

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 126

~Tamia~

I was glad when Sylvester returned home. I felt him snuggle into bed with me in the early hours of the morning, and the fact that he was home with me made me thankful. It was hard to express my fear.

I woke up early and snuck out of bed. Sylvester was still asleep, so I decided to let him rest.

I freshened up in the bathroom and headed out to speak to Stephanie, Katya and Nicole about the wedding plans.

The truth was we couldn't continue to put it off; we needed all hands on deck, and those were the ones available.

Due to my last experience, I did not want to trust the planner without having people there to watch her if she wasn't getting it right.

I knocked on Stephanie's door, and it took a while for her to let me in.

I stepped in and could pick up Jake's scent in the room but kept it to myself. So much for being just friends with the Alpha.

Stephanie seemed to be getting her groove back. I maintained a stoic face and went to sit on the couch.

"Good morning, Luna," I said, and Stephanie smiled at me.

"Out with it, Tamia; I know you smell him," she said, and I laughed, then made a lip-sealing gesture, and she smiled at me.

"What can I help you with?" She said, knowing I must have needed something to show up in her room the way I did.

"I need you to help plan our wedding; of course, Katya and Nicole will help, but since we are too occupied to do anything, I was hoping you could do it for us," I said, and she beamed at me.

"I get to plan my sons' wedding; why not?" she said, and I was thrilled. I got off the couch and hugged her. Stephanie was slightly off, so it hit me that Jake might still be in that room. I decided to take my leave.

"Do you mind telling Katya and Nicole on our behalf? Katya should be happy; it's her wedding, too," I said, and she nodded, wanting me to leave the room badly.

I got to the door and touched the knob.

"Tell Alpha Jake that he should make sure he rounds up and make himself available in Sylvester's lounge before the lord wakes up," I said, and Stephanie sighed.

"Oh, Tamia," she said, and I giggled and opened the door. I stepped out of Stephanie's room, still giggling. Done with it, I returned to my bedroom to rest.

I went to lie down, and soon I fell asleep too.

I woke up later, and it was almost noon. Sylvester was awake, and he was getting dressed.

"You are finally up," I said, and he giggled.

"You are the one that was sleeping, Green-eyes," he said, and I shook my head.

"I woke up, freshened up and returned to bed," I said, and he looked at me and smiled.

I got off the bed and handed him a paper with the list of names on Amanda's flash drive. I handed it to Sylvester, and he glanced through the content.

"Those are the list of names we got from the flash drive. Maybe we can use it to question the prisoners," I said, and he sighed.

"For now, I won't be able to question them. They have requested to be brought before the council. A request I have deliberately denied according to our plan," He said, and I was surprised.

"Of what use are they if we can't question them and get to the bottom of this?" I asked, and he nodded.

"Very useful. Their arrest would force the council to reach out to me. I would deny their request, and they would reach out to the regional Leaders to vote me out of office because this is a tyrant behaviour I shouldn't partake in. On the contrary, the regional leaders, who are now my allies, would raise a bill for reasons known to them that I should be installed as king. There will be a back and forth, and the elite families will be asked to resolve the problem. Once I become king, we can question them as we see fit," He explained, and I understood that was part of the plan already, but we needed to be ahead no matter what. Some of these people would want to talk, but I did not want to push it, so I held my tongue.

"Very well then, what would we do while we wait for the council to reach out to you?" I asked him, and he smiled at me.

“It has been a long time since we spent quality time together. Today I want to spend time with you. Go hunting in wolf form, have a picnic, and make love under the stars,” he said, and I beamed at him.

The idea sounded so irresistible that a moan escaped my lips. It was most welcomed.

“I see you approve,” he said, smiling at me, and I nodded.

“First, I would go to the lounge to catch up with everyone, then we will start our day,” he told me and pulled me close.

He searched my eyes for something and then smiled.

“Soon, we will be free of these people and live in peace,” He said, touching my tiny bump and kissing my neck.

I could not wait for him to sink his teeth and complete the bond. We did not need the blue moon, but it was worth the wait.

Sylvester left the room to head to his lounge while I searched for my friends.

“Where are you?” I linked Avery.

“Having a tea party in the eastern garden. Linda and I were bored and decided to hang out with the girls. Katya and Nicole are here too. Your sister-in-law is the life of the party, Tamia. She and Katya are bonding well. Oh, lest I forget, Stephanie is here too, and she reeks of Jake Brighton,” she added. I giggled, remembering Stephanie and Jake.

I wonder how Sylvester would take it. I was happy for both of them. They were having fun amid all the craziness.

I went to the eastern garden, and the party was alive. People were gossiping and laughing.

I also realised that they knew what had happened to Lilly. I wondered who had told them.

While some girls felt she was misled, others felt it served her right. They figured she lied about many things, especially her relationship with Sylvester, and they did not wish her well.

Seeing how many people hated her, even her sidekicks, who were always with her. I guess loyalty wasn't part of their friendship.

After spending two hours in the garden, Kappa Wilson linked me that Leo wanted to see me.

