.

The look in his eyes said he was doing the same as I was. Reminiscing about our time in that room. The awkward situations, Kaira's tantrums and the northern cocktail episode. It all led to this.

I got dressed, and we headed out. I did not know what to expect, but I believed we had one less person to worry about with David on our side. For him to come without stress meant we had nothing to worry about. I was curious to learn how he got to know Jenny and why she sent him Eight hundred thousand. I was excited.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 119

~Sylvester~

Our little love session in the office helped me gain some focus. When Tamia linked me about being stressed, I did not think twice about it. We had spent the past three days working and doing a lot of mental work. I had not been able to spend time with my mate,

hold her hands, have a picnic and make love to her under the stars like I once did. I did not even have time to stay in bed with her.

We were dealing with one stress and then another. The traitors and the spies. It was all too much.

What we did in the office was spontaneous and worth it. I had almost forgotten how to live. I felt like I was drowning in all the issues surrounding me. My little time with my mate in the office pulled me back up.

Everything was crazy. I had to open my doors to two unlikely people in the name of trying to establish peace, and as things were, I would have to open my door to more. It was hard, but I had to do it.

Leo was Tamia's ex, yet he was staying at the estate, not to talk of Devin, who wasn't only Tamia's former fated but the very guy that almost made the north start a war. He killed my father due to the intel he got from my mother, laid claim on the lordship, attacked my home and tried to take my mate from me. Yet he was in my lounge drinking scotch and making plans as if nothing had happened. The thought of it alone made me laugh at life.

Sometimes taking things too seriously was wrong and stupid because we did not know where the road would lead us.

Sitting in the lounge and planning the massive arrest was tedious. We had to find a way to ensure we did it at once so that none of the people on our list escaped.

The names that we had were surprising. The ones that hurt me the most were the council members on the list. Hearing that Jenny teamed up with some people to kill her brother made me commend my mother for finishing the woman. She had no ounce of loyalty in her. I could see why my father never committed to her and felt the need to punish her sometimes. She was the type to be kept on a leash, or she would bite. She was good riddance, but she had caused a lot of damage.

One of the damages Jenny had caused was what I would have to fix soon; my brother David.

She had told the guy that I was hunting him. She had lied to him and made me seem like a monster, and then she sent him money. Then I heard they were trying to recruit him. I thought he was the king until I got that information and realised he was a victim too.

While I sat in that lounge to plan the arrest, I was tense. My nerves were all over the place. I was afraid. As much as I tried to hide it, I was worried.

I was going to blatantly violate the rights of the people on the list. I knew I had to be the villain for the greater good. It was sad. I was also worried but hopeful that we were on the right track. I hoped we were not being misled and playing into the enemy's trenches.

A lot crossed my mind, and I prayed where I sat.

I had never asked the moon goddess for much, but here I was, pleading for my life and those of the people I love. My mate, my friends, their mates, my allies, and the innocent people of our world. I did not want a war. I knew what war brings. I fought a few of them for peace, and I do not want to fight again. Especially not in the magnitude these people were trying to bring. I knew if I did not do something about it quickly and shut it down, we would be in a dark age, and a lot of killing would occur. The bastards might not have an army, but they were recruiting daily. Once they have the number, they will come for us. This move was to make sure they would never have the numbers.

When Tamia linked me, I had to excuse myself from the meeting and go to the office. We had been at it for two days. I need a break.

Tamia had been questioning and torturing people for two days. She needs a break.

While I walked to my office, I was mad.

I was pissed off and prayed that I catch this king very soon. I won't kill him because death would be an escape for the bastard. I planned on making the rest of his life excruciatingly painful and challenging. I planned on chipping away his sanity bit by bit and watching him suffer from fighting for it. I planned on destroying him from the inside out. Death would be an escape I wasn't willing to provide the bastard.

Tamia, Linda and Avery should have been resting and planning our wedding, which was in two weeks and some days now, but here we were, planning arrests and torturing people.

I prayed that the arrest would buy us time. I hoped the time would be enough to plan our wedding, get married, claim our mates and love each other. I prayed that we catch the king, but if we don't, I pray he goes into hiding and stops troubling us. I hoped for a lot and prayed that the goddess would grant me the best.

I moved to my office and unbuttoned my shirt. Knight was eager to ravage Tamia, and that was what we did when she entered the office. I felt at peace after.

When Tamia told me I would have to receive David, I knew she was telling the truth. It would have been wrong for me to have Tamia receive him, especially after all the lies that Jenny filled his head with.

While we walked down the hallway to welcome David, who was waiting in my lounge with his family, I was clueless about what to say.

