

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 76

~Leo~

Max, Kyle, me, and our polo teammates arrived at the north nervous.

We had no clue how to play the game, but we knew Sylvester would be playing Polo, and Kyle wanted to discuss the exchange of Linda for Rebecca.

Likewise, Max, who miraculously concluded that he needed Avery and not Michelle.

I tried to talk them out of it, but they refused to listen.

I was the leader of the east; it was my duty to support them.

Supporting them would torture me because I could not bear to see Tamia with the wolf Lord.

I knew I had sent her a goodbye letter, but my guilty heart could not say goodbye. She was everything to me. There was no way I could get over that.

I wanted to come with Amanda so she would not be alone, but she had things to do; she promised to join me soon, and I hoped she would come. We had been trying, and I believed we were making progress.

When I learned Devin was around, I panicked for Tamia because if what he was saying was true, then he would draw her attention. I could not reach him or Tamia, so I opted to wait until the ball.

When we arrived at the ball, I was nervous while Kyle and Max were eager to see the mates they maltreated and threw away.

It was amazing to see how delusional they were.

They were either unstable or stupid.

I knew those women would not return to them, and they would end up disgracing themselves trying to play Polo.

Maxwell and Kyle had only two weeks of polo training; I wondered how they would survive on the field against people that had played the game all their lives.

When Linda entered with Gamma Theodore, Kyle complained bitterly. Her bump made him sick, and he got so angry I thought he would have a fit. Their eyes met, but she looked past him as if she did not know him.

Gamma Theo seemed to be taken by her, and he paid much attention to her.

Pulling out her seat and helping her sit. She was introduced as his fiance. How the hell was Kyle hoping he could beat that?

There was no way they would exchange Linda for Rebecca. He had just set himself up for humiliation at the games for nothing.

Theodore seemed to adore Linda, and I could see it in their eyes; they were in love. It would be easy for her to fall because Kyle irreparably broke her.

I wondered how Theo did it, but I had to commend him for being the man for her.

I had failed her as the leader of the east. If I knew of all Kyle was doing to her, I would have stopped it, but it was kept private. Nonetheless, I felt responsible for her pain.

Avery entered and was introduced the same way. I began to wonder how these women did it.

It was as if Sylvester and his friends split our wives amongst themselves and fell in love simultaneously.

It was troubling, and I hoped there wasn't a grand design or plan. Maybe a ploy to get them comfortable enough to use them to take over the east.

"Or they might have truly fallen in love," Black said in my head, and I sighed.

Avery did not even look at Max. She was over him. I knew she might have seen him, but she did not look at him. Instead, she concentrated on the man she was with, the second most powerful man in our world.

The women had upgraded, and they looked beautiful. If my friends weren't on the losing end, I would have openly commended them for their choices. I was internally grateful that they found love while I maintained a stoic face.

"These greedy bastards, they can have anyone, and they chose to have our women," Max linked me, sounding angry.

"He got my Linda pregnant, that bastard," Kyle linked me, and I knew it hurt him most because he had called her barren and good for nothing when in actual sense, he was the one with issues and not Linda; her tiny bump said it all.

I stopped myself from laughing at my friends. They helped themselves to the champagne flute, realising that their reason for coming and signing up for the polo tournament was defeated,

A woman was introduced as the Lady of the north, a position Tamia would soon occupy.

I figured she was the wife of the former Lord and Sylvester's mother.

She looked young and pretty, but her eyes showed her age. People cheered and greeted her respectfully. It was evident that everyone loved her.

She went to sit at the table, and I knew Tamia and Sylvester would enter. I did not know how I would feel when I saw her again.

I maltreated her mentally when I broke my promise to her and made her share.

Although I tried to salvage it, the deed had been done. If only I could go back in time, I would reject Amanda on the spot, but deep down, I believed Tamia was where she was meant to be.

Seeing how both Avery and Linda were with their newfound love, I knew Tamia would be better.

They weren't vicious like we thought. We were the brutal ones, forcing our mates to share and some maltreating their lunas. I would change a lot when I got back home. I would start by creating a committee to rescue and help abused victims.

When Sylvester and Tamia were announced, my heart leapt, and I looked toward the entrance.

Tamia looked beautiful. She had always been beautiful, and I tried to hide her looks by stopping her from wearing revealing clothes and make-up, but she still looked terrific that way.

Sylvester allowed her to go all out, and she took liberty the best way. She looked like a goddess.

I could not believe I had let my weakness make me throw her love away. I looked at her with longing in my heart. She used to be mine. Mine to love, touch, but now she rests in another man's arms, and it seemed like I had faded into the shadows of her heart.

"Tamia", Black said, trying to link her, but I knew she would not hear because she wasn't mine anymore.

I fought my tears and looked at her. Sylvester was possessive, and I felt his menacing and strong presence warning us to look away.

Even if I ever dreamt of taking her back, I doubted Sylvester would let go. His countenance and possessiveness of her said it all.

She smiled at me, and my heart broke.

I remember growing up when we started dating and everything we did together until our wedding, and I felt a lone tear roll down my cheek.

I had fucked up. Broken my promises and hurt her.

I was glad Sylvester was there to help her. I was glad she was happy. Every doubt I harboured about the Wolf Lord's intentions towards my Tamia faded away, and as painful as it was for me, I prayed he gave her all I couldn't.

The event started, and the women seemed in their world with their men. It was obvious that they were now northern Lunas.

Theodore and Marcel were Alphas of their Clans and next in command in the royal line. They had ended up with the three most powerful men in our world.

Everything went smoothly until the blonde woman in a peach dress walked in.

I saw the wolf lord's reaction and knew what had happened.

My heart began to break for my Tamia.

How could this happen to her twice?

I read her body language and knew she was worried.

Everyone was looking at them, and I did not know what Sylvester would do.

I needed to protect her from the shame that might ensue.

I was angry at myself and fate for allowing her to go through this again. I planned on saving her from the humiliation and demanding Sylvester give her to her fated. I also hoped he would pass the test that I failed. If he did, there would be no need to demand he gives her to Devin.

So I began to talk and act like I was drunk.

