

Alpha's Virgin Wife by Baby Charlene

Chapter 151

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Chapter 151 King Dakota and the Seer

Next Morning Queen Chaska walked towards the dungeon, head high and making use of elegant steps. 7 She looked too good for a morning but perhaps, wanted it that way. Having to keep with the dirt and stench odour from the dungeon, she consoled herself with the end product; and finally, she got to her destination as she stood in front of the locked cell.

She paused, took in a deep breath and gawped at the drenched lady in front of her. Nosheba – looking so tired, dirty and just like an insane woman. Of course, who wouldn't go nuts in such place? 3

Nosheba knew someone was standing in front of her cell, but was too feebled to lift her head for a look. So, she just kept her head bowed there on the floor as she sat like a mentally – challenged

woman. 6

"Hm" Chaska huffed. "Who would have thought Nosheba, who was being treated like the top Queen some days ago, would actually be locked up in the dirtiest cell? Such irony". Nosheba said nothing; but of course, she could hear everything.

"You brought such shame to the Royal name, Nosheba. And to think your family were there...? Goodness! Your mother be so ashamed of you. Definitely, he must be regretting having you as the only child from your dead mother". Chaska added and Nosheba twitched a little.

But she wouldn't lift her head to look at her. "I know we're all desperate, Nosheba" Chaska continued, taking a step closer. "I know we all want to have that heir for the King and become the one closest to his heart. But sleeping with another man? What sort of desperation would that be? How could you even think of.... feeding the King's meal to another and placing the baby on the King, knowing fully it's not his? How could you be so dirty and heartless? It's something I'd never do". 4 "Never?" Nosheba finally scoffed and lifted her head.

And when she did, made eye contact with Chaska, Chaska could see the face of a woman that was lacking so much care. With her sore eyes, she looked like someone that had been thinking too much and was indeed, running mad.

"You are worst than me, Chaska, and you know it. So, quit the pretence and get out of my sight".

"Did you say I'm worst than you?" Chaska scoffed. "I might have set people up, but I've never taken a life, Nosheba. You set that guard up, and to think you were able to stand and watch the King slay him, knowing fully well he was innocent,

that alone makes you worst than a hunter. How could you even do that to a man with family? All for what?" She

sighed and shook her head. "I might be capable of doing certain things for desperation, but not to the length of what you did, Nosheba".she added. 4 Nosheba lowered her head to the floor again, trying so hard to keep her sanity. "I know you only came here to see my miserable self, Chaska. So, if you done, you should leave" she mumbled.

"Oh! No, I didn't just come here for that" Chaska glared.

"I knew you had been abandoned and actually came here to let you in on the recent happenings.

"First, your beloved maid ran away". She could notice Nosheba's hands shake.

"Yes; she couldn't even stay back for you. She left your baby on the floor and ran for her dear life. Right now, I don't even know who's in charge of that poor baby" she paused and cut her eyes half way to the ceiling". 2

"Secondly, Shilah has been found and brought back to the Palace. And the banquet you had asked the King to organize in your name, is now being held in her name. It's happening this morning. So.... you invited all those people to Shilah's party. How convenient" Chaska paused and chuckled o "And thirdly; yes – I really did come here to see your miserable self. I wanted to see how the Almighty Nosheba had fallen; wanted to see the shame and guilt on your face. Some weeks ago, you made me feel I was doomed – made me feel you had gotten to the top already. But, here you are. It feels so good to know you're out of the way" .. "You still have Shilah" Nosheba looked at her and stated angrily. "Do not forget she's a greater competition than I was. She's always been the King's favorite and now that she carries his male child, you should know it's worst as he's never going to get his eyes off her. You'll only be there as a....." "Oh! Do not worry about Shilah" Nosheba huffed.

"You have always been my major competition, Nosheba and now you're out of the way, I have just one person to contend with. Shilah is weak and wouldn't be so difficult getting out of the way. So, you shouldn't worry about that. Instead, I'd advise you to worry about your sorry self who is going to be slain by the King by next dawn. Good riddance, Nosheba" she winked derogatorily at her and left.

Alone, Nosheba let the frustrating tear flow – the tear she had been trying so hard not to shed in front of the witch.

She let them down – let them out.

She was doomed – gradually turned into a stock of ridicule. How did she ever get to this point? Just how? 2

Her heart stretched painfully as she thought of it. Even her father was there. The father she had been trying so hard to prove wrong was there and watched how she got exposed and humiliated. And now, everyone had abandoned her. Just

everyone. And to think Queen Jadis was trying to blackmail her as well? Never! If she was going down, she doesn't have to go down alone. At least, they were the fabricators of the plan and needed to be punished as well. She shouldn't be the only one going down this way. But her child...

Ah! They could kill her if they want to – she doesn't care. 9

All she wanted was revenge and she was ready to get that at any cost. 1

IN THE KING'S CHAMBERS

"Please, Queen Shilah, you need to take all of it. Do not forget the King has placed you under my care. I wouldn't want to get into trouble" The midwife + Ahiga – complained to Shilah as she tried forcing the grumpy pregnant lady to gulp down the herbs she had prepared for her. "But, it's too bitter" Shilah grimaced, wiping her lips with the back of her palm.

"Besides, I've taken a reasonable quantity from it already. I must not drink every bit of it".

"But, you have to, Dear Queen. It's important. I'll let you have some sweets after this" Ahiga promised.

And grumpily, Shilah began drinking more from the plate.

She had been awakened by the elderly woman who came in with some meals, sweets and the pathetic herb. According to her, it'd help keep her healthy. But she couldn't understand why she had to go through such pleasure and pain. And to think she had a party in a few hours time....

Urgh! She just wanted to sleep.

She gulped down the last drop from the plate and Dyani who had been sitting next to her, helped wipe her lips as she had spilled some on them.

"I hope I never get to see this again" Shilah grumbled, trying to get over the sour taste on her tongue, while Ahiga took in a relieving breath.

"You did just well, My Queen. Thank you so much" she appreciated and gave her the sweets.

"It's for your own benefit, Shilah. Don't feel so bad" Dyani said as she gently rubbed her back. "I'm sure I do not have to take every bitter thing for my own benefit" she replied and gladly chewed the sweets. "How is your maid now, Dyani? Is she better?"