I did not know how to feel about it, but I obliged him.

I excused myself from the party and returned to the mansion to meet Leo.

He was waiting for me in the hallway close to Amanda's room.

"Is everything alright?" I asked him, and he nodded. His eyes were expressionless, and I knew he was mad about something.

"What is the matter, Leo?" I asked him, and he put his hands in his pocket and stood straight.

"Amanda wants to say goodbye to Annika before she leaves," He said, and I frowned at him. Surprised that they couldn't work it out.

"I know what you want to say, Tamia, but please save it. It is best this way," He said, knowing I would talk him out of it.

"What about the babies?" I asked, worried for the unborn children, and he sighed.

"I offered to be there for them, but she said no," he said, and I knew Amanda might have said that out of pride. Alphas were proud.

"And you let her?" I asked him, and he nodded.

"I did, Tamia, and I do not regret it. I should have rejected her on the balcony that day, and none of this would have happened. She was the beginning of my downfall. It won't work.

If I keep her, I will always see her as the reason my life crumbled.

I need a clean start, and she does too. I want to help with the children, but It seems she would try to use them, and I do not want to give her that room, so I have rejected her. If the children ever desire to know their father, they will come looking for me. I have a lot of issues to handle, and Amanda can't be one of them," he said with a final tone, and I knew his mind was made up. I was also confused that he felt no pain, but I kept it to myself, wanting our conversation to be short.

"She had the opportunity to come clean, and she never did. She could have given me the flash drive when I confronted her, but she refused. I would be careful around her if I were you, Tamia. The woman is dangerous and cannot be trusted. I can't believe that I threw away my life for her sake. What I did was stupid, and it would haunt me for the rest of my life, but I want a breather for now. I want to take a break from the love

department and re-evaluate my life and self-worth. One thing I know is that I will never risk what I have for something fleeting again," he said with misty eyes, and I hugged him.

He bent his head on my shoulder and wept.

"I am sorry, Tamia." he wept bitterly, and I let him hold me.

"I forgive you, Leo," I said, but I knew he would need time to forgive himself. We broke the hug, and he wiped away his tears.

I Linked Kappa Wilson to join me so we could escort Amanda to see Annika.

I entered Amanda's room, and Leo walked away. He did not want to see her. For fated people, his hatred for her was so intense that it was almost palpable.

I saw Amanda weeping on the couch. She looked as if she was utterly heartbroken. She looked at me with her swollen eyes but remembering what Linda and Avery said and Leo's mistrust towards her, I had my guard up.

"I heard you want to see Annika before you leave," I said, and she nodded.

"He rejected me, Tamia. He rejected me," She said, and I did not know what to tell her.

"You shouldn't have refused his help, Amanda, but I won't ask you to. Come on, I do not have all day. A driver is waiting to take you to the airport. You can have five minutes with your cousin, that is all," I said sternly, and she nodded. She stood up and placed her hands in her pockets.

We exited the room, and Wilson and I escorted her to the dark dungeons with heavy security. I noticed the food served by Luna's in-service, and the prisoners seemed well cared for. I wondered when Sylvester planned on moving them to the council prison. I guess I will discuss it with him later.

We went to where Annika was being held, and Amanda went to her. Their hands touched through the bars, and Annika was in tears.

"Amy," She said to her cousin, and Amanda began to cry.

"I am sorry. Annika, I should have kept.." she started, and Annika interrupted her.

"It is not your fault. I failed myself. I made the wrong decisions and failed," She said, and I did not feel an ounce of sympathy for them.

"They will bring you before the council. Just tell them," she said to Annika, and Annika nodded.

“Once you are free, come find me,” Amanda said, and Annika nodded. I hated spoiling their hope, but Annika would not be free because a council won’t oversee their trial; I would oversee their trial as queen. I wanted to laugh, but I held it.

I knew they were mind-linking each other, and we did not have the full information of what they were discussing, but I noticed that Annika began to weep seriously. I could only guess what Amanda might have told her.

Amanda was crying too, and it was time for her to leave.

“Say hello to her for me,” Amanda said to Annika, and I felt it was a strange conversation. Maybe Amanda knew Olga too. Too bad they won’t be getting out of this free of charge.

“Uncle will burn,” Annika said, and I figured they both hated Ramsey. What a dysfunctional family.

I asked Kappa Wilson to have a Kappa watch her just in case her hands were dirty because her conversation with Annika was a bit off.

We left the dungeons, and Kappa Wilson led her to the car while I joined Sylvester in the western garden.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 127

~Sylvester~

I waited for Tamia in the western garden. I had the staff prepare a picnic for us. I stood and paced around the garden waiting for Tamia to join me. I was told Leo had sent for her, and it had something to do with Amanda. I wasn’t worried, but I did not like that she would be dragged into their mess.

They chose each other they should leave my mate out of it, but Leo was yet to learn that Tamia was permanently out of his life.

I would leave the issue for both of them to resolve. I might have approved a friendship, but it was wrong for Leo to involve Tamia in his problems with Amanda, the woman he broke her heart for.