I felt people looking at me, and some were laughing at me.

I was the leader of the east, so I knew I would make headlines with my behaviour.

It was a small price to pay to protect Tamia from the pending humiliation.

It was worth it. As long as they would not witness Tamia's humiliation, it was worth it.

I continued until it seemed the wolf Lord snapped at the woman, and everyone turned their attention to them.

I saw him holding on to Tamia's wrist, and I was concerned.

I hoped he wasn't planning on keeping both women as I did. Tamia deserved better than that.

I watched and then saw him do the one thing I failed to do.

He rejected her.

He did not think about it or speak to her privately as I did; he just went for it and rejected her.

I watched the woman fall to the ground, and Tamia led Sylvester out of the ballroom.

She had found her knight in shiny armour, and he wasn't me.

I had a lot of respect for Sylvester in those moments. I had a lot of respect for their love.

If I thought he was playing her, what he did in those moments made me realise that his feelings for Tamia were real and that he genuinely loved her.

I was grateful that they found each other. In those moments, my heart was lifted, and I felt my guilt fade away a little, realising that I had lost her to a better man.

The party continued after they had left, and everyone was in shock.

I heard people talking about Tamia and Sylvester's relationship, and based on all I could gather, people knew they were crazy about each other.

Those who might have doubted their love's depth would now believe it because Sylvester had just thrown away a rare gift for Tamia.

It was rare to find a fated. It wasn't impossible, but it was rare, so people were reluctant to let it go when they found theirs.

Sylvester had shown everyone and Tamia that his love was deep and genuine.

The party continued, and soon it ended.

I knew Tamia and Sylvester wouldn't be returning.

When I let Tamia go, I slept the pain off most of the night. I had to claim Amanda again recently to regain the strength I lost.

Although Sylvester might be weak now, I knew he would regain some of his strength on the night of the blue moon when he claims Tamia. I took comfort in knowing they would be okay.

Max, Kyle and I returned to our hotel in Lucland, and they grumbled all the way. The moment we entered our suite, I began to laugh.

“You guys just bit more than you can chew. You can’t play Polo, and you are not getting those women back. Too bad you can’t withdraw. I will just advise you to watch your backs on the field because I doubt you will have it easy,” I said, and Kyle did not find it funny.

He forgot himself and wanted to punch me, but when Black growled at him, he held back.

“Do not forget I am your Alpha, Kyle. I might be playful and easygoing, but I am still the leader of the east.” I warned him, and Max tried to calm me down.

“Word of advice, better be nice to Rebecca, or she might leave you too. It is just so much you can do to someone before they snap,” I told him and went to my room.

I hoped Kyle would take my advice, and I hoped both he and Max would snap out of the fantasy of swapping their mates for their ex-wives. The women had upgraded.

I took out my phone to call Amanda and ask her when she would come to the north. After seeing Tamia happy tonight, I was willing to try with Amanda without reservation.

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~Tamia~

Sylvester held me into the morning. I felt a strong connection between us, something that wasn’t there before.

He was mine, and it was confirmed this time. There was no fear or uncertainty between us. He was mine.

I still could not believe that he kept his promise and made me proud.

I thought I would walk out of the ballroom alone and humiliated, but instead, I left with Sylvester after he had publicly rejected Susan.

I honestly felt bad for her, but she did not seem nice.

How could she expect me to get up and walk away from my man simply because she showed up and they were fated? I guess she knows now.

I woke up in the morning feeling light. The void I felt when I rejected Devin was gone. I was filled with love and hope.

I looked to my side, and there he was, handsome as always, with his messy hair on the pillow, and I thanked the goddess for giving him to me. I would have never imagined that I would be this blessed or there was hope for me after what Leo did. I was grateful, and I knew I would always be.

I woke him up gently because we needed to be present for the opening ceremony in Lucland. It also meant we would be staying in the house in Lucland.

I knew the staff had helped pack our things, so all we had to do was get dressed, get some food in our systems and head to Lucland to attend the opening ceremony.

I could not wait to be a part of the celebration.

There would be parades and performances from different packs from all over. I was excited.

I nibbled Sylvester's ear, and he groaned, waking up gradually.

He opened his eyes and looked at me with a frown which I returned, and then he grabbed me and turned me on my back and leaned over me. Sylvester was that alert, and I liked it.

He tickled me, making me laugh until my lungs began to hurt. Then he stopped and stared at me.

"Good morning, darling," He said, kissing my neck, making a moan escape my lips.

He did not stop but continued.

As much as I wanted to tell him we had something to attend to, I wanted him to touch me, So I held my tongue.

"I wanted to peel that beautiful dress off your body the last night," He said, working his way down to my breast.

"I guess I will have to imagine I did and make do with what is in front of me," He said and sucked one of my nipples while he played with the other. My body anticipated it. Soon he was inside me pumping.

I wanted to stay in the room and not go anywhere, but soon we both came and had to shower.

Sylvester washed my body, and I washed his. It felt great. Nothing was burdening our hearts. I could not speak for him, but his eyes showed he was light, and I was light too.

“Thank you for remaining by my side through it, Tamia,” He said in the shower while I traced his tattoos with my hand.

“My love,” He said and lifted my chin. I was battling tears, but we were under the shower, so he could not see it.

“I can never leave you. Always know that.” He said, and I hugged him and placed my head against his chest.

“I can never leave you, darling. I can never leave you,” I said, and he held me.

We did not need to say anything. Our actions had said it all. I had rejected Devin for him, and he had rejected Susan for me. Love did not get better than this. Making our choice and sticking to it. Not driven by some forces that compel us to love, but falling naturally and nurturing the feeling as it blossoms into something beautiful.

We finished and went for breakfast.

The moment we stepped into the dining room, everyone started clapping. Marcel, Theo, Avery and Linda clapped. Sylvester and I had crossed a fire they had not experienced and might never see. I smiled, and Avery winked at me. She knew I had crossed that fire with Devin long ago.

“Yours finally,” She linked me, and I smiled at her because she understood my relief. We went to sit down, and they took turns congratulating us.