"Oh! Yes. She just needs a lot of rest and she'll be fine. That's all" Dyani replied, and Shilah nodded in

consent.

Ahiga was about bringing one of the meals to Shilah when a knock was heard on the door.

"Who is it?" She asked, still chewing her sweets.

"It's Darci, My Queen" the familiar voice replied. And letting him in, the door went open afterwards as he walked in.

"Sorry to interrupt, but some of the Lunas and wives of other notable guests are here to see you. They're waiting just outside" he informed, making Shilah's eyes drop open in shock.

Wait; what??? What are they doing there??

Standing on the second floor, at the quiet balcony, King Dakota stood and watched the servants, busily moving around as they prepared for the banquet.

The sight came with an unusual joy; an unusual excitement – knowing he was doing all these for his rightful son. For the first time in years, he felt like a man, like a King, like a father. He felt responsible and it gave him so much encouragement to want to do more for her – for Shilah and the baby. S

A small smile rested on his face, but it departed when he found Pishan walking towards him with the

seer. At last. 2

He didn't change position as he kept holding onto the barriers of the balcony and awaited them to get close.

"He's here, My King" Pishan bowed when he stood in front of him. And when King Dakota nodded, he understood and walked away, leaving just the King and the Seer. "Greetings to you, Alpha King" The seer stated warmly, holding onto the staff in his hand. The markings on his face, sometimes, made him look like a herbalist. "Greetings to you too, messenger of the Spirits" King Dakota replied. "And thank you for honoring my invitation". The seer said nothing; and Dakota decided to proceed. "After the incidence at the banquet, I noticed you left. So, I decided to send for you as I had a lot to tell you about". "The Spirits are listening" Thaddeus replied, his eyes staring into space. Too Mysterious – King Dakota thought. "First, I want to thank you for your help. If it wasn't for your revelation, I wouldn't had known the truth by now. I want you to know I'm very grateful and wish to reward you in a kind way. So, if there's anything you need, anything at all, I'm ready to do it". King Dakota said. "Thaddeus has no ability of it's own, Dakota.

The Spirits are the ones behind it all and they do not need anything from you. You do not have to worry” he replied. King Dakota was beginning to think Thaddeus was not the one talking anymore, but the Spirits. He glanced at the floor and stayed quiet for sometime. “Secondly”, he continued. “I have a feeling Nosheba didn’t act alone and wish to know who was behind her. I wouldn’t want her lying to me when the time comes”. 1 “You are right” Thaddeus replied. “Nosheba did not act alone. Thaddeus already told you there were a lot of things happening right under your nose that you do not know about. Nosheba is just one of them. And for the rest”, he paused and chuckled. “They’re meant to die by the hands of the woman they have offended”. s King Dakota was muddled.

“I do not think I understand”, he said and Thaddeus looked at him.

“Your fourth wife – Shilah. They offended her by conniving with Nosheba, and they are meant to die by her hands”. Thaddeus replied and it took King Dakota a while to get what he meant. “Are you trying to say ... Shilah would be the one to kill them?” He scoffed. • “That is not possible. Shilah is too innocent to take a life”.

And Thaddeus in return, chuckled.

“She looks innocent, King Dakota, but each time the Spirits reveal her to me, I only see a powerful woman, who is going to bring many to their knees. She is going to be a light, Dakota, to the darkness that has been for centuries. She is light and darkness itself”.

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Chapter 152 A Moment With The King

“Why do you think they’re here?” Shilah turned to Dyani and asked, whisperingly. 1 Ahiga had to hesitate on getting the meal as she wanted to comprehend what was going on. Darci was

still standing and watching.

“Uhm....I think you should just let them in” Dyani advised. 1 And heeding to that, Shilah asked Darci to let them in. And he bowed and left.

Awaiting their entrance, Shilah couldn’t help but feel a little nervous. She’s never had any cordial relationship with any of the Lunas and kept wondering why they’d all want to see her. Did she do something wrong? Or perhaps, was there a problem? 5 .

She kept wondering. And finally, the door went open with the unfamiliar faces walking in. Some looked familiar tho, as Shilah had seen them some months ago

when she had accompanied the King to the general meeting. But having them in her room was something she never thought could happen.

Quickly, she stood on her feet – and Dyani did same.

“Greetings to you, Dear Lunas” she lowered her head in obeisance, noting the women were six in number – all sophisticatedly dressed and adorned with too many jewelries. 1

A maid was with them, holding a big wrapped box.

“Please, you should sit, Queen Shilah. You do not need to stress yourself” the one in front said as she rushed to hold Shilah’s shoulder and helped her sit.

She looked older than her, actually.

“Thank you” Shilah muttered with a nervous smile.

“Greetings to you too, Shilah. How are you doing?” Another asked, standing close to the door. “I’m doing just fine, My Queen. Thank you” Shilah replied. “Have you eaten? Have you...” The same woman tried asking but was interrupted by another. “We should go straight to the point, Veronica, so we do not have to waste the young lady’s time”. The third Queen interrupted, making all eyes turn on her. That was too obvious – Shilah thought. The second Queen, tilted her head and spared her a deadly stare before taking her gaze away, but she didn’t seem to care. “Uhm . we really wouldn’t want to waste your time, Queen Shilah, as it obvious you have to rest and equally get ready for your banquet” the one standing in front of her spoke genially. “Actually, we were there at the banquet yesterday and saw everything that happened. We are aware of everything you’ve passed through and also know you are pregnant. So.... having a little meeting amongst ourselves, we decided to present this little gift to you, to congratulate you and also, welcome you into motherhood. We also want to thank you for conceiving the Alpha King’s heir on your first trial. You’ve done so well, Queen Shilah” she paused and turned to the maid in the room, beckoning on her to come closer, and she did.

“Please, accept this from us” she collected the box from the maid and handed it to Shilah who collected it wholeheartedly.