Soon I saw Tamia approaching, and she had a broad grin. It was clear whatever Leo called her for had no adverse effect on her.

She rushed at me, and I lifted her from the ground, and we kissed passionately.

It felt so good holding her in my arms in the garden. Breaking the kiss, she looked around at what I had prepared for our time together and was beaming.

"It's lovely, Sylvester," she said, almost on the verge of tears, and I held her to my chest. That was when I caught Leo's scent.

Had he been hugging my mate? I controlled Knight and broke the hug gently.

"Jealousy does not suit you, big guy. He rejected Amanda, and she left. He needed a shoulder to cry on. You, of all people, know the emptiness that comes with rejection," She said, knowing exactly what was the matter with me, and I smiled because it was okay.

"You can't blame me for being possessive," I teased.

We sat and enjoyed the scenery.

I rested my head on her laps, and she ran her fingers through my hair. We were catching our breaths and relaxing. I noticed Tamia had been overwhelmed lately, despite not complaining about it. I knew it, and I was glad we were relaxing.

"Stephanie, Katya and Nicole are planning our big day," She said, and I already had that information. David had told me when I took Dominic to see him. He was still with Dominic, and I hoped my brother would let our half-sibling in.

"I know; David told me when I took Dominic to see him," I said, and she giggled.

"How did Dominic handle seeing him?" She asked, knowing how Dominic was.

"He was shocked to see how much David looked like our father. Dominic liked our father, so it was easy for him to look past the Alissa thing. They are together as we speak." I said, and she sighed.

"The conversation Amanda had with Annika was a bit weird. I did not want to say much, but I think we should keep an eye on her, Sylvester. I asked Wilson to put a Kappa on her just in case her name comes up somewhere in the middle of all this; we would know where to get her," She said, and I sat up.

"How weird was it?" I asked her, worried because everyone wasn't comfortable with Amanda's business, and there had to be something to it.

If only we had something we could pin on her, I would have stylishly held her, but no one had mentioned her name. The way we caught her was based on speculations.

If she had not admitted anything to Leo, she would have been an innocent party in all this. She was too clean to be clean, but there was nothing.

I was proud of my mate for taking that initiative. I wished Leo would have kept her as his luna for a little longer, but he had his reasons for letting her go, and I could not blame him.

“Did they not feel the pain?” I asked Tamia, and she shook her head.

“Not that I know of. It was just like Devin and me,”

She said, and I frowned.

“So why was mine with Susan different?” I asked, and she shrugged.

“Maybe because Susan wasn’t pregnant? That is the only common factor between Amanda and me,” she said, and I did not want to stress her to think of it.

“I think it was a brilliant idea to have someone watch her. Hopefully, her name doesn’t come up, and we do not have to see her again,” I said, and we laughed.

She bent to kiss me, and soon I pulled her close, and we were lying on the picnic mat.

We went into the woods to allow our wolves to run wild and soon returned to where the picnic mat was. It was close to evening.

Returning to my human form, I checked my phone and saw many missed calls from Vino Lawrence. It had already begun.

My few hours with my mate were the only time I was spared.

I decided to call Vino back because he had called with his personal phone and not the official number, so I expected it to be confidential.

“What is it?” Tamia asked, wearing my t-shirt.

“Vino called me four times,” I replied, and the smile in her eyes faded. I knew what she was thinking, but we had set things we needed to complete in motion.

I called, and Vino answered after two rings.

“Lord Volkov,” he said calmly.

“What is it, Vino?” I asked him, sounding short, and he cleared his throat.

“I am sorry to disturb you, your eminence, and I hope this isn’t a bad time,” he said, and I was silent, giving him room to speak.

"We learned you made some arrests last night and have taken over the council prison. Please, your eminence, I do not want to sound disrespectful, but only the council has the right to deal with such issues. You must hand the prisoners over to the council and let them have a fair trial. The fact that some of these prisoners are council members has created an uproar. We have been trying to reach you all day to no avail," He said, and he was silent.

"So what do you want?" I asked him, sounding uninterested.

"If it won't be too much trouble, your eminence, we hope you will come and defend your actions. We also ask that you give the council control over the prison, as it should be based on our laws.

I promise you that I will see to it that your reasons are heard, and proper investigation is carried out to bring justice," he said, and I sighed.

I noticed he was watching his words trying not to offend me, but we had a plan, and however nice Vino may be, I had to follow it through.

"I do not care about the law in this regard, Vino. These people have been a problem to me, and I want peace. I do not trust the council, so I am taking the law into my hands to do as I see fit. You should tell the council that I dare them to do their worse. I will not back down this time around. Where were these laws when these people ran around me and tried to cause a war? I will deal with them as I see fit. It would be wise for you to stay out of my way, Vino. You and the council you represent," I told him, and he sighed.

"I am not your enemy, Lord Volkov. I am just speaking on behalf of the council. Please, I do not want this matter to escalate beyond the way it is. You are lord, not a king; you do not have the power to overthrow the council. They will agitate, and I do not want what happened with Alpha Christian to happen again." He said, talking about the petition they raised.