I was very hungry, so I ate a lot of food, and Sylvester kept adding things to my plate. He always reminded me I was eating for two, and he did not want his child to be malnourished. It was cute, really.

“We are expected to cut the ribbon for the opening,” Marcel said, and Sylvester smiled at him.

“I think Dominic should cut the ribbon this year. He had always wanted to do it badly,” Sylvester said, and his friends laughed.

“He is a serious handicap on our team,” Theo said, grumbling and everyone laughed.

“Tamia,” Avery said, and I turned to look at her.

“Guess who is playing polo?” She asked with a mischievous grin, and I frowned at her.

“Leo, Max and Kyle with some other douchebags from the east,” She said, and I was in shock because I knew Leo did not play polo.

“When did they start playing polo?” I asked and looked at Linda, who shrugged.

“I don’t know, but I think it is a bit suspicious,” Avery said, and I remembered how the men were looking at them at the ball.

“Was that why they were looking at Marcel and Theodore scornfully?” I asked, and Linda smiled.

“I saw that. I looked right past him,” She said, laughing with satisfaction in her voice.

“I can’t wait to see them fool themselves on the field.” She said and looked at Theo.

“If your team happen to meet theirs, please do me the honours by beating the crap out of Kyle. After all, accidents happen on the field,” She said and kissed Theo, who seemed to be on board with what she was saying.

I wanted to say they should exclude Leo from their plan, but I did not know how Sylvester would feel about it.

I could not laugh at their plan. As great as it sounded, I couldn’t.

Above all, I remember that Leo made a fool of himself at the ball to try to save me from embarrassment. He was the leader of the east; I knew many people would talk about his drunken stunt, and it might make headlines, and he did it for me. I also knew Leo knew nothing about polo and wouldn’t be safe playing against our men on the field.

Sylvester touched my hand and kissed it gently.

“I won’t let them hurt Leo, Tamia. Just Kyle and Max, not Leo,” he linked me, and I searched his eyes expectantly.

“It is okay for you to feel protective of him. Before he broke his promise, he was your first best friend and confidant. I could see that even at the ball, I could see the connection. It was still there. I am not jealous, Tamia, because I know I own your heart. He is a friend and a loyal one at that.” He linked me and kissed my hand, and I was relieved.

“But I can’t promise the same where Devin is concerned,” He said, and I laughed because I honestly did not care about that.

I wished him well, but if he made a nuisance of himself, then it was okay that Sylvester messed him up. He deserved it for bringing Susan and her uncle.

"I am excited about the blue moon," Linda said, rubbing her tiny bump.

Theo kissed her neck where his mark would rest, and she moaned.

"I think we should start leaving," Avery said, and I knew she was a bit unhappy because she wanted a baby too.

"Should we go in the same car or separate cars?" Linda asked innocently, but I knew Avery would say no, so before Avery spoke, I quickly spoke.

"It will be a great idea, Ave," I told Avery, and she knew I suspected her mood was a bit foul.

"Okay, Lady Tamia," she said, and we all giggled. We left the dining room and went to prepare to leave.

I wore a simple black dress with a fascinator on my head. While Sylvester was decked up in his official outfit. Just like the ball night, he looked dashing.

"My prince charming," I said, and he smiled at me.

I was nervous about our Croquet team, but I kept it to myself. I knew we would have lots of fun.

There was a knock at the door, and Sylvester asked the person to enter. To my surprise, it was Dominic, and he was wearing the same outfit as Sylvester, but where Sylvester's outfit was decorated in gold threads, his was decorated with regular cream-coloured thread, and he looked handsome.

He had on his official suit what I had come to know as the Volkov's crest. A profile of a wolf bearing its teeth. It was beautiful.

"I hear I am cutting the ribbon this year," He said, and Sylvester smiled at him and nodded.

"Yes, big brother. You will also be welcoming the guests in my stead. You are a Volkov, too," Sylvester said and pulled me close to him.

It was obvious that we were genuinely happy.

A heavy load had been lifted, and the dark clouds of fate had been chased away. It was just us and the brilliant love sun.

Dominic beamed at Sylvester, and he looked like a child. His eyes wandered to me.

"She is good for you, I see," he said, looking at me, and I did not know what to say.

He walked up to Sylvester and shook his hand.

“Glenda shouldn’t know I did this, but I am proud of you. I thought you would do what father did,” He said, and my heart skipped because, contrary to what Stephanie thought, Dominic was aware of what was happening when he was little. I wondered what secrets he kept in his mysterious mind.

Sylvester frowned at him pretending not to know what he was talking about.

“What do you mean by that?” Sylvester asked, and I commended him for his quick thinking.

Dominic looked at me and smiled.

“After what my brother did for you and seeing how you were indifferent towards your ex, I believe I can officially call you a member of my family now, Tamia, so I will speak in front of you.”

“Father had a fate. Her name was Alissa, and she was one wicked bitch. He did not reject her for mother. Instead, he made her share. I wouldn’t call it sharing, really, because we were sent to the west wing,” he said, and his eyes became misty.

“That was why I did not want to go there when you sent me there, Sylvester. It just brought back memories,” He said with a sad tone.

“That woman was the reason father hated me so much. She set me up all the time, and my father disciplined me. He did things that I could never tell mother. She did not know, which was why I was quiet for most of my childhood. When we left, I was happy, but father asked us to return, and mother was turned into that bitch’s slave. Giving massages, washing her feet, name it. There was nothing that mother wasn’t made to do. Some I had to do because it degraded my mother. I dared not speak then,” He said and pinched the bridge of his nose between his eyes.

“Father used to hit her, you know. I do not know if she told you, but he will beat her because she did not get the taste of Alissa’s food right, or she messed up with the menu. Mother did not know that I knew. I knew he would lock her in the dungeon for days and lie to me that she went to visit her nonexistent family, whom he had slaughtered because they refused to allow him to remain Lord if he divorced her. You see, Uncle Arnold Balyaev, mother’s brother, you did not know him because father killed him, would have ascended and become Lord, but father married his sister and kept the lordship in his bloodline while he controlled the council. There was a balance of power then. He killed our uncle so he could divorce our mother and wed that bitch. I prayed that she would die a painful death, and she did. Talking about answered prayers,” he said and chuckled a bit.