It was so big and felt really heavy. “Wow” Shilah chuckled, staring down at the box. “I do not even know what to say. I wasn’t ... I wasn’t expecting this for you” she looked at them. 3

“But thank you. Thank you so much. I’m grateful”. “We’re glad you like it, Shilah” another beamed. “Just take care of yourself, and the baby too”. “L..I will. Thank you very much” she bowed her head, feeling really blessed. Such display of gratitude. “We should leave you to rest now. And equally get ready for your party” the one in front said. “All the best, Queen Shilah. We will meet again”. And with other pleasantries, they all left. “Hm. Guess that wasn’t too scary” Dyani chuckled as she sat next to Shilah on the bed. “Luckily. I wonder what is in here” Shilah said with furrowed brows as she studied the box. “Maybe, I should open it

later” she looked at Ahiga, “Please, I’m hungry. Can I get my food?” 2 “Of course” Ahiga answered delightfully and brought one of the meals to her.

Few hours later, and Shilah was standing in front of the mirror, staring at her beautiful reflection as the maids worked on her hair. She looked more beautiful, and also seemed a little fatter. 6 To think she’d actually be facing a lot of important guests made her feel so unsettled. Few days ago, she had no idea she’d be back in the Palace. Few days ago, she had no idea she’d be having a party held in her name. How did she get so lucky – again? “Is this style good enough for you, My Queen? Or you would want us to try another?” The maid asked and Shilah paused to study her look in the mirror.

Well.... It seemed good on her.

She was about giving a reply when the door went open; and staring from the window, she discovered it was the King.

The King...! She shook a little, having those unwanted goosebumps on her skin. Urgh! His presence was always making her so nervous.

The maids stepped away and bowed immediately. “Greetings, Aloha King”. 9 But King Dakota said nothing immediately as he kept his eyes fixed on Shilah – looking so calm. He stared at her from behind; while Shilah equally stared at him from the mirror. And at some point, she began to wonder if something was wrong with the way he stared at her. “Leave us” he suddenly said to the maids who quickly bowed and left.

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Chapter 153 Shilah’s Visit

Alone with the King, Shilah turned away from the mirror to look at him, her heart beating a little heavily. Why was he staring at her like that? She didn’t do anything wrong, did she? Calmly, King Dakota walked towards her, his unreadable gaze still fixed on her. She looked beautiful – he thought. Looked more matured and beautiful. Obviously, she was getting fat.

He had wanted to concentrate on her beautiful face, but inasmuch as he tried, the words of the Seer wouldn’t stop replaying in his head; those baffling words of his. *She looks innocent, King Dakota, but each time the Spirits reveal her to me, I only see a powerful woman, who is going to bring many to their knees, She’s going to be a light, Dakota, to the darkness that has been for years. She is light and darkness itself* 5

How would someone like Shilah become light...and darkness? How would she be able to kill and bring many to their knees?? He really couldn't understand it. 8

As far as he was concerned, Shilah was one of the purest ladies he's ever met. She couldn't even hurt a fly. So, how was it going to happen? Was something going to change her?? Or was she going to.... He couldn't even tell. Shilah's eyes got locked in his as she suddenly found them beautiful. Of course, they've always been so beautiful. But she was still worried. "M.... My King. Is there a problem?" She asked, her voice sounding so calm and soothing to the ears. King Dakota remained still for sometime; and exhaling deeply, he lifted his palm to her smooth hair, stroking it.

"You look beautiful" he muttered, having his eyes locked into hers.

His words sent some shivers down Shilah's spine. She just wasn't used to compliments.

"Thank you" her timid voice muttered as she lowered her gaze to the floor.

And at that point, she suddenly thought of what her future with the King would be from that point. Being pregnant with his son, she was beginning to wonder the kind of parent they were both going to be. Would she have to face so much difficulties like the other Queens? 1

His hands moved down to her shoulders and relaxed on them.

"The banquet is already getting started. I'll get ready now" he told her and left.

A WHILE LATER

The party drums were rolling – somewhere around the banquet hall – but not in the hall itself.

It was looking more glorious and sophisticated than it had looked on Nosheba's day' and most prosperous people felt that way because the reason and happiness was genuine.

Shilah felt so nervous as she held the King's hand, walking majestically through the entrance with so many eyes staring at them. Eyes she never thought she could meet again.

Her dress was nearly too big for her and she had to struggle to walk elegantly in it – tho it wasn't easy.

She felt so big; too matured and was beginning to wonder if the feeling was normal with pregnancy,

or it was due to the fact that she was meeting with a lot of prominent people. Well, she didn't want to get too fat. 3

Most of the guests were smiling so warmly at them as they walked in – although, they were some who had too many strict looks on. For instance, Queen Chaska.

She stood with a burning expression as she glared at them – obviously looking so mad that the King was giving such honor to her.

Shilah also noticed some of the VampLords equally had straight faces – like Lord Ryder. 2

She's always been so suspicious of that man – she doesn't know why, But from the very first day she met him at the general meeting, she felt something weird about him. 2

Deciding to ignore the negative stares, Shilah took her eyes to the smiling faces and tried to reciprocate the smiles as brightly as possible. She got to her seat with the King and drinks were quickly served for the toast.

"TODAY is indeed a blessed day for the Wind Walker Mountain" The announcer began.

"For we are gathered here to celebrate the genuine conception of the King's first son – our first Prince. Although, we had a shameful disaster just yesterday, but it's obvious it is for the better as it had helped us in discovering the true Queen. A big congratulations to the Alpha King and Queen Shilah" 1 There was an applaud. "Today,we make a toast – celebrating this new life that is still cooking up. We make a toast to give thanks to Selene and pray for more protection on the life of our precious prince. A toast, everyone, to Selene's protection". 3 And with everyone's cup lifted up already, they chorused:

"A toast!"

And the next few seconds was occupied with them swigging from their cups of wine. Shilah's lips had a huge smile on as she returned her cup from her lips. And suddenly, she felt a new energy surge through her. Was the prayers already working or something – she thought jokingly. 1 She glanced at the King beside her and noticed him returning his cup as well. The King caught her glance and chuckled lightly when he noticed how quickly she took her gaze away. 2 "And now....!" The announcer resumed.

"Let the feast begin!!"

The party had been an amazing one for Shilah. Just too amazing.

First, because she had a lot to eat and drink. And secondly, the King had introduced her to a lot of people.

Tho, she felt anxious at first; but when they had gotten to the third person, she began to feel at ease.