"And how well did that go?" I asked him, and he sighed.

"It didn't go well, but now you have arrested members of prestigious families and the council. They will all be against you. Please hand the prisoners over to the council so we can get to the bottom of the matter, and there won't be hatred towards you," he said, pleading with me to consider.

He wanted to prevent me from getting into trouble, but he did not know I was looking for that trouble. All the cards were in my favour already, and I did not need to do much to get what I wanted.

"Do not worry about me, Vino. I will advise the council to stay out of this. I will do as I please; end of the story," I said, and he was silent.

"I guess we are done," I said to Vino and hung up.

"What's with him?" Tamia asked, and I smiled at her.

"What we expected," I said, and she frowned.

"The council wants me to turn over the prisoners, and I said no," I said, and she smiled, knowing exactly what would ensue.

Ignoring the call, we spent time in the western gardens and made love under the stars. It took a lot not to claim her. I took comfort in knowing that the blue moon was just fourteen days away and we could complete our bond.

I did not claim Tamia because I did not want my friends to feel left out. We rarely would find our fated mates, let alone reject them and find second-chance mates. We were truly blessed; there was no need to rub it in their faces. The love bite would have to do for now.

Two days passed with no word from the council, and I began to worry because they were moving slower than I expected.

Dominic told me they had been debating in the council, and Larry and Vino had been on my side, but the rest of the members were livid.

I had decided not to get involved, but Dominic had been invited severally so they could speak to him to convince me to do as they wished.

Besides Larry and Vino, everyone called for a vote to take me out of office. However, they were not planning to remove the lordship as I had hoped; they wanted Dominic to take over. In that case, they would not need the regional leaders to vote.

It was a smart move.

They were going to call for the vote the next day. So we decided to have a meeting early in the morning and move.

I arrived at my lounge, and I could see the disappointment in all their eyes.

The council had behaved differently. We needed to counter them.

I sat down, and even though my mother wasn't there, I could pick up her scent. I looked at everyone present, wondering who was carrying her scent. Not wanting to dwell on it too much, I chose to address the matter at hand.

“So what should we do now that they have done this?” Devin asked, sounding a bit impatient. I understood his issues. We were yet to question the prisoners. We had more people to arrest, and this king guy was still at large. It was a huge setback.

“I can’t believe we are worried about this. We will just push on,” Leo said, and I looked at him.

“Only Leaders from three regions are present. The exact number of votes needed to push our agenda. We will write the council and demand we want a king. It would be our vote against theirs, and they will still have to call Sidorov, Orlov, Belyaev and Lawrence to vote. Thank goddess, we need three of the four. Dominic would stand in for the Balyeav, and that is it. We still get what we want.” Leo said, sounding angry and impatient.

His anger wasn’t directed at us, but at the situation we were facing.

“It would be more forceful and look like a plan, but at this point, I really don’t care. They can call it whatever they like. We have to do this. This king man is dangerous; we have only two options. Make Sylvester king or let this man take it by force, and he would do it easily. He is smart and has his tendrils everywhere,” Christain said, and it was a done deal.

That day a letter was composed and sent to the council for a vote to occur the next day.

Leo wrote the letter, and there were a lot of complaints about how the council had failed to protect the east from the terrorist group. Devin had the same complaints, and they all agreed that since the protocols were not working, they would prefer they install a King instead of the nonsense we had.

I needed only three of the four regional leaders’ support, likewise the noble families; I needed three of the four, and I had the numbers on my side. It would be a quick and easy vote, and I could not wait to get it over with. Once it was done, I planned on unleashing hell on the prisoners until I found the king. I will go dark on them.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 128

~Sylvester~

I stood in front of the mirror in my room, adjusting my official outfit.

Tamia stood behind me, and even though it was a given that we would win, we were still worried.

Many things didn’t go as we had hoped, but we held on to the hope that we would succeed eventually.

Leo had pushed for immediate effect pertaining to the letter he sent yesterday.

They had called an impromptu meeting to vote and decide.

All parties concerned were to attend, and I was eager.

Dominic had decided he would stand in as a Balyeav today.

That was the only way we would not allow Vino to vote. I did not know how it would go, but I knew it would be a long day.

I looked at Tamia through the mirror and noticed her dress was free on the waistline. Her bump was already showing, which meant time was going by.

We need to restore peace before our bundle of joy comes into the world.

The blue moon ceremony was also a part of it. I also did not want any more surprises.

I wanted to maintain order and prevent a war.

We all wanted to go back to our lives.

These people were like parasites, vermins, weeds that needed to be uprooted. They were a problem.

One thing I have learned so far is that anyone who challenges physically in the open is true in comparison to one that hides in the shadows.

The King's personality was clear to me. He was a brilliant coward that liked to manipulate from the darkness. He was also not sure he would win. That was why he was yet to make a move.

"Let's knock them dead," Tamia said with a big grin, and I smiled at her.