"Father seemed to have repented, and he became nicer to mother. When she had you, and he realised you would succeed him because you, unlike me, were an Alpha, he began to dote on her and did everything to make her forget what he did. I doubt she ever did." He said and wiped away his tears. I could only imagine the trauma he went through as a child. Seeing everything that was happening but not being able to speak of it.

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~Tamia~

I could not believe the wealth of information Dominic had locked in his heart.

I could see Sylvester's disbelief too.

Dominic's erratic behaviour made a lot of sense. It was an outlet for his trauma.

"Why did you go to war for him?" I asked because I could not hold my tongue.

"Because Devin laid claim on my brother's seat. I couldn't have it. I did not try to kill Devin because he killed our father. I was trying to protect you, Sylvester. Everything I have done is to protect you. I believed everything Larry told me about you being unable to lead and might fall victim to our enemies soon because you will be a point of target. I thought if you stepped down and I took over, they would focus on me. When I got set up, I realised I was wrong and that Larry was a bastard hence why I do not talk to him anymore," He said and then looked at me.

"I did not trust your intentions, Tamia. I hated that you had blinded my brother. When I heard you were affiliated with Devin, I began to suspect Devin had sent you to do a job in the north. That was why I did what I did. But you proved yourself, and now you carry a Volkov in you, and I have seen you stand by my brother through thick and thin. There is no way all this will be pretence. I have watched you. I thought you might sneak off to see Devin. I know you met him in Brighton, an informant told me, and I was ready to laugh at Sylvester when you did not return, but you proved everyone wrong. I do not know what transpired between you two that left him broken, but you came home. That was enough for me to know you had nothing to hide," He said and bowed.

"I am sorry we had a rough start, and I cannot promise you I will be pleasant because I know I can be annoying, but I will never work against you or my brother," He assured me, and I smiled at him. I was glad I told Sylvester the truth about Devin. If not, I would have been in trouble now.

"So now that my brother has rejected his fate for your sake, I hope you won't leave him if you ever find yours," he said with worry and concern in his eyes. I could genuinely see why Stephanie was protective of him. He loved to a fault, and he had a large heart.

"She already rejected her fated for me, Dominic. She did it before she even found out she was pregnant," Sylvester told him, and I felt heat rise to my cheek.

"What? Who was it?" He asked.

"Devin Corrigan," He said, and Dominic cursed.

"Fuck fuck fuck!!" He said, looking at me.

"Was that what happened in Brighton?" He asked me, and I nodded.

"Oh fuck! How did you do it, Tamia? You left that man a broken shell. My informant said he cried." Dominic said, and I felt sorry for Devin.

"You did not have to. All you had to do was leave with him, and yet you took the jet back to the north and came back to my brother," he said, and I was speechless.

"Thank you," He said with a breathy voice.

"Thank you for choosing Sylvester. It means a lot," he said, and Sylvester touched his hand.

"No one should know this," Sylvester told him, and Dominic nodded.

"My lips are sealed." He said, "at least that is something I am good at," he added, and we laughed.

As morbid as the joke was, we laughed.

"I guess I will see you at the games. We will all be staying in the house in Lucland," He said, and Sylvester nodded.

Dominic left us, and it felt like I was still holding my breath.

"I can't believe it. He knew Alissa," I said, and Sylvester was silent. He was stunned.

I could understand his shock. Stephanie never went into detail about the things she endured. She was light about it. I could understand. Witnessing the event had broken Dominic; she might not have wanted Sylvester to be broken too.

"There is no need to tell your mother you know what happened," I told him, and Sylvester wiped away a lone tear he had lost a battle to.

I hugged him to calm him down.

It wasn't easy to find out that most of the things he believed in were lies.

"We will get through everything together, my love. You have me," I said and hugged him tightly.

He wrapped his arms around me and breathed in my scent.

When he did that, I realised he had a different scent.

He smelled of Cedar and Cypress. It was calming, and I breathed him in. It was a sweet scent.

"Cedar, mmmm," I said, and he gently broke the hug.

"What is that?" He asked.

"Your scent since we woke up," I said, and his eyes widened.

"Yours is of Citrus peels," he said, and I was shocked that we had distinct scents instead of our normal, natural scent enhanced by our body wash and lotions.

"We will be late," I said, not wanting us to read meanings into our discovery.

We arrived outside, and the Limo was waiting. We got inside, and I could see Avery was a bit annoyed.

"We have been waiting for thirty minutes," She complained, and I smiled at her.

"You are lucky we didn't make you wait longer," I teased, and everyone laughed because it implied Sylvester and I was making love while they waited.

We left for Lucland in high spirits. I could not wait to see what would happen to Kyle and Max on the field. It would be awesome.

We got to the venue.

Since the games were yet to begin, everyone was lined outside the gate that led to the lands.

The red carpet was rolled out for us as we exited the Limo. Dominic and Glenda had already arrived, and I could swear I saw murder in the woman's eyes when she looked at me, but I ignored it. The council members were there too, and Vino smiled and waved at me. I waved back.

Dominic gave a welcome speech and cut the ribbon, and everyone cheered, and we entered the gate.

I was expecting a stadium or an arena. It had both and had other fields too.

People were to go to the area where they played their preferred sports. I wondered where we would play Croquet, but I knew it would be fun. There were mini carts that were made available for us to move about the place to watch sports.

I was sure Sylvester must have organised it because of Linda and me. I could see it in his eyes, so I did not bother asking so I didn't make Avery unhappy.

We went to the polo field, and the list of teams was rolled out on the table.

The western Polo strikers were going against the Eastern Bulls. I checked the player's list, and it wasn't Leo's team.

Southern Sharks were going against Northern Bears. I checked the list and did not see Devin's name.

There were three other southern teams.

"There had been a last-minute adjustment to the matches," I heard the commentator announce, and I wondered why that was.

We went to sit in our booth, which was cosy and had shade.

"Theo went to ensure they put our team against Leo's Team," Sylvester said, and I realised Theo was going to give Linda her wish and beat the crap out of Kyle on the field. This was going to be hard to see.