She got to meet and greet with the other Alphas and VampLords – including Lord Ryder. It was so obvious Lord Ryder was the most powerful VampLord; and his mistress – Lady Cami – looked really pretty and calm. But when Shilah had gotten to know she was Queen Chaska’s sister, she quickly had a change of heart. But how was Cami Queen Chaska’s sister when she was a Vampire? Shilah thought.

Perhaps, she’d ask the King for an explanation later on. She met with the wives of the other Alphas who had come to her room with gifts. And since they weren’t meeting for the first time, it was easier for Shilah. And so did the banquet go on in a blissful manner – much more than Shilah had expected

Still in her big dress, and feeling exhausted already, Shilah walked towards the dungeon area with Dyani and a maid behind them. It was getting dark in there, and the entire place was so cold and quiet. Indeed, the prisoners were given no comfort at all. She’s been there before, so she knew exactly how it felt. “Are you sure you want to do this, Shilah? I do not see any reason why you would want to speak with that evil witch” Dyani grumbled as they got closer. Shilah took in a deep breath, her cleavages exposed and getting some hot air from the dungeon. “I just need to speak with her, Dyani. I have.... I have certain things to ask her about” She answered tiredly. “Whatever it is – I really do not like this idea. That woman doesn’t even deserve your attention. What if she tries to hurt you or something?” Dyani complained still. “And how will she possibly do that when she’s locked up in a cell?” Shilah cut her eyes half way to the sky. “Do not worry, Dyani, for I will be fine. It’s a promise” They got to the entrance of the dungeon and gained permission from the guard on duty. “You should wait here. I wish to go in alone” Shilah said to Dyani’s discomfort. “What! Are you....” “Please Dyani, trust me” she chipped in. And reluctantly, Dyani agreed to stay back And with that achieved, Shilah walked in to see Nosheba alone

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Chapter 154 The Fallen Queen

Walking alone, Shilah kept thinking of every painful experience she had to pass through for the past week. And thinking she was about meeting with the woman who was responsible for it all... 1

Her heart began to feel heavy as she got closer to the cell. And dragging her feet along, she finally did.

Tho, she had been a prisoner before, but she could hardly recognize the lady sitting in front of her. ; Dressed in torn fabrics and having the remains spewn all over the floor, the woman she used to know as a Queen sat right there, snuggled all next to the wall like she wanted to penetrate right into it. Her hair looked so rough and dirty and flopped across her face and she had her hands wrapped around her shoulders, giving her this slavery look. 1 For a while, Shilah could only

stare unbelievably at the fallen Queen. Knowing her for her elegance and a woman that was always looking so expensively beautiful, she could hardly stomach in the new look in front of her. She didn't just look physically hurt, but mentally affected too. 2 Was that Karma paying her for the evil she had done? She seemed terrible. 3 Nosheba was aware there was someone in front of her dungeon, but guessing she couldn't have any well-wishers, she didn't bother to check. Shilah, gaining her stance, took a step closer to her, "What did I ever do to deserve it?" She asked coldly, her voice sounding so different in the ears of

Nosheba. But she knew it was Shilah.

Going on, Shilah gulped. "What did I ever do to deserve the ill treatment I had gotten from you?

"I was asleep that night, when your messenger knocked on the door and deceived me into opening it. He sedated me and made me look like a whore in front of the King. Because of you, I had to pass through so much pain, humiliation, hurt. I nearly lost my life. And an innocent guard DIED because of you! 2

"Why? Is it because I was pregnant? But you've been pregnant before. Queen Chaska has been pregnant. Even Queen Dyani has a child. And you – you are currently even if the King is not responsible. So, why does mine have to be different? Why did my own turn have to create so much anger in you to the extent you risked my own life and made everyone see me as a whore? How could you be so cruel, Queen Nosheba? What did I do to deserve your hatred?" She sniffled and tried so much not to sob. And just when she tried walking away, she heard the hoarse voice.

"You're talking about hatred?" She asked, still timidly next to the wall.

"You are really talking about cruelty? What about me? I've been locked here for a day, ridiculed and mocked. Do I deserve it?" 8

"Of course, you do" Shilah scoffed.

"You set me up, Queen Nosheba, and you killed an innocent man after setting him up". "And that makes you think I deserve it?" She turned her face from the wall. "I was only fighting for my rights. You, Shilah, you are nothing but an intruder. Do you even know what I went through trying to be the King's wife? I fought tooth and nail with Chaska and thankfully, she was unable to give him the one thing he needed the most – which was a male child. I tried my best to work mine, but couldn't and I stoop so low to lay with another. Then, out of nowhere, you just came out and tried digging out what you never sowed. You started stealing the King's attention, doing things he has been unable to do for years. And you expected me to just sit and watch?" ; Shilah couldn't believe her words. "I didn't ask to be married to the King" she arched her brows "From the onset, I didn't even want to marry him. You are good at having connections; you should have known the story behind our marriage. The King married me to punish me because I violated his rule. I didn't ask for it". "Oh! Spare me the pettiness" Nosheba hissed. "Who even knows if you had broken his rule because you wanted to get his attention? You were like a snake, Shilah, and I wanted you out of the way! Tell you what – I wish you never returned. Yes; I wish you had died at

whatever place you had been. I HATE YOU, SHILAH and I wish you were out of the way! I wish you never existed!” Her voice echoed with so much pain and anger as a tear rolled down her cheek. “I know you are here to make mockery of me like the others. Probably to spit in my face before the King kills me tomorrow. Well, you’ve won! You’ve won already. So, just get out and stay away from my dungeon!! Go!! I do not ever want to see you again!! Everyone should just stay away from me!!! You! Chaska! Jadis and Raksha!! Everyone of you should stay away!!!! I hate you all!! I hate all of you!! Just go!!” She yelled hysterically and bursted into tears, her heavy heart pouring out. s Shilah stared pathetically at her. And unable to withhold it anymore, turned and ran away. 2

FROM THE AUTHOR Merry Christmas, guys. Deeply apologize for the late post. I’d been so busy with the Christmas celebration 03. 13

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Chapter 155 Stories to be told...

In the King’s chambers – which was temporarily Shilah’s room – Shilah stood in front of the mirror, brushing her wet hair while the water sizzled down on her already wet body.