"You know you look smashing in your uniform," She said, and I spun around so she would admire it.

If everything went well, this would be the last time I would wear the uniform I had on.

"I am sure the king outfit would be more exquisite," she said, and I pulled her close and kissed her passionately.

We went for breakfast, and everyone was ready. The only member of the family that wasn't going to the council was David, and because of that, my mother chose to remain.

I did not mistrust David; I just did not want his presence to be used against us. He, too, was an Alpha Volkov. Even though he did not want anything, I had to protect the plan on all fronts.

We sat in silence; everyone was nervous about the outcome.

Making a plan was one thing, but carrying it out was another. We had planned this but had to make some slight changes. I hoped it worked out.

The regional leaders left ahead of us. No one knew they were at the estate, so they must arrive at the council hall before us.

It also didn't matter whether they were at the estate or not; we just did not want a situation where it would be apparent that it was all planned.

"Shall we," I told Tamia as we stepped out of the mansion and entered the Limo waiting to take us to the council hall. We had to do an entire convoy with escorts. I was moving in an official capacity.

Marcel and Theodore were nervous in the Limo with Avery and Linda. I could see the worry in all their eyes.

We were all worried because the people we were dealing with were resourceful and intelligent.

The rest of the people on that list had gone into hiding. Leo and Devin had organised to start transporting the people arrested in their regions to the north to turn them over.

We needed to conclude the meeting today because when those prisoners arrive, Leo and Devin would have to hand them over to the ones in charge, which is the council.

They can't bring them to me, and they do not have the power to do what I did with the prisoners we arrested. So, it was an issue.

Soon we arrived at the council hall, and people were present.

Everyone had heard of the terrible thing I had done, and there was no admiration in their eyes.

I could swear that I heard some people call me the Dark Alpha.

My pack was the Dark Wolf Pack, but I knew what they meant by the Dark Alpha.

It was usual for the council to present the matter in the worst way possible to hold on to their power.

Every alpha from the packs in all the regions was present. They must have all flown in last night. Even Kyle and Max were in attendance.

When we entered the council, it was a full house. Everyone was in their seats. I looked at the empty Balyaev seat and smiled internally.

Marcel, Theodore, I and our mates proceeded to our box. Everyone went to their seats.

Leo, Devin, Christian and Sean were seated in their section.

Sean was the top leader of the west but not the head Leader because my father ensured the west would not have a head leader. So Sean occupied the western head leader's seat.

It was clear the council had bumped him up without my consent. Looking at the mix, I was bound to lose.

Leo was my mate's ex-husband; he was meant to hate me for attacking his territory and taking his mate from him.

Devin and I had the worst history possible, first with my father and then with me. There was also a pending war between us.

Christian had raised a petition to remove me from office. He must have had his reasons.

All of them had a reason not to install me as King. Because even though they wrote a letter requesting a king, they needed to be more specific. It could be anyone.

After we were all seated, Dominic strolled to the Balyaev seat, and everyone was shocked.

Larry stood up immediately to speak. He always liked to say something whenever Dominic was concerned. As my father's friend, I must say he preferred Dominic to me.

"Sir Dominic, you should be in the lords' loge, not here with us. You are part of this too," he told Dominic, letting him know he could get something tonight, perhaps a promotion.

"Thank you, Councilman Larry. But today, I am representing my maternal family, the Belyaevs, and I will be temporarily heading this council," he said, which was a no-brainer.

The Belyaev family was the original head of the council until my mother cut a deal with Jenny and Louis.

"That chair is dormant, and you are a Volkov," Lucas Vanhill said.

"I am also a Balyeav. Since my brother is the Lord, I am the only one to represent my mother's family unless we ask her to come and represent her family herself," Dominic said, sounding a bit impatient, and they were silent.

"Not necessary, but there are certain documents to sign before you can head the council, Sir Dominic. It is the law. Your father made that seat vacant by refusing to let your mother ascend the seat. It is okay if you want to assume the responsibility, but there are documents to sign to put that into action. Vino Lawrence will head this one at least for today until all necessary measures are taken," Joan said cautiously.

"Very well, I still represent the Balyeavs in all matters. Should there be a need for a vote, I would carry the Balyeav vote," Dominic said; they could not dispute that, so they were silent. It was now time for the back and forth to begin.

Hello, my darling readers and Co-writers. I hope the story is coming along well. I will give away souvenirs to five people every month throughout this year starting from this month. I am grateful for the support and would like to show my appreciation. I wish I could give everyone something. Please do not be offended if I do not select you. It is not because I think less of you; it is because I am too broke to give to everyone. I will think of something digital soon, like gift cards that I can share with more people that will be cost-effective. I will select you through the comment section of my books on GN and post the chosen people every month on my social media. I love you all.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 129

~Sylvester~

Larry was the first to stand and address all of us. Since Makhailovs were indisposed, the responsibility fell on him.

"We all know why we are here today," he said, clearing his throat.

"I will bring you up to speed for those who do not know," he said, looking at the alphas from each region to ensure he had their attention.

