

## Chapter 6 You owe Me

Liana

"Come on, get up," Nina commands as she pulls open the curtains and allows the sun to brighten up the room. "You've been cooped up in here long enough."

"I don't want to go out," I moan as I pull the covers over my head.

"I don't care what you want," Nina smirks as she pulls the cover off me. "I care what you need. And you need to stop this pity party and move on with your life. I allowed you to sulk for an entire week, but that's enough."

"Fine," I huff as I get out of bed. "I'll get dressed and everything, but I don't want to go out. I'm in no mood for socializing."

"We're going grocery shopping," Nina rolls her eyes. "That qualifies as an errand and not socialising."

"Is that your subtle way of telling me to get a job and move out?" I squint my eyes at her.

"No," she sighs and sits down on my bed. "It's my direct way of telling you that I have chores to do and don't want to do it by myself."

"But I do all the chores," I laugh as I sit next to her. "I cook and clean every day when you're at work."

"And I love it," Nina smiles brightly. "My house has never been this clean and organized. But it's not fair that you don't leave this place, Liana. You're dangerously close to becoming a hermit. I know you're not ready to see people. That's why I'm not suggesting going to the movies or something. Grocery shopping isn't even fun."

"I would not have survived this ordeal without you," I smile at her. "Give me half an hour, then we can go."

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I am extremely self-conscious and uncomfortable as we walk through the shopping centre. But after a couple of minutes, I relax when I realize it is all in my head. People are not staring at me and gossiping behind their hands. They are occupied with their own lives.

"Did you add eggs and our to the list?" I ask Nina as we enter the store.

"Yup," she confirms as she takes a trolley, and we start moving down the first aisle. "And toilet paper. I always forget to buy it."

Nina starts telling me a funny story and it is not long before I caught myself laughing and having fun.

"You were right," I smile at her after she paid for our shopping, and we leave the store. "I needed this. How about I repay you and buy you a cappuccino?"

"You don't need to spend money on me," Nina says happily. "You feeling better, is all I ask for."

"Oh, come on," I laugh heartedly. "I might be unemployed, but I can still afford a cup of coffee."

"Okay," she shrugs. "If you insist."

Together we walk to the coffee shop, but she holds me back before I could enter.

"Let's go somewhere else," Nina smiles shyly and immediately I know there is something wrong.

"Why?" I ask as I turn to look around, and that is when I see them. I blink a couple of times to focus on the scene, and the blood drains from my face.

Gwen and Wyatt are sitting at a table. But that is not upsetting me. It is the little boy between them that has caught my attention. I have met Gwen's son, Peter, before but this time it is different. This time my eyes are wide open and do I truly see. For the first time, I notice that Peter has his father's eyes and nose ... Wyatt's eyes and nose.

"You're right," I pull myself together and turn to Nina. "This place is overcrowded; we should go somewhere else."

"We should hurry," Nina starts walking. "They just saw us."

Quietly, I follow her to the car. Honestly, I do not care that they saw me. Neither do I care that they are together. I do not want Wyatt back and I cannot care less about whom he sees. But Peter ... he is three years old. Gwen and Wyatt's affair has been going on for years and I was too fucking stupid to realize it. How pathetic am I? For heaven's sake, I babysat the boy when Gwen and Wyatt had pack meetings. I babysat my nance and his mistress' child, and I did not know.

"Liana!" Wyatt shouts from me behind me and I increase my pace.

"Liana, wait," he shouts just as Nina unlocks the car and we load the groceries as fast as we can.

"Dammit, woman," Wyatt gets hold of my elbow and swings me around. "I'm talking to you."

"Let go of me," I hiss at him. "We have nothing to talk about."

"You owe me," he glares at me in anger. "Because of you, I will never get promoted."

"Go fuck yourself," I sneer and my face jerks to the side when he slaps me across the face.

"Hey!" Nina shouts and runs to my side. "Get away from her, you jerk."

"You're next," Wyatt points a finger at her. "You told me she left and all this time you're hiding her."

"I'm not hiding," I grunt as I pull my shoulders back and face him. I do not care how many times he slaps me. I will not submit. For seven years I have been a fool. No, I was his fool, but not anymore. "I only chose not to see your lying and cheating face again."

"You're no better than me," he growls as he clasps my chin between his fingers. "I felt your betrayal when you fucked another dude, remember? And now, you owe me for every cent I lost for the wedding you cancelled."

"And you owe me seven years that I wasted on a loser like you," I say angrily. "Not to mention all those nights I cared for your bastard son."

Wyatt's face distorts into hatred before he plants his fist in my gut and I double over in pain. I bite back the scream as he grabs me by the hair and pulls me to my feet.

"Let her go!" Nina shouts as she starts beating Wyatt with her handbag. He lets go of me long enough to grab her arm and punch her in the face. She yells out in pain as blood pours from her nose.

"What the hell is going on here?" A voice demands and Wyatt abruptly lets go of Nina.

I rush to her side and embrace her before I look at the stranger that came to our rescue. My knees go weak when I look into the blazing green eyes and recognize Axel.

"Axel," Wyatt clears his throat and looks at us before he turns to him. "My apologies. I was having a conversation with my mate when her friend attacked me. I merely defended myself."

"Ex-mate," I grunt, and Wyatt gives me a deadly glare. "And you were the one that threw the first punch."

"Enough!" Axel bellows and I jump a little by the power and authority in his voice. "This is not the place or time to settle your domestic disputes. There are children around, for fuck's sake. Get out of here, all of you."

Wyatt looks at me and Nina one last time before he leaves with long strides.

"Thank you," I smile weakly at Axel before I help Nina to get into the passenger seat.

"Hold your head up," I instruct her as I pinch her nose bridge to stop the bleeding.

"Allow me," Axel says behind me and abbergasted I take a step back as he kneels next to Nina.

"It's broken," he says after he examined her face. "I'll take you to the clinic."

"There's no need," I say quickly. "I'll take her, thank you."

"Get in," Axel grunts as he ignores my protest and gets into the driver's seat.

I groan inwardly as I get into the backseat. Nobody says a word as we drive to the clinic. I am sitting in the back and praying that he does not recognise me. Hopefully, he has so many one-night stands that he cannot remember them all.

Axel parks right in front of the entrance and a security guard rushes towards us.

"You cannot park ... oh, my apologies, Axel," the guard lowers his gaze submissively. "How can I assist?"

"You can move the car once we're inside," Axel orders and the guard nods.

We are immediately surrounded by helpful hands as we follow Axel inside the clinic. A nurse quickly leads a bleeding Nina to a room and for a second I only stand there, unsure what to do.

I turn to walk to the waiting room, but Axel takes my elbow and guides me into an empty exam room. I want to protest and tell him to leave me alone, but I know I will lose that argument. He is the future alpha and every single person in this building will follow his command.

I sigh inwardly as he closes the door behind us. The sooner we get this over, the better.