She had just finished taking her bath and was covered in nothing but a body wrap that could only hide from her chest to her thighs. It was very exposing. 1 Well, she just wanted to brush her hair and get something to wear. But as she stood in front of the mirror and stared at her own reflection, she found the words of Nosheba replaying in her head and making it so difficult for her to concentrate. Every single thing; every memory made her weak.

I HATE YOU, SHILAH! she could recall the venom in her voice.

Everyone should just stay away from me!!! You! Chaska! Jadis and Raksha!! Everyone of you should stay away!!!! I hate you all!! 2 She recalled. But why did she mention Prince and Raksha and his mother? Were they among those ridiculing her as well? Or something else must have happened? , She blinked rapidly and was almost done brushing the hair when she heard the door opening; and looking through the window, she confirmed it was the King.

The King.

Her heart gave a mighty leap immediately but she tried so hard to maintain her stance and not to fret. Still dressed in his royal regalia, King Dakota halted at the door as he stared at the seductive image in front of him. Young and wet in the wrap that she had around her body, she looked really appealing to the eyes. He closed the door and walked in towards her, and when he got close enough, Shilah lowered her gaze to the floor.

"Greetings, My King" her soothing voice said, she could feel him standing so closely behind her already. King Dakota, heaving deeply, placed his hands on her bare shoulders and gently, loathed it. 2 "How are you feeling?" He asked, that icy tone of his giving Shilah some chills.

To be honest, she had missed it.

"I'm... I'm doing just great, My King" she paused and lifted her head to stare at him from the mirror.

"And you? How do you feel?"

But he only replied with a chuckle.

"Turn around, Shilah, and help me with my jacket". His beautiful gaze was on her, sending some tingles down her spine.

Help with his jacket? She gulped hard and turned around, face down.

Her soft hands went up his broad shoulders and began pulling off the jacket, carefully. And when she was done, she didn't know what to do with it but held it in her hand.

She looked into the King's eyes and found him gazing at her; not into her eyes, but at her thighs. It made her feel so nervous as her cheeks blushed embarrassingly.

No doubt, he has missed her.

"Uhm.... I will put on some clothes, My King" she stated respectfully and tried walking away, but King Dakota pulled her back by the wrist. 1

"I want you to lay this way with me – in bed" Shilah's heart skipped again when the King said those

words.

Oh ..! Why was he so demanding? 1 She bobbed her head with a hard gulp, and King Dakota walked away from her going, towards the bed. When he laid on the bed, Shilah sauntered on and joined him.

She feared the wrap might fall off her body at any time. She had been having endless encounters with the King. So, why was this feeling so different? Probably because that would be the first time they'd be having intercourse after her set up. 4

Her body grew warmer as it touched with the King's while trying to get into the bed. She laid right beside him, her head on his chest. And in reciprocal, King Dakota wrapped his hand around her, making them rest on her chest. 1

He was horny – he wouldn't deny it. But the one thing stopping him at that moment was the fact that she might be tired and he wouldn't want to do anything to harm the baby. He was ready to starve himself just to be sure the baby was safe. Perhaps, in a few days time, she'd be strong enough for it. The two adults laid quietly on the bed, both gazing up at the ceiling while their hearts communicated separately. At some point, Shilah began to feel calm – peaceful. With her head on the King's chest, she could hear his rhythmical heartbeats which sounded a little funny to her. She started getting used to his presence as her body felt more relaxed. "Did you enjoy the banquet?" He suddenly asked, breaking the lengthened silence which Shilah had been enjoying anyways. "Yes, of course" she beamed.

"Thank you so much, My King. It was an honor to meet everyone". King Dakota said nothing: but of course, Shilah knew her appreciation was accepted. Few more minutes and they were both silent again.

"When I had chased you out of the Palace" his voice broke out again.

"Where did you go? Why didn't you go to your family?" Okay, Shilah was both shocked and confused. She was shocked 'cause she wasn't expecting such question from him. And she was confused as she pondered how he had gotten to know she didn't go

r family. Oh.... perhaps, it was due to the fact that he had found her in the cave. So, thinking about the reply, she couldn't tell him her family had rejected her as she wouldn't want him to get angry and send for them to be punished. She had to cook up something else. 1 "I erm.... I didn't want to bother them, My King. I.... I felt they must've heard the news already and didn't want to look like a disappointment to them. So, I decided to go elsewhere". She replied.

"Elsewhere? And where did you go?" Dakota asked, making Shilah's head adjust on his chest.

"Well... First, I really had nowhere to go. I kept walking around in the woods until I lost strength and passed out. And when I had woken up, I found myself in an old man's house and realized he found me in the woods and took me in. He was an herbal man, was so nice to me, clothed and fed me and also gave me herbs to make me strong. He was.... actually the one who told me I was... Pregnant" she – paused and gulped nervously. The topic was always cringing for her. "I see" King Dakota mumbled with a nod. "So, what happened? Why did you leave his place and ended up in the cold cave?" Shilah bit her lower lip. "I....I had to" she muttered. "He had a son who.... tried forcing himself on me. I had to run a...."
2

"What??" King Dakota's head lifted sharply from the bed as he looked into her face.

"He did what?? What are you talking about?"

Shilah's heart skipped along with it, wondering if it was a bad idea telling him about it in the first place. His eyes roamed around her body immediately. "Did he touch you, Shilah?? What did he do to you!?"

"He...he didn't – I swear it" Shilah shook her head like a kid being chastened.

"He...he only made an attempt. But I was able to fight him off and escape. That's the reason I ended up in the cave".

With the look from the King's eyes, it was obvious King Dakota didn't look satisfied. There was just one thing stopping him from spreading her legs apart and sliding his fingers right into it to confirm. "Where does he live? First thing tomorrow, you take me to him" he grumbled. 2 What??

"No! Please, My King, there should be no need for that. It's a thing of the past now. Besides, I wouldn't want to bring pain to his father as he had done so much for me. Please, My King, for my sake, just let it slide" Shilah pleaded with her palms clasped together. 2 This was one of the major reasons she didn't want to tell the King what her family had done to her. He was too quick to anger.

And taking a deep breath, King Dakota laid back on the bed, trying to calm himself down.

"If I ever come across that fool, I will make sure I rip him apart" he gritted.

Shilah simply picked her nails as she returned back to his chest.

After a while, she decided to continue the conversations since he seemed calm.