"Three nights ago, Sylvester Volkov, acting in the lord's capacity, made a massive arrest, arresting alphas, council members, mates and so on. He arrested people, randomly targeting them. Took over the council prison by force by installing his enforcers and was unapologetic about it," He said, and many people gasped.

"We have a report that states some people were beaten up and denied their rights. We have a witness that claimed they saw the people Sylvester Volkov arrested, requesting that they be brought before this council for a fair trial. He did not only deny them but threw them into prison.

We tried reaching out to him in good faith, but he refused to respond. He acted as if he was above the law and could do as he liked. Right now, we do not know his victims' condition, nor know if they are still alive. This tyrannical behaviour should not be allowed to stand," Larry said, and people began to murmur.

"As a lord, Sylvester Volkov protects and serves us. Every suspect has the right to be brought before this council. He locked some up in the dungeon in his estate, and when it was filled up, he took over the prison. We can't allow this. So today, the council has decided to relieve him of his status as lord and try him for violating the people's basic rights," Larry said, and everyone grumbled. It was clear it did not sit well with some people.

"We do not want a war; leave Volkov alone," I heard some alphas say, afraid of what I might do. My family's reputation was really strong.

"I object!" Leo said, standing up, and everyone was silent.

"This council will make no such decision without me and my colleagues' points of view in consideration," he said, and there was silence.

It was clear the council wanted the regional leaders to refrain from speaking.

They were supposed to table Leo's letter instead of what they tabled. They feared losing power before getting rid of me.

Removing me as lord meant anyone would be installed as King. I bet Leo saw it coming. He made the best move.

"I object to this nonsense. I sent a letter yesterday, and that is what we are here to discuss," he said, tabling the fundamental matter.

"Eh, Alpha Albert, we have to deal with the issue before discussing your matter," Larry tried to explain.

"The issue at hand and the matter we are discussing are one and the same. The council no longer wants a lord, and I agree," He said, and there was total silence because the implications of his words meant the council had won.

"I do not want a lord because this lordship thing has not helped us. There is a terrorist group trying to cause war by all means, and there is no way to catch them because of the stupid laws and protocols we have to follow.

Recently we let a suspect go because we couldn't pin anything on her. How can we succeed under these stringent laws that favour criminals?" He said, referring to Amanda. No one wanted to let her go, but we could not pin anything on her, which still baffles me.

“This system could also be corrupt, which is why I see a few empty council seats. I do not want a lord but a King,” he said, and people were surprised.

“A king does not need to follow protocol. He does what he must for his people. Sixty per cent of my region has been taken by the traitors. What has this council done? Nothing.

I am sure Lord Volkov had to do what he did for peace. I wrote to this council a few months ago to make specific complaints. Nothing was done.

My Beta calls, and all he keeps getting is that they are working on it. For how long do we want to go on like this? The system is corrupt. We are on the verge of war, and the perpetrators are faceless. I want a king, and I say we take a vote.

I want a king and the original order restored with Sylvester Volkov as King and the other three families as the lords. That is what I want. Because he is the only one I know who has the balls to do what this council failed to do.

He single-handedly slowed down their activities in my region, and you want him to step down for putting the safety of the people first?

You want to disgrace him for locking up suspects so we can breathe and think straight?

Jake Brighton’s pack was destroyed by an order passed by this council. Even though they claim it was from Lord Volkov, we later discovered that he knew nothing of it, and the council failed to confirm whether he authorised it.

Is the council not supposed to keep the lord in check? Then why authorise taxes to be increased and a pack to be attacked? Why did this council not challenge the order?

Lord Volkov has to be a tyrant, so we can survive these faceless people. He is doing what he must.

Though slow to solve the problems our region has faced, the council is quick to condemn the one person who has done something about the situation.

However crude, it was necessary.

Is the council a part of this group, or are they just complacent?” he asked, and the members of the council became worried and agitated. None of their names was on our lists, so I knew they were not involved, but Leo’s words got to them.

“I am not a fool and refuse to be treated as one. Today this whole charade stops. I want Sylvester Volkov as King, and we should take a vote,” Leo said, livid.

There was no way those things he said were rehearsed. He meant every word.

The murmur was so loud after Leo's speech that Vino had to bang the gavel.

"We are sorry for your grievances, Alpha Albert, and if I had known anything of it, I would have personally seen to it that your matter is resolved," Vino said to Leo gently, and Leo ignored him.

"However, you alone can not decide you want a King. We should vote," He said, and Devin stood up.

"I agree, and so does alpha Christian, so please get on with it. We do not have time to waste. We have all suffered the same things," Devin said, and Larry cleared her throat.

"Those are compelling allegations. If a group of people is trying to cause war, we have to investigate it. We also have to be sure this isn't a plan by Volkov to force this to happen," Larry said, and there was uproar.

I realised many people wanted to change the order and the system.

"How dare you!" I heard some people say. Mostly western Alphas because the noise was more in their section.

"How dare you! I say we vote and get this over with," Some people from the southern loge said.