The first match began, and we watched from our booth. Sylvester's game would take place the next day, so all we were doing was observing.

Theo returned grinning from ear to ear.

"What happened?" Marcel asked him.

"Our friends said they are amateurs for polo and wanted out because it won't be a fair match. It was clear they did not know how this worked because they forgot that it only meant they were to add another sport to the list so they would have a chance of winning something, in case they lost in the game they claim to be amateurs in. I kindly signed them up for rugby," Theo said with a wicked grin.

"And I signed us up for rugby too. We will get them in polo and in rugby," he said, and Marcel laughed with anticipation and likewise Sylvester. They were not going to play to win. They were going to play to kick their arses. I felt sorry for Leo.

The day was eventful. Western strikers won against the eastern bulls, and the southern sharks won against the Northern bears.

The winners would move to the next round, while the losers would play another game to get a chance at winning. If they lose, they are out completely. We moved from the polo section to watch the rugby, and we enjoyed the match. I could only imagine what would happen to Kyle and Max. I was sure by now they would know our men were after them because Theo had deliberately signed them up for rugby to get a go at them.

The day ended, and we returned to the duplex.

Linda continued talking about how some people would get their arses whooped, and the funny part was that Theo humoured her.

They looked like teenagers, and it was cute.

Who would have thought that they would be so good together? I was happy for Linda. She wasn't the same drunken depressed woman I knew in the east. She was a different person, and she radiated.

We arrived at the house, and I was famished.

This would be the first night we would have dinner with Stephanie and Dominic. I wasn't worried because we had bonded at different points. It wouldn't be difficult and awkward as it was in the beginning.

Sylvester and I showered quickly. My tummy was growling, and I hoped they would have enough food. I began to suspect I might have more than one baby growing inside me with the rate I was eating.

We arrived at the table, and everyone was there, including Glenda.

I could not forget that Susan had mentioned her name, and it seemed the bitch was the one that encouraged Susan to try to take my man.

I sat down and looked at her sternly. I wanted to see the bitch try to antagonise me.

I was a lady of the north. There was no debating it. It was best she watched herself where I was concerned.

Dinner was fun. We ate, and those that could drink drank while Linda and I were subject to Juice. Stephanie also made sure Avery drank Juice. She said she should not expose her body to harmful chemicals since they are trying to have a baby.

It wasn't long before Glenda crossed the line. She was drunk, but it was no excuse.

"You are one heartless bastard!" she said, looking at Sylvester, and the table was silent.

“How can you sit here and pretend everything is okay? My cousin is at home in pain, and here you are, enjoying your sleep. I knew the Volkovs were heartless, but..” She said, and Dominic interrupted her.

“Watch it, Glenda. He might be my brother, but he is lord; I can’t help you if you overstep,” he warned her, and she laughed.

“You think I care?” She said and then looked at Sylvester.

“Throw me into prison, do what you like, but I will speak the truth.

“She waited for you, Sylvester. She kept herself for you, hoping you would get back together one day. She loved you,” She said in tears.

“No one asked her to, Glenda. She left me.” Sylvester said calmly, humouring her, and Glenda started laughing.

“You believe that?” Glenda said and looked at me.

“You would pick someone’s wife, a bloody leftover, over your first love,” She said, and Dominic almost slapped her, but Stephanie stopped him.

“Don’t hit her because of your brother.” She said to him, and I could understand why. It would have been a huge mistake on his part. But his misty eyes said it all; he was only trying to shut her up, so Sylvester won’t do anything to her.

“She was forced to leave; Your father did not think..” She said, and Stephanie tried to shut her up.

“No! he needs to know the truth, so he can understand what he threw away,” she said in tears.

“Your father felt she wasn’t Lady material because we were middle-class merchants, so he threatened my father to make sure she walked away. That was why Uncle Nikolay took her with him to the south, far away from your father’s reach. He took her to the only place the Wolf Lord dared not go to. Where he had no power, and they remained there.

She was forced to leave you. That letter was written under duress. I was there. So do not feel smug and proud that you left her writhing in pain on the floor in the presence of everyone. You humiliated a woman that loved you deeply,” She said, and Sylvester started laughing.

“Your cousin should accept the rejection and move on. I am not interested. My father has been dead for five years; she could have returned in those years. I do not want her anymore, Glenda. The feeling isn’t there anymore. I cannot force it to return because my father scared her off,” Sylvester said to her gently.

"The feelings are there. She is your fated, yet you rejected her because of that woman. That piece of.." She said, and Avery slapped her.

Glenda was in shock.

"I believe you can make your point without insulting my friend. My friend might be patient and slow to anger, but I am not. You can plead your cousin's case, but don't you dare insult my friend, or I will beat you up. Trust me, I have a lot of rage bottled up for it," she said, and she meant it. Glenda was in shock. She did not see it coming, but Avery meant it.

"I won't punish you, Glenda, for disrespecting my mate and me. I won't punish you because of Dominic, but if you dare try this again, I will not hesitate to have you dealt with it. This is also the last time you will eat with us. I do not want to hear of Susan or anything that has to do with her again. Tell her to accept the rejection if you care for her so much. Nothing can ever happen between us. I have moved on and found true love; she should do the same, too," Sylvester said, and Glenda was in shock.

Avery had hit her hard because there was blood in her mouth. A tiny bit sipped out. She used a napkin to wipe it and looked at Dominic to do something, but it was awkward for the man. Marcel was above him. He dared not insult Avery.

His eyes pleaded with her to be calm, and honestly, I believed he was better off without her, I could see why he got involved with the women in the harem. The girl was toxic.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 79

~Sylvester~

I wondered what got into Glenda that made her feel it was okay to talk to my mate the way she did.

I watched tears stream down her cheeks after Avery slapped her, and I wished Avery would give her another.

This was supposed to be a fun dinner for us, and she had tried to ruin it with talks of Susan.

Honestly, it had nothing to do with the mate bond; I was done with Susan when I laid eyes on Tamia.

I have never been so happy and fulfilled in my life until now.

I was in love with a woman that loved me just as fiercely as I loved her. We were expecting. What more could I ask for?