He was the son of the woman that broke my mother's marriage, the reason my father broke his promises and never returned to who he was again. He would have taken my birthright. I should hate him by all standards, but it wasn't his fault.

It wasn't his fault that his mother was a bitch. It wasn't his fault that our father was a douchebag, and it sure wasn't his fault that he existed. Either of us could have been in the situation that he was in. I wished my parents had handled it differently, most especially my mother. I wished she cared for him and kept him close; Jenny wouldn't have been able to do what she did.

I stood before the door leading to the lounge and took a deep breath. Tamia squeezed my hands to help me calm down, and we both walked in. Being lord and soon-to-be king, I dared not show fear or weak emotions, so I held on to a brave face while we walked to where David was.

The moment I saw him, I wanted to crumble. He was the spitting image of our father. He did not wear his hair long. His brown hair and brown eyes were exactly like our father's. Although his features were softer, I knew it was because of his mother. I heard she was a beauty. A beautiful bitch.

His wife was blonde with blue eyes, and his children were beautiful. They all stood to pay their respect, and I could see the fear and concern in my brother's eyes.

I was about to speak when Tamia broke the ice by hugging his wife.

"I am so happy to finally meet my sister-in-law. You are welcome," she said joyfully and hugged David's wife.

Breaking the hug, she looked at her and her children.

"I am Tamia," she said, introducing herself, and the woman smiled warmly at Tamia.

"I am Nicole," she said and introduced her children.

"This is Tanya, Liz and Justin. They are triplets. Justin was the first to come," she said, and Tamia smiled and hugged the children warmly. David relaxed, and I extended my hand for a handshake which he willingly took.

"Welcome," I told my brother. The look in his eyes showed that my behaviour wasn't what we expected.

We sat back down, and Dominic was yet to come.

"Dominic will join us soon," I told him, and he smiled at me.

"Thank you for inviting us; I did not think I would ever be allowed to enter this place," he confessed, and I frowned.

"Why is that?" I asked him, and he sighed.

"Well, I heard I was being hunted by you. A woman called Jenny said your mother had ordered my assassination because father said I should be lord," He said and sighed.

"I told her I wasn't interested in being Lord and that I would just come and explain myself to my stepmother, but she filled me with so much fear and told me it was best I go into hiding," he said. I could not believe how far Jenny had gone.

"So you have been in hiding since?" Tamia asked him, and he nodded.

"Sort of. She sent me some money and pleaded with me to disappear. I felt it was odd that someone I did not know would ask me to sign some documents and ask me to disappear," he said, and I frowned at him.

"Sign some documents?" I asked, and he nodded.

"She said you sent it. I should relinquish my claim to anything that has to do with Volkov. I will never be lord, and I will never head the council. I will never have a say in the governance, and neither will my children," he said, and I wondered why Jenny would go that far.

"It wasn't difficult. I signed it and quickly sent it to her. She sent me money, and I went into hiding. It was a no-brainer for me, really. I did not want anything to do with the things stipulated in the documents, so it was an easy sign," he said, and I could see he was sincere.

"Anyway, the woman was a traitor. She is dead now. I was never hunting you. I did not even know you existed until recently when my mother told my mate about you," I said, and the man was shocked.

"I told you," Nicole said, and I wondered what she meant.

"If I may speak your eminence," she said politely.

"We are family, no need to address me officially," I said, and she smiled and thanked me.

"I told him to still come and see you and explain himself, but he refused," She said, and I could not blame him. Because my family was being branded as 'evil people', no one would want to try to reason with me.

"Anyway, I would like you to stay here in the meantime; there are people out to wipe out our family for personal gain. That Jenny woman was one of them, but she is late now. I believe you and your family would be safe here in the estate while we deal with the threat," I said, and he thanked me.

"I know of the threat. They tried to gun me down six months ago. That was why we moved to the south. I honestly thought you were the one, but now I know it might have been those people," He said, and I frowned.

"How do you trust me so easily?" I asked him.

"Because if you wanted me dead as they said, you wouldn't bother to bring me here. They would have just killed me instead of transporting my family and me to the Volkov Estate," he said, and I was glad he was the intelligent kind.

I got up immediately, not ready for an extended reunion.

"My wife would show you to your quarters. Please feel free and make yourselves comfortable." I said, and they thanked me. Seeing David was difficult because it felt like I was looking at the younger version of my father. I suspected that was the sentiment that made my father go against my mother. Something he paid dearly for. I did not feel sorry for my father, but I was glad that the uprising wouldn't get to David again. This was a victory.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 120

~Sylvester~

I returned to the lounge while Tamia helped settle David and his family in. I wonder why Dominic did not show up to meet the guy. I knew my brother was petty like our mother. He knew Alissa, and she was mean to him and our mother. It was normal that he would avoid her son and not want to have anything to do with David, but he needed to overcome his hatred and show some love.