"I say we carry out this vote just as Alpha Albert requested. This is the most useless council in history, and we no longer want the council in power. This democracy isn't working for us.

Wolves need a leader, not leaders. They need one they would follow that would have absolute control. That is how best we function. This system has almost altered our nature and caused unnecessary behaviour.

I agree with Alpha Albert and Alpha Corrigan that we take the vote now and move on," Christian said, and from the look on the faces of the council, they already knew how this would go.

I had the majority votes of the nobles and the head Alphas. I was going to be King.

Vino banged the gavel with difficulty this time and stood up.

"Very well, this council would take a vote; the head alphas would take a vote, and the elite families would vote. I will be standing in for my family and my late Aunts' family," he said, and we did not see that coming.

The Babanins were nobles too.

Leo got up immediately to speak.

I knew he did not like Vino.

I did not know why or whether anything had transpired between them, but he seemed to hate the Lawrence family.

“The Lawrence have no business voting in this, Vino. You are not a true northern noble family. The last King might have given your ancestors noble status, but you have no rights here,” Leo repeated what he had once said, and everyone was silent.

Leo’s words had hurt Vino. I had never seen Vino so angry before.

“How dare you, Albert! How dare you belittle my family like this?” he asked with his alpha command. He was strong, but Leo wasn’t a weak Alpha; it brushed past him like nothing.

“Say I am lying, and I will rest my case. Only true northern elites can be involved in a matter like this. You can vote on behalf of the Babanin by proxy, but that is it. Lawrence would have no say in this other than the council vote; they will have no votes as nobles,” Leo said with his Alpha command, and everyone was silent.

The man was a powerful Alpha. Thinking of the strength he wielded, I realised that he was just stupid and weak where Amanda was concerned. What an irony.

Everyone was silent, and Leo won the argument.

The vote was cast, and Vino, Joan and Pamela voted in my favour. I was surprised that Vino voted that I be King after all Leo said to him.

He should have voted against it knowing it was Leo’s cause.

The alphas cast their votes, and all four of them, even Sean, voted in favour that I become King.

When the noble families voted, they all agreed that I become King.

Even Vino used the Babanin’s seat to vote in my favour; there it was; I was no longer Lord of the north but King of our world.

The inauguration was set for the next week, but because of that vote, I could start acting as a king, meaning no one could question me or ask me to explain myself again.

I hoped we had not created a monster for the ones that would come after me.

I looked at my mate and kissed her hand to ensure this would not destroy us in the future; we must instil strong values in our children.

I was grateful to everyone who voted in my favour and was glad that part was over.

It was time to start questioning, and Ramsey was the first on my list.

Vino came to my booth to congratulate me.

“Your Majesty,” he said with a broad smile and looked at Tamia and smiled. He always smiled at Tamia. I suspected he had a crush on her, one he could not act on.

“Thank you for the vote, Vino. I will try my best to serve,” I said, and he bowed his head.

“Do you mind telling me what The Makailovs and the Peakmans did?” he asked curiously.

“They belong to a group,” I said, and he looked confused.

“A treasonous group,” I added, and he nodded understandingly.

“Very well then, I wouldn’t want to be in their shoes,” he said, and I smiled.

“No one would want to be in their shoes, and trust me, by the time I am done with them, people will feel very sorry for them,” I said with a promise in my tone.

He congratulated me again and congratulated Marcel and Theodore on their lordship. I looked at where Larry was, and he was unhappy about the outcome. The man genuinely hated me, and I did not know why.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 130

~Sylvester~

We stayed a while in the council hall while I bumped Leo, Devin and Christian up to noble status; my reasons were clear. I will only work with people I trust.

Dominic would be made lord under the Balyeav family. Unfortunately, he would have to bear the Balyaev last name. Our father had wiped out the family, and Dominic would have to resurrect the bloodline.

“I feel this thing was planned,” Larry said after I had made my declarations, trying to incite people, and I laughed and stood up. His opinion didn’t matter anymore, and he knew it, so his head remained bowed.

"I may be King, but I want to work with people passionate about our world. Alpha Albert, Corrigan, and Zakharov have shown their zeal to make this succeed.

I may be King, but I need trustworthy people to succeed. While their families will now have representation on the council, I will officially make Sean Kingston head Alpha of the west, restoring a seat that my father made vacant due to mutiny.

My main goal is to restore peace, and I know I have made this decision because of this purpose." I said and ended the conversation.

Unlike the past when the council will argue and debate the matter. All they could do now was advise. I was given total control.

Now it was time to fish the bastard out.

I could not wait to question Ramsey. I would start with him and then move on to the others. As for the Makhailovs, Peakmans and Wayats, I had something special for them.

We left the place and returned home. Tamia was very tired, so I accompanied her to the room so she could rest. My mother wanted all the juicy details of how the event went, and Avery offered to tell her, leaving me free to do my work.

I freshened up and decided to visit the council prison to question Ramsey. There was no way I would sleep without interrogating him.

Leo and Devin had pleaded with me to participate in the questioning, and I obliged them.