If Glenda truly cared for Susan, she should have advised her to move on. I knew Susan did not return because she missed or wanted me. She came because her uncle had something to do in the north.

Even if I wasn't with Tamia, I would have rejected her. She was nothing but pride and ego when she walked into that ballroom.

To her, it was her right.

She expected me to dump whoever I was with because she had arrived. It wasn't that she loved me. It was her ego and her need to be with the most important man. That was all.

It was the same thing that kept Glenda with Dominic. That same drive made Susan try to come for me.

Susan looked at Tamia scornfully with little respect, meaning her intention was malicious and wrong.

Although Knight fell for it, I had to be grateful for the strength to snap myself out of the trance.

Every longing I felt about our past together had disappeared, and I felt absolutely nothing towards her.

Suppose she was in pain; that was her problem and not mine. I had moved on. Come the blue moon, Tamia will be mine fully.

Glenda stood up, and I thought she was going to leave us as I had instructed, but instead, she bared her neck to Tamia and me.

"Forgive my stupidity, Alpha and Luna," She said, and I knew Dominic had warned her.

It did not matter; I did not care for her shit. I looked at my big brother, and his eyes pleaded with me.

Tamia touched my thigh gently and squeezed, indicating it was okay, and I let it be.

"Do not mention your cousin's name or speak to my mate disrespectfully again. The next time you do, Luna Avery's palm will be the least of your troubles," I said, adding Avery's title so she would know none of the women at the table was at her level.

I prayed my brother would dump her arse because I believed she wasn't good for him. We talked about sports and what we would do tomorrow.

Tamia's Croquet match was before ours.

We had made them place the match in the morning before the sun was high in the sky so our mates won't be exhausted. My mother wasn't happy about it.

"I honestly did not think these women should play croquet," My mother said, and I knew her fear.

Tamia was carrying my baby, her grandchild; my mother would do anything to ensure she was safe.

"We won't be running about the place or doing anything physically tasing, Luna," Tamia told her.

My mother looked at me with pleading eyes begging me not to allow them to play.

"You do not know how malicious women could get. You do not know how many young women envy the three of you. Do not expose yourselves like that," She said, and Avery giggled.

"We would beat them up, or better still, throw them in a cell if they attempted to do that. No woman in her senses would try to mess with us." She said, and the three women laughed.

My mother had to let it rest, and we all soon retired.

Marcel, Theo and I decided to hang out on the patio while our women went to bed.

I did not want to be away from Tamia for too long, but we had things to discuss. We could not let the event take us out of our goal.

Lily had agreed to our terms and was participating in the sports.

She was to report anyone that contacted her and tell us what they wanted. Kappa Wilson was watching her.

Also, Bricks Liam had been locked up, and Kappa William was overseeing his questioning.

"So, what have we learned so far about this group?" I asked Marcel, and he took a sip of his drink.

"The man seems too forthcoming for my liking. I do not think we should take his word as truth. He might be trying to mislead us deliberately. I know that someone or some people on the council are actively working against us," he said, and Theo nodded.

“Hopefully, our mole will turn out something better,” He said, referring to Lily without mentioning her name just in case someone was listening in. It was impossible, but we had to be careful.

“What would we do about the members openly and actively working against us?” Marcel said, talking about Pamela and Joan.

“Let the games be over in peace, and let everyone go home. This period is to help us gather the information we need to get our enemies. We need to find out where Alissa and Jenny’s sons are. I believe that would help with our investigation,” I said, and they agreed.

“So what do you think about them playing Croquet?” Marcel asked, and with his tone, I realised my mother had gotten to him.

“Honestly, I did not want them playing any sports, but you know how stubborn these women are. We just have to warn the organisers to make sure nothing happens. Although I doubt anything would happen while playing croquet. It is safe and somewhat relaxing. Besides, they need the exercise.” I said, and Theo agreed. He was the most spooked of all of us. Linda was showing, unlike Tamia, where only a few handful knew she was carrying my child.

We talked about our game the next day, and Theo and Marcel were eager to get on the pitch with Kyle and Max.

They were looking forward to the Rugby more. I could just imagine them pounding on them. Although we would need fifteen men, I wondered how they planned on doing it.

“We are complete for Polo. The four of us, including Dominic, are complete for Polo. We have four more kappas to take over when we have to rest every seven minutes, but I wonder, how will we get a team of fifteen people plus the seven extra for the Rugby?” I asked, and Theo and Marcel laughed.

“Oh, that is easy. You do not have to join us. We are joining the Northern Bulls against them,” He said, laughing.

“I spoke to the team managers and teammates, and they were excited to have us on board. Of course, I told them our intentions, and they were excited about it,” Theo said, and I realised they had gone all out.

“I want to join in the game, too,” I said, and Theo shrugged.

“You do not seem to have qualms with Leo. It won’t be fun,” He said, and I shook my head.

“I want to mess with Kyle. That bastard is a sick fuck that has no business running a pack,” I said. Just as if I had triggered a memory for Marcel, he raised his hand slightly as if in a classroom, which made Theo and I laugh.

“Yes, Marcel,” I said, and we all laughed. He smiled, realising what he had done.

“We traced the order of the attack,” He said, and I frowned at him, but it seemed to have clicked for Theo.

“The attack that made us attack the east. We were able to work it out. Abel got some damning evidence on an Alpha Ramsey Richford. We are still investigating him. We have not shared our findings with Leo, but we are looking into it deeper to be sure because we found out he is Leo’s fated’s father, and there was a time he was soliciting for warriors to go to battle against Leo. We do not know what for, but we are still digging.” Marcel said, and I shook my head.

I did not need to know what he was gathering the fighting force against Leo for. I knew immediately. Tamia had told me Amanda was forced into their home. That must have been it.

Leo did not stand a chance, even if he did not want the girl. She was daddy’s little princess, and he would get her whatever she wanted. Too bad for Leo; she wanted him by all means, even if it meant going to war with his people.

I was silent a bit because I remembered the hurt and regret in Leo’s eyes during the ball. After experiencing the mate bond myself, I knew he did not stand a chance with his fated sleeping in the same house with him. Losing Tamia was a painful loss for him, one he had no power over because of this Ramsey guy.