I entered the lounge, and Dominic was there. My guess was right about him not wanting to see David.

"How did it go?" Dominic asked me, and I sat down on the couch.

"You would have known if you were there," I said, and his face dimmed.

"I can't have anything to do with that bastard," Dominic voiced out, and I nodded.

"That bastard is the spitting image of father and seemed pleasant too. He isn't interested in our politics and has a lovely mate and three children, who happen to be triplets, by the way," I explained to Dominic, and I could see the shame in his eyes. My

words rendered him speechless. Everyone was quiet too. It was as if I had made the atmosphere seriously awkward.

“We are not obligated or expected to avenge mother, Dominic. Our parents lived their lives and made mistakes; we do not have to continue the pattern among ourselves,” I said, and he felt ashamed.

“Where is he?” Dominic finally asked.

“Tamia is settling them in,” I told him, and he nodded.

“I will see them later,” he said, and I sighed.

Once the atmosphere was calm, Devin was the first to speak.

“My beta would arrest the people in the south today. But he said he would do it quietly, so they do not alert the people here,” he explained to me, and I sighed.

“So what will happen after we pick these people up and you become king?” Leo asked a valid question because what we were doing was only going to buy us time, not solve the problem.

“I will give both of you seats on the council, increasing my influence, and we will hunt for someone,” I said, and they were attentive.

I did not know if Dominic knew of Jenny’s son, but this was the time to lay it on the table.

“Jenny Lawrence had an affair with my father. She also slept with Marcel and Theodore’s father,” I said, and they were shocked.

“This Jenny woman is all over the place,” Devin said, making an obvious observation.

“But that isn’t the issue, really,” I said and sighed.

“We investigated her home a few months ago and found some pretty disturbing things. The woman had a knack for keeping records. Official and private records, some of which were disturbing.” I said, and Theodore interrupted me.

“Maybe her involvement in these things is what got her killed. She might have pissed them off, and they came for her and then tried to make it seem like it was Corrigan. I am glad we did not act on the information we had,” he said, and Devin exclaimed.

“What attack?” He asked.

“Jenny was killed in the Volkov home in Lucland when she visited lady Stephanie. There was a fight, and they said the attack was from you. That you ordered them to bring Tamia to you,” Marcel said, and Devin was confused. Of course, he would be. He did not orchestrate the attack, and my friends did not know the truth about the attack.

“Why would I attack Lady Volkov and this Jenny woman, let alone kill her?” Devin asked, and we sighed.

“It seemed plausible at that time since that was the day Sylvester was taking Tamia to visit our mother, and you had already attacked the estate to take her,” Dominic said, and I could hear the tinge of shame in his voice.

He had humiliated our mates and the girls in the harem because of the event. I am sure he wished he could take it all back now.

“Wow, these people want a war badly,” Devin concluded, and I did not want to elaborate because I knew exactly what had happened.

My mother had killed Jenny and tried to make it seem like it was Devin. There was no point explaining or elaborating because that would unearth my mother’s secrets, and I could not allow that.

“Anyway, Jenny liked to keep records,” I said, going back to the topic of discussion, and they were attentive.

“According to those records, she had a child with my father, or so she said. It could have been anyone’s child, but she claimed it was my father’s. Her husband was late by then, and she occupied his seat on the council so that it would have been a scandal, and she would have lost the Babanin’s seat,” I said, and they were in shock.

“What happened to this baby?” Leo asked, and I nodded.

“She claimed my father took the baby from her, and she does not know where the baby is,” I said, and Dominic growled.

“Another bastard!” he said, and I nodded.

“Technically, the only bastard if the baby is a Volkov. David isn’t a bastard since father claimed his mother, but Jenny’s child is a bastard not only because of the illicit affair, but we are not sure if the child is truly a Volkov. The baby could have belonged to any of her lovers. She also seemed obsessed with my father,” I said, and Theodore laughed.

“You can say that again, Sylvester. Linda can’t get enough of those journals. The woman was out of it,” He said, laughing. Honestly, the journals were funny.

“Journals?” Leo, Devin and Dominic asked, and I nodded.

"There were journals of her personal life that we took from her home where she describes all manner of things. It is easy to conclude that the woman was unstable." I said.

"Anyway, what if this son is the king?" I said, and Dominic shook his head.