It was the least I could do, seeing they were the ones that championed the cause at the council.

Dominic and Christain proceeded to question Lenny Mikhailov so we could find Jacob.

Theo and Marcel proceeded to handle Peakman; Wayat would have to wait his turn.

I walked into Ramsey's cell with Leo and Devin. News had gone around that I was now a king. Even the enforcers at the prison greeted me. I should delegate this to someone else because of my status, but I wanted to do it myself.

Leo was related to Ramsey even though Amanda had left and was now far away, starting over. I could understand why Leo would want to participate in Ramsey's interrogation. The man had ruined his home because of greed, and Leo needed answers and revenge.

Devin excused us to check on something and told us to go ahead.

I let him go.

I knew we had to move quickly. I needed all the information I could get, and I needed to catch the so-called King.

Being his right-wing man, I knew Ramsey would lead me to him. So far, everyone had spoken Ramsey's name; it had to account for something.

I drew a chair and sat in front of him while Leo decided to stand.

Ramsey had a silver bracelet on, so his hands weren't tied, but he was useless because he could not shift or access his wolf abilities. Questioning him would be easy.

I looked at him, and he smiled at me. I knew he was trying to keep a brave facade. He knew he was busted, and his life was forfeit. It seems he would rather die a brave man than a coward.

His smile meant he was smiling at death.

I represented death to him, and his mind was right.

There was no way I would let him live.

Letting him survive to tell the story another day would be stupid.

"Your game is up, Ramsey," I said, and he nodded.

"I agree," he said, not putting too much of a fight, and I knew something was off.

"Who is the king?" I asked him, wanting to get straight to the point.

"Well, you are, of course. You got crowned today," He said, and I got impatient.

I wanted to be done with this and prepare for my crowning and wedding.

"I do not have all the time in the world. I have a list of all your associates," I told him, and he frowned at me.

"A list? What list? Who compiled this list?" the man asked, and even though I should be asking him the questions, I knew I needed to rub it in that his very own had sold him out.

"Well, your daughter gave us a flash drive of the list of your associates," I said, and he began to laugh. He laughed so hard that I felt stupid.

Leo wanted to punch him, but I stopped him.

“Amanda?” Ramsey said, and I nodded, and he shook his head.

“My my my, you are even a bigger fool than I thought. Your father wouldn’t have fallen for this,” he said, and I frowned at him.

“Where did she get this file from?” He asked.

“Your computer Ramsey, so quit acting,” Leo said, and Ramsey bowed his head as if he was hurting.

“Do I look stupid to you?” Ramsey asked me, and I did not respond, making a straight face.

“So I would somehow compile a list of my associates and save it as a file on my computer. Amanda miraculously knew my password, and out of the many files on my computer, she happened to know which one to pick and copy?” he said, and putting it that way, it seemed a bit off, but the specific folders copied made me relax.

“She copied many files,” Leo said, and Ramsey shook his head.

“I do not keep a list of associates on my computer. I never have and never will. I play solitaire and chess with my desktop and nothing more. That list isn’t mine. You can send for my computer and give an expert to check if I have deleted anything from it,” he said and looked at both of us.

“Where is she now?” He asked me, and I looked at him.

“Far away from your reach,” I said, and he laughed.

“And I guess she is far away from yours too,” he said, laughing, and I was impatient.

“You are pissing me off, Ramsey,” I said with my command, and he shook, remembering why I was a Volkov, to begin with.

“You have been had,” Ramsey said, and Leo wanted to attack him, but I stopped him.

“I do not know what my darling daughter told you, but she is cunning like that. She was smart enough to plan her escape if she got caught,” He said, and I shut him up.

“Annika said you...” I said, and he interrupted me.

“Annika is a blind fool. And I am sure she is dead now because Amanda always cleans up her mess,” He said with sadness in his eyes, and I became confused.

“You have let go of the only person that knows the king’s identity,” he said, and I punched him. I thought he was trying to get back at his daughter for giving him up.

Touching his broken nose, he tried to fix it a bit.

"I am not lying, your majesty," he said with sincerity in his eyes.

"Amanda schooled in Cains most of her life, where she met the King. He did not live there, but he visited there often, and they shared the dream of ruling together," he said and sighed.

"She met Leo a day after she arrived in the east. She came there with the sole purpose of recruiting me.

I would have declined if I knew she was setting me up as the fall guy. But what they offered was too good to refuse.

I had been disgraced in the east; it would have been nice to become a nobleman, more important than the man that took my position.

They did not have an army, so they needed to cause war. She sweet-talked me into it. Something about restoring our family's glory and giving me a seat on the council.

She said her mate was a Volkov and that they loved each other so much. He did not claim her, of course. Their wedding was to occur after they succeeded at creating the war.

Getting with Leo wasn't part of the plan, but she went to Casper's party, and they were fated. It was a massive setback because she was torn between her wolf and her desires," he said, and I called Kappa Wilson on the phone to check on Annika in her cell. There was no way Ramsey was lying. I could see the resignation in his eyes.