“I want the man investigated thoroughly. I want to know why he would attack the western borders where my soldiers were and try to make it look like Kyle did it. I want to know his issues with Kyle and why he would even go that far. I also want us to question and isolate the trophy he gave us. I want to know how he gave the trophy and what the trophy is to him. It isn’t his daughter unless he has more than one.” I said, and Marcel nodded, realising the bigger picture.

“I did not think of it that way.” He said. That he did not tell me immediately meant he did not think of it that way.

“The asshole must have known that I would strike back. He prepared for it. I want to know if he fought or simply surrendered his trophy. That way, I will know how to deal with the matter. I also need to know why he would do such a thing.” I said, and my friends understood my point of view.

We talked some more, shared a few glasses of rum, and went to our rooms.

On my way to my room, I decided to link my brother.

“You know you can hang out with us, right?” I linked him, and he was silent, then he responded.

“Are you sure?” he asked me, and I smiled, climbing up the stairs.

“With a woman like that, you can hang out with us as much as you like, just to take the break,” I said, and he sighed. He thanked me, telling me he would be with us all through the games tomorrow since Glenda won't be around, and I realised that Glenda was killing him.

I believed another woman would be a better mate for him. I planned on asking Tamia to do some match matchmaking for Dominic. I also plan on including my mother. I wasn't comfortable having Glenda in his life. She seemed toxic, and from what I have learned about his childhood trauma, he does not need that kind of bad energy around him. I just hope he finds someone so he can say goodbye to Glenda.

I returned to the room and took off my clothes.

I snuggled into bed behind Tamia, who was in a deep sleep.

I breathed in her citrus scent and felt a strong pull to her, similar to what I felt with Susan, only that this was slightly different. It wasn't aggressive. It was subtle and pleasing. I felt my teeth elongate by her sweet spot, and I held myself back. I knew it would not work unless I did it under a blue moon so the goddess could bless it and cause the bond to form. I would hurt her if I did it now, but Knight wanted to do it badly. He wanted to seal the deal, and I could feel his need grow. I pulled her close and sucked the skin there, making her moan in her sleep. Her voice was music to my ears. I allowed myself to be filled with her citrus scent as I drifted into dreamland, resting for the energy we would expend on the polo pitch the next day.

The dark side of fate (Tamia) novel Chapter 80

~Tamia~

I lay amid beautiful flowers, and the sky was a brilliant shade of blue and purple. I knew I was in dreamland. I wore a flowing white dress, and I was pleased.

I was in a lavender and jasmine flower field, and I wasn't alone. I looked ahead, and Sylvester was sitting on the green grass with his back to me.

I went to where he was and hugged him from behind, but then the clouds became dark, and the plants died. Heavy rain began to fall, and suddenly he was over a cliff, and I was holding his hand, trying to pull me up.

“Don’t let me go,” he said with fear in his eyes, and they went dark.

“I can’t,” I said and woke up panting.

I looked at the window. The sun was yet to come up, but it was four in the morning.

Sylvester was sleeping peacefully beside me, and I realised I had had a bad dream. Vivid dreams were part of the listed pregnancy symptoms, so I rubbed my belly and smiled.

Sylvester and I had crossed the biggest hurdle that could pull us apart, and we had survived. I knew nothing could come between us. My mind was just replaying an old fear.

I kissed his cheek, and a strong need to sink my teeth into his sweet spot came over me as his Cedar scent engulfed me. I felt an overwhelming need to strengthen the bond between us. I felt the cord joining us, and it felt stronger than it did yesterday.

Sylvester pulled me close, and I let him. I drifted back to sleep in his arms.

He woke me up in the morning.

I opened my eyes, and Sylvester was leaning over me with a broad smile.

“Good morning, darling,” He said and kissed the tip of my nose.

I pulled him close until he was resting on me.

He moved down and placed his head on my bosom while I stroked his hair gently.

He touched my lower belly and rubbed gently. His hand felt so good against my skin that I moaned.

Then he reached between my legs with his hand, and I gave him access. I felt his index finger rub my clit gently, and he rested on me while he did it.

It felt good. I stroked his head hair while he pleased my clit.

He licked his finger and placed it back on my clit, building the pleasure. This was the best way to wake anyone up.

I moaned, and I heard him growl.

“Sylvester... Ahhhhahhha,” I moaned gently, and he was pleased.

I felt the pleasure building until I came.

He slid his finger down my slit into my pussy, but there was no way it would fill me up the way I wanted.

“Sylvester, I need you to fill me up,” I moaned, feeling like I was out of this world.

“You have to be a little more specific, Tamia,” He told me, and I moaned as he caressed my entrance with his thumb.

I had no shame at this point as his cedar scent filled me taking control of my senses. All I wanted to do was mate with him.

“Fill me up with your cock,” I said, and he growled with approval.

He leaned over me, placed his hard length into me, and began pumping. Kaira took over from me, and he pumped sweetly.

I felt the pleasure building up in me when I looked at him and said

“Mate”, climaxing along with the word.

I felt an out-of-body experience while my teeth elongated, wanting to claim my man. His eyes were dark too, and his teeth were out. A serious turn-on for me, and he fucked me through my orgasm.

I came twice before he spilt into me with Knight saying Kaira’s exact words.

“Mate”.

He fell on me and kissed me.

“I do not know why but I have been feeling the need to claim you since the night I rejected Susan,” He confessed, and the feeling was the same.

“I have battled it, but I know I will lose the battle soon because it is overwhelming,” he said as I stroked his hair.

“Should we try it?” I asked, and he rolled off me and looked at me from the side.

“It will be an ugly scar if we do not do it on the blue moon,” he said, and I was quiet, not wanting to push.

“Come on, let us shower. Your game is by eleven this morning. I noticed you are pairing up with Katya while Avery is pairing up with Linda,” he said, and I nodded.

We did not want to play one-on-one, so we chose to play the double team. I just hope we would score fourteen points and win. I would not want to try another sport.

Sylvester led me to the bathroom, and after we brushed our teeth, we went into the shower.