"This king thing is a spillover from father's time. It might be the same set of people. He is too young to be the mastermind. He should be twenty-five twenty-six now since you said it was after Jenny's husband's death." Dominic said, and I nodded.

"That is the confusing part of the information. I thought it was David, but after meeting him and his family, I do not think he is the one." I said, and Leo leaned forwards.

"It will be wrong to dismiss hunches. I think this bastard is worth looking into. After the arrest, we should pull our resources together and trace this guy out. We need to know if he is alive and where he is. This king guy must have a serious sense of entitlement, and I am sorry to say this, but he is likely the one who thinks he is owed because other than that, he has no reason to want to be king," Leo added, and we agreed.

"So, how are we doing this?" I asked, and Marcel leaned forward.

"The games have been cut short because of security issues and the rates of forfeitures and dropouts. So, it ends this week. We will go to the arena tomorrow and make our presence known. Pretend nothing is happening and move in on the traitors at night. The longer we stay away from the arena, the more alert they will be. We need them to relax," Marcel said, and I agreed with their devised method.

"I thought we should play some Polo, too. Kyle and Max are on their way," Leo said, and we all laughed, remembering what happened at the last game. Everyone laughed except for Devin, who didn't get the joke because he wasn't there.

"They won't trouble Linda and Avery. They know they have lost. If anything, they are very sorry. Max has bigger issues. It seems Ramsey is behind his pack's predicament, and Kyle is paranoid about his warriors," Leo said quickly to put Theodore and Marcel's minds at ease.

"We will need all the help we can get. Max and Kyle are pretty strong warriors and the best the east can offer. Differences aside, we will make a great team," I said, agreeing with Leo's choice, and my friends had no choice but to accept it.

We went over the plans again and decided to rest. Marcel planned on introducing Devin and Leo to the ladies in the harem, but I doubted they were up for it. They still had eyes only for Tamia. Anyway, I let them go about their businesses. I hurried back to my room.

On my way, I saw my mother at my door. She must have been knocking. I wondered why she did not bother to link me.

“Why didn’t you link me?” I asked her, and she smiled.

“I have a headache just thinking that bitch’s son is in here,” She said, and I sighed.

I opened my door and let her into my room.

“I can’t believe Tamia would betray me and be nice to them,” she said, sounding petty, and I hugged her.

“You have to let it go, mother. Alissa is gone, and so is father. David did not ask for any of this. You can’t continue to feel this way about him,” I said, breaking the hug.

“Do you know you were the reason he went into hiding?” I told her, and she widened her eyes in surprise.

“I did not do anything to him. He is lying,” she said quickly, defending herself, and I shook my head.

“He didn’t say you did anything to him, mother. I am just telling you why he went into hiding. Jenny told him you were looking for him,” I said, and she swore at Jenny.

“And while she was at it, did she tell him she was the one that killed his mother out of jealousy or did she pin that on me, too?” She asked, and I shook my head. I did not even give him that bit of information.

“I need you to look past our differences, mother, and make it work. These people are making use of our grudges and shortcomings. We must ensure they can’t use any of those things anymore.” I said, and she looked at me and sighed.

“How is he?” she finally asked me the real question she wanted to ask. Deep down, she did not hate David. Her anger was towards my father and Alissa. I smiled at her and looked at her.

“Maybe you should see him yourself. After all, you took care of him before they sent him to Grizlo,” I said, and her face coloured.

“I do not know what to tell him or what he would think of me. I feel bad that I suspected he was behind everything,” she confessed, and I nodded.

“We all do. He did not even want to be lord, mother. He did not care at all. He just wanted to be left alone. Jenny even made him sign agreements that he would not lay claim to anything or get involved with anything.” I said, and she cursed.

“That bitch. She must have wanted him out of the way for her son’s sake,” she said and looked at me.

“Are you sure Jenny did not know where her son was or who he is? That bitch could not have done all this if she did not know. She did not look like someone who had lost something precious to her. I think she knew where her son was and was in communication with him before I ended her,” my mother said, making a very valid observation, one we had never thought of.

If what my mother was saying was true, my guess might not be far from the truth, and he might be behind all this. I also could not dismiss the clue that the king is old. Could they be the same, or could he be another idiot and pawn like Liam? Something the uprising wanted to use for personal benefit and discard, or worse, could they have eliminated him after the death of his mother just like they wanted to eliminate David? There were many questions, and I did not know where to start.

My mother excused herself from the room, and I relaxed on the bed. A short nap would get me to where I wanted to be. Tamia had hers and was probably catching up with David’s wife; I won’t be surprised if Linda and Avery were with her too. I guess I would just sleep a bit to gather my strength. The next day would be tedious, and I need all the energy I could get.