"My King, can I ask a question?" She asked. "Of course. What is it?"

"I've been wondering. How is it possible that Queen Chaska is a wolf, yet her sister – Lady Cami – is a Vampire? What happened?" Shilah let out the confusing question.

"Oh! That?" Dakota sighed.

"Well, most people think Chaska and Cami are sisters, but they are not. Truth is – Chaska is the only female from her father. She grew up to have older brothers surrounding her. Thus, she badly needed a sister – someone she could play with and confide in.

"She was seven years of age when she met Cami- a Vampire who had lost her family and wandered into the Dark Moon Mountain – which is Chaska's origin.

"Chaska had found her crying in the woods; and when asked what the problem was, she told her she

was lonely and needed some place to stay. At that time, Cami was eight. Chaska took Cami home to her father and pleaded with him to give her some food and clothes. And as time went on, Chaska began to find so much fun with Cami and pleaded with her father to take her in as an adopted child.

"He agreed. And both children grew up as sisters – having a strong bond". He concluded. "Wow" Shilah shook her head.

"That's an interesting story. No wonder Lady Cami seems so different from Queen Chaska. She is so beautiful, calm and polite. I liked her at the banquet".

"Hm. That's true. In terms of character, Cami would be picked over Chaska. She is one with a sweet soul". Dakota confirmed, and Shilah found herself smiling to that. 1

"But, why does this rule have to exist?" She asked with a shrug. "I know what the witches did – they had refused signing the agreement. But why do they have to set that rule that prevents them from interacting with the Wolves and Vampires, including falling in love? Do you think the rule is right?" "Well.... I would say it's right because I see no reason why we should communicate with those that had refused being a part of us. The only way the rule can be broken would be if the witches would sign the agreement and be under the body of United Governance. But it's clearly impossible as even their current Queen has so much hatred for the Wolves and Vampires. So, I do not think that is something that would be happening in this lifetime". He analyzed. Shilah couldn't tell why she felt so sad hearing that. Perhaps, it would have been nice having such unity with the witches. "So ..." She went.

"For centuries, since the rule was set, it has never been broken, has it? The witches, Wolves and Vampires has always been minding their businesses in terms of love?" 1 King Dakota chuckled. "Actually, it has".

Shilah gasped immediately and lifted her head to look him in the face.

"Really??? A wolf fell in love with a witch??" She asked, finding it so hard to believe.

"Not a Wolf, but a Vampire" King Dakota corrected. 1 "Oh! So, what happened to them?" Shilah asked curiously, finding the topic crazily interesting.

And the King continued:

"Well, that was Lord Achlys.

"Lord Achlys was known to be the most powerful VampLord of his time – fierce, strong fearless. He was actually Cami's father". 8 "Cami?" Shilah cut in, confused.

"Cami's father was a VampLord?"

"Yes. And a powerful one at that" King Dakota replied. "His Mistress who was the mother of Cami had died and Lord Achlys was left to bring Cami up by himself. Cami was three years old when Lord Achlys met with the witch and fell in love with her".

"Who was the witch?" Shilah asked, her eyes beaming.

"Her name was Ayita" He replied.

"She was close friend to the Queen of Witches at that time who's name was Lura. 1 . "Ayita was almost considered a sister to Queen Lura and was her right – hand woman. Lura doesn't take decisions without Ayita; she doesn't go anywhere without Ayita. And rumours had it they were both involved in a sexual relationship.

"I do not know the deep story of how Ayita and Lord Achlys had met and fallen in love – secretly. But when the news of Ayita's pregnancy broke out, it shook the entire place.

"Ayita confirmed Lord Achlys to had been the one responsible, but Lord Achlys denied ever meeting with the witch and strongly claimed the child was not for him. Coupled with the fact that Lord Achlys was a Powerful VampLord, his people were unable to argue with him. Thus, Ayita was left alone to fight for herself. 3

"She managed to escape from where she had been locked up in the Palace, ran far away and stayed hidden until she had her child. Heard it was a baby girl. But few months later, Queen Lura had discovered her hiding place and resumed hunting her. She eventually caught up with her one night and from what I heard, Ayita had killed Lura".

"She did?" Shilah flinched, her tone getting weak. "Yes. She had to, to protect her child. It was rumoured that Ayita was more powerful than Lura". Dakota replied. 6 "Oh, my" Shilah ached. "So, she escaped?" "Well... that is something a lot of people do not know till date. Some say Ayita had died while trying to kill Lura, some said the baby had died too. But truth is, Lura's body was found on the spot; but that of Ayita and her child were never found. The witches discovered a magical map that could help in locating witches outside the Palace. The Map didn't dictate any living witch outside the Palace. Thus, the Witches believed Ayita and the baby were truly dead. Till date, nothing has been heard about them". Shilah felt a sharp sting in her chest when he rounded up the story. She had to gulp down to take it in. "I feel so sad for her" she winced.

"But why did Lord Achlys have to deny her? Didn't he love her enough?"

"I don't know. It's possible he was not ready to face the consequences of breaking the rule".

"So....what happened to him? Where is he now?"

"He's dead" his reply equally shocked Shilah.

"Lord Ryder was his second in command – very close to Lord Achlys. And there were claims that Lord Achlys had been ambushed on a journey and killed. Although, his body was never found. So, Lord Ryder being his second in command, had to take over. That was when Cami left the Palace and wandered into the Dark Moon Mountain. Years later, Lord Ryder came for her and took her as his mistress. And that's the end of the story". He concluded.

Lord Ryder – Shilah though disdainfully.

She just couldn't tell why she felt so much dislike for that man. 1

"It's so sad to know all these happened in reality" she mumbled against the King's chest.

"I feel really bad for Ayita and wish she's just somewhere... with her child. I wish they survived it. It's

so sad". 1

King Dakota scoffed and pulled her by the shoulder.

"I guess tonight was just meant to be a story night, heh?" He teased, making Shilah laugh. But as she did, she noticed a tear rolling down her cheek

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Chapter 156 Nosheba's Prosecution

Next Morning Shilah turned sleepily on the bed, yawning and stretching. The big bed felt so empty and accomodating and it was nothing new as the King had become fond of getting out of bed even before she wakes up.