He kissed the side of my neck while standing behind me, gently squeezed my upper arm on both sides and breathed me in.

“I swear your pussy feels so damn good, Tamia. Thinking of it just made me want to bury myself in you. I am addicted to you.” He confessed, and his words gave me tingles.

I did not know he was serious until he hoisted me against the bathroom wall and took me again. When we finished, we exited the shower to get dressed for the day.

“Your game against The Eastern Beasts is this evening; how do Theo and Marcel feel about it?” I asked him as we dressed up.

“Excited, but they hope they beat them quickly so they would have no choice but to play Rugby next week and then get to pounce on them and beat them some more.” He said, and I laughed.

“How will you do the rugby team? It wasn’t part of your preparations,” I asked, wondering how they would come up with a last-minute team, and he laughed.

“Who said we would do that? Theo already spoke to the Northern Bulls, so we will just replace three members in the actual game; they know our intentions, and they plan to humour us,” he said, and I laughed, amazed at how determined they were to have fun with Kyle and Max.

“Before I forget, do you know much about Ramsey Richford?” He asked, and I hated that name because he was the one who forced his daughter into our home.

“Other than the fact that he was the douchebag alpha that threatened to go to war with Leo if he did not accept Amanda, I know nothing serious,” I said, and he nodded.

“Why did you ask?” I asked him, and he sighed.

“He was linked to the attack that caused me to attack the east,” he said, and I gasped.

“That bastard,” I said in anger.

“We are investigating him. Does he have any other daughter or a sister?” He asked, and I frowned.

“None, He has a niece that lives with him, but Amanda is the only princess in his castle,” I said, and he nodded.

“I want you to be a part of this investigation, and it also means you will interact with Leo. Do you think you can do that?” He asked me, and I searched his eyes to see if he was serious or if it was a test.

“I trust you, Tamia. Leo can't take you from me. You are mine,” he said confidently, and his wolf flashed. I nodded, accepting the task, and he thanked me.

I wore white pants and a black polo t-shirt with Sylvester's family name and crest on the back and Northern Beasts on the front. Same as Sylvester's polo team. The back read Volkov instead of Albert or Riverstorm because I already saw myself as a Volkov.

I packed my hair in a ponytail and wore a black face cap with the Volkov family crest. Then I hooked my gloves to my pants. I would use it to hold the croquet mallet when the time comes. I hoped they gave us mallets with square ends and not round ends. I wore white sneakers to finish the look.

Sylvester dressed the same way; only he wore white-fitted trousers. He wore sneakers. He would wear his boots when the time came for the game. We looked good together, and we went downstairs to have breakfast and go.

Avery looked exquisite. Her shirt had Sidorov on the back with their family crest, while Linda had Orlov on the back with the family crest. We were given Royal bands the previous day, so we wore them on our wrists.

We ate quickly and left in a hurry.

We arrived there and took the cart to the croquet garden.

Katya was already there in her uniform, and she looked good. She rushed to hug me when she saw me, and I wrapped my arms around her. Lily was there, too. I wasn't bothered because she was serving a purpose.

I did not look at her, but Linda interacted with her to avert suspicion, if any.

It was time for the game to start.

“This morning, The Northern Beasts team, consisting of Lady Tamia Volkov and her teammate Katya Nowak will be starting the game, playing against Western Butterflies Luna Ashley McCain and Luna Alexandria Russel, first to make fourteen points win.

The northern Beasts control the Blue and black balls, while The Western Butterflies have the Red and Yellow Balls. The Northern Beasts would go first,” The commentator said, and people cheered.

I looked at the booth where Sylvester was sitting. Stephanie and Dominic were there, and they all waved at me.

The game was easy as Katya and I could pass the balls through the six hoops in the right order and hit the central peg, and we won.

Two matches were played before Linda and Avery's team. They won too, and we were excited.

We went to join Sylvester, and I asked the very reluctant Katya to join me. Sylvester hugged me when I joined him, and Katya greeted everyone politely.

"Where are you from, young Lady?" Stephanie asked her, and she was shy.

"She is in Marcel's Harem," I said, and Stephanie looked at me.

"How come I have never seen her?" Dominic said, and I laughed.

"She is a bookworm, and she is in her room most of the time except the few times we socialise in the garden," I said and smiled at her.

There was a look of approval in Stephanie's eyes, and she was made to sit with us.

I wondered where Glenda was, but I did not ask. I believed her absence was for the best.

We sat to watch the other games. Sylvester's polo match would not start until the evening, so we had a lot of time on our hands.

There was a comfortable booth reserved for us at every sports section, and looking at the contents of the booth that we were in, Sylvester made sure it was equipped with food.

"Luna, someone just made contact with me," I heard Lily's voice in my head, and I was alert.

"Do you know who the person is?" I asked, and she wasted a bit before answering me.

"Luna Gezel of Grizlo," She said, and I wondered who the fuck that was.

"What does she want?" I asked her.

"The usual stamps, and she wants me to place a tracker on Lord Volkov's phone. She said something about us moving quickly so we could rescue Sofia Malek. I think they are planning an attack," She said, and I did not know what to say.

"Continue what you are doing. We will discuss extensively after." I linked her, and she was silent.

I linked Sylvester with what Lily told me; he was a little worried.

I did not know why and could not wait until we got home, so I asked him to link me with the reason.

“Luna Gezel is a Sidorov,” he said, and I knew the implication of the Sidorov family being tied to treason. It would be bad for Marcel. We needed to deal with it quietly if it was true.

“I am sure it is a set-up,” I linked Sylvester, and he rubbed my back.

“We will deal with it when we get home. We have to act normal and not tell our friends yet. I want to speak to Marcel about it before we proceed,” he said. I obeyed and remained silent.

We spent the day watching sports, eating and having fun. I did not see anyone I knew. Not Devin, Not Leo or the men that Theo and Marcel were planning on dealing with. Yet I knew they were around. I knew I would see them when the time of the game came. I brushed off what I had learned about Gezel and focused on the match that was to come.

Soon it was time for the Northern Beasts to face the Eastern Beasts. It was a match to watch.