But when she heard a strange sound, she felt someone in the room and quickly lifting her head to have a look, she found Pishan around the King's table. He had a bowl of strawberries with him and was moving around slowly like he didn't want to make a noise. But when he noticed Shilah awake, he let out a deep breath. 3 "Sorry I woke you up. Was trying my best not to" he said with a shrug and picked what he wanted from the table.

Oh.

"Good morning, Pishan" she sat up and itched her eyes.

"Did the King send you to get something?"

"Yes. And I already did" he showed the key to her.

"I will just get one more ..." He walked over to the wardrobe to get what he needed and as he did, Shilah couldn't help but admire his gentility. He was a fine young man and although, looked a little hard, she could tell he would make a caring lover to his woman – whoever she would be. 2

He took what he wanted from the wardrobe and turning around, Shilah's eyes caught the sight of the appetizing strawberries in his bowl.

"I'll take my leave now" Pishan said with a small smile and turned towards the door.

"Uhm.... Pishan, who owns the strawberries with you?" She asked timidly, itching the back of her neck.

"It's actually for someone in the kitchen. I'm trying to deliver it to her" Pishan replied, getting a hint of what she wanted to say.

"Okay...is it possible to.... get just a few seeds? Please?" Shilah asked, sounding so funny and making Pishan chuckle. 2

He walked towards her with the bowl and held it out. And without hesitation, Shilah dipped her hand in and fetched as much as her swollen hands could get. When she was done, she had a huge satisfactory smile on her face.

"Thank you so much" she beamed, taking two into her mouth at a time. 3

"You welcome, Pregnant Queen" Pishan chuckled and finally left. 6

Prince Raksha stood quietly in front of the window, gazing out and staring blankly at the people moving around

He looked so weak – no doubt – and frustrated as he just had a lot going on on his mind.

Queen Jadis walked in and was surprised her son didn't even realize her entrance. Seeing him that way got her so worried and wonder what was wrong. Exquisitely dressed, she walked towards him and placed her hand on his shoulder.

"Raksha, what is the problem? What troubles you?" When those familiar hands touched his shoulder, they sent some chills down his system and relaxed him a little. "I'm fine, Mother" he mumbled, taking his gaze back to the window.

"Of course, you are not, son. You look so disturbed. You should talk to me – what troubles you?" Queen

Jadis pressed on, really wanting to get the truth from him.

"How can I be at peace, Mother?" He sighed. "How can I be at peace when Nosheba will be killed by the King today?" "And how is that supposed to be of any concern to you?" Queen Jadis scoffed.

"Of course, it does, Mother" Raksha turned to face her.

“Nosheba gave me my first child; and she’s currently carrying another. I....I loved her”. 1

“Oh! Spare me that foolishness, Raksha!” Queen Jadis hissed. 2

“Nosheba deserves all that is happening to her for she brought it upon herself. She ruined everything the moment she betrayed us and tried pushing us away. She asked for the music and has to dance it alone. So, do away with this foolishness, Raksha”.

“I know, Mother; but you need to understand me as well. It won’t be so easy watching the King slit her throat when she’s pregnant with my second child. Despite the terrible things I’ve done, I still have a heart, Mother” Raksha grumbled.

“That thing in Nosheba’s womb does not belong to you, Raksha – at least, not anymore” Queen Jadis rebuked him. Henceforth, you do not have any connection with that woman. And the earlier you realize that, the better for both of us. 1

“Now, if you’re done whining like a child, you come over and help me out with something” she added and walked away.

*****jii*****

HOURS LATER

Shilah sat icily on the bed, patiently waiting for the King. She had gotten everything she needed for that morning – had been checked up on by the Midwife, given enough to eat, had her bath and changed into something nice – waiting for Nosheba’s prosecution. S She had gotten everything she needed but still, felt so incomplete as she sat there on the bed, awaiting the King to round up his dress session so they could leave together. She felt so nervous. A while later and she could hear his footsteps, coming up behind her. She pinned her gaze to the floor and didn’t try looking at him even when he stood in front of her. “Come on, Shilah; we should get going” King Dakota turned around to leave, but stopped when he noticed Shilah was lagging behind.

Sluggishly, she stood up from the bed and made a pout with her lips with her gaze still on the floor.

“What is wrong, Shilah?” King Dakota asked, concerned as he returned to her point and palmed her cheek.

“Is something bothering you?”

Shilah gave no response immediately as she maintained that pathetic face with her gaze avoiding the King’s.

But when the King pressured her, she did.

"I just....I just feel bad for Nosheba, My Kint6" she muttered. "Although, I know she did a lot of wrong and deserved anything bad she can get, I just wish.... I just wish she'd be pardoned from death. Any other punishment is accepted, but death...." s King Dakota could hardly believe his ears. He grimaced in shock and wondered if she was actually being serious. 3 "Hold on, Shilah" he scoffed, his hand falling from her cheek. "Are you joking or something?"

"Why would anyone want to free someone like Nosheba? I felt you'd be happy she was getting killed?" "I know, but.... She's pregnant" she paused and looked him in the eyes. "She's carrying an innocent child that doesn't need to pay for his mother's crime. Please, My King...." "And it seems you are forgetting you were also carrying an innocent child when she tried to kill you" King Dakota cut her off.

"How could you even ask for such a thing, Shilah? It's ridiculous".

A tear slipped Shilah's cheek, but she sniffed and wiped it off. 1

"It's fine. I just.... I just felt I could help. I'll be fine with whatever decision you take" she murmured as another tear came rolling down again.

King Dakota was gobsmacked.

Suddenly, Pishan knocked on the door and King Dakota knew it was time to go to the hall.

So, taking a deep breath, he turned to the weepy Shilah.

"Come on, now; we do not have much time. Let's go". He spoke adamantly and left the room. While Shilah reluctantly followed.

When Nosheba found two guards opening her cell, she knew deeply it was her time for her prosecution – time to get slain by the King.

For Someone that had been starved and neglected, she didn't even have the strength to struggle and just let the guards take her by the shoulders and lead her out of the cell.

She walked like a ghost in their midst – staring into space and depending on them for support – support to walk. Yes; at that moment, she felt she wouldn't even be able to walk on her own. Her eyes were just fixed into space and hardly blinking – hardly registering the people she came

across

But when it all dawned on her was when they got to the hall entrance. The fear, her plans, mistakes, regrets – everything dawned on her the moment she stepped into the hall. 8

Today, she was going to get killed by the same man she's fought so hard for. She was going to get killed in front of the very people she had tried so hard to conquer. 3

She could notice them all – same way all eyes were on her. The guards, the servants, Queen Chaska, Dyani and even some of the people from the banquet. She could notice them all – including Raksha and his mother who kept staring differently at her.

She didn't want to look at the triumphant view in Chaska's eyes; neither did she want to look at the disappointed and disgusted faces of the rest of the people around.

And finally getting to the head of the hall, she saw him – King Dakota. He was seated on the single seat while Shilah stood beside him like the top Queen – head bowed. The King's eyes seemed so dark – cold and dark. And as Nosheba approached him, her heart couldn't help but twitch on its chest. So.... Queen Nosheba was finally going to end in an humiliating way? The guards dropped her to her knees right in front of the King and she shivered as she stayed there, awaiting the dreadful moment. Prince Raksha and his mother. She couldn't let them push her into this and pay the price. If she was going down, she needed to go down with them.

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Chapter 157 His judgement

The entire hall was cold silent and focused on the King as they all wanted to know what his judgement would be

'Of course, it would be execution' many thought.

Nosheba's heart was beating rapidly. She didn't want Raksha and his mother to go unpunished. She needed to take them down with her for it was all her idea.

Tears gathered up in her eyes, but she wouldn't let them down – same way she wouldn't let them stare at anyone 3 "Guards" King Dakota's voice caused a vibration when he called out. Even Nosheba's knees shook on the floor.

"My King..!" "Two guards stepped forward and bowed to him.

King Dakota gave a pause before proceeding,

“Strip the King off her clothes” he gave the command, arising a little gasp from the crowd. 6

Nosheba flinched. Why does she have to be stripped...in the presence of everyone??

She lifted her heavy eyes from the floor to look at the King, but his gaze was too cold to behold and quickly had to take it down. Without reluctance, the guards turned towards Nosheba, lifted her up and roughly pulled all the torn dresses from her body – leaving her in her nature form. And afterwards, they made her kneel again.

It was beyond shame – Nosheba couldn’t even stare at anyone in the face. To think she was being humiliated in front of the very people that once worshiped. Did she really deserve this?!

Suddenly, her mind flashed to Shilah....

That morning she was caught in bed with Arin, she had been naked in front of everyone that had been in the room. Could it be possible King Dakota was trying to pay her back in her own coin by making her also go naked in front of everyone?
3

Well, guess she shouldn’t feel bad as she was going to get killed anyway.

“Who are your accomplices, Nosheba?” King Dakota asked, making her heart leap heavily again.

No doubt, she knew Raksha and his mother had swiftly dived into pressure. She tilted her head to their direction, wanting so bad to call their names- but the thought of her daughter’s lives being in their hands was still pricking at her. S

She’s worked with these people and knew how good they were with carrying out threats. But should her daughter be the reason she lets them go?

*She’s not important to you, Nosheba” that decisive voice whispered into her head.

“You’ve never cared for your family. Your daughter should make no difference

2

Her heart pounded heavily. She didn’t want to go down alone; she wanted revenge!!

She looked towards their direction again, then at the King and the tear finally slipped her eye as she lowered them to the floor.

“I have no accomplice” she muttered mildly, another tear rolling down.

Oh! She couldn't do it. She just couldn't. No matter how heartless she felt she was, she just realized

Whapte' 'Mis judgement she couldn't cause the death of her own daughter. She shouldn't be that heartless. She sniffed and wiped off the tear from her cheek and instantly, the King stood up with his sword. Her teary eyes left the floor to look at him, so much fear in them. She wanted to cry out, plead with him to have mercy and spare her; but she knew the King was never one to listen to petty cries and spare anyone. So, She decided to save her pleas for the other world. King Dakota lifted his sword to her neck and pressed it so hard like he wanted to slit it. Shilah winced from where she stood and threw her gaze away, not wanting to behold such sight. The rest of the people were equally looking so terrified already. "You, Nosheba" King Dakota began. "You do not deserve to be among the living. You set a pregnant woman up, and nearly cost her own daughter. You also set a guard up and led him to his death – causing pain to his family.

"You laid with another, carried his seed and made me think it was mine. Surely, you do not deserve to be among the living. You deserve a death more cruel than death itself"

He paused and pressed the sword deeper on her skin, making a cut. Nosheba was already shivering. "But for one reason, I'll let you live" he added, creating a wide gasp from the crowd. 4 Even Shilah flinched and returned her gaze to the King in surprise. The entire hall was nearly disorganized with everyone mumbling in confusion. "I'll let you live because the very woman you tried to kill, asked me to". He added, and Nosheba's teary eyes darted to Shilah immediately. 6 She was stunned.

"The very woman you set up, could not even watch you die, Nosheba. She couldn't do half of what you did to her. Now, tell me", he paused and lowered himself to her eye level.

"How do you feel about that?"

Nosheba shivered, her eyes meeting directly with the King's. For the first time, she felt the real shame. So much shame and guilt. King Dakota stood upright and returned to his seat, not seeing the other tear that rolled down Nosheba's cheek again. "Go towards her, Nosheba; and show your gratitude" he ordered coldly. "And do that on your knees". Shilah was shocked and cringed immediately.

She looked at the King and wished there was a way she could send a signal to him. But she was standing beside him and the King wasn't even looking in her direction.

Nosheba, getting all the humiliation she could get already, gathered the little courage she had left and crawled towards Shilah, dragging her knees along. Her big breasts were bouncing freely on her chest as she crawled and the thought of her vagina being exposed was hardly bothering her again. At that point, she didn't even know what else to think of. The people around made way for her until she had gotten to Shilah and found it so difficult to believe she was actually the one kneeling in front of her. More tears streaked her cheeks, and in a shaky tone, she muttered. "Thank you"

wilapiti ili mis juuyennelli Shilah's heart was melted seeing Nosheba kneeling in front of her. That was the first time a woman was ever kneeling in front of her and to think it was a Queen.. "You ... you are welcome" she answered timidly, glancing at the King to see if she could get his attention But it was obvious the King knew just how weak she was and trying to avoid her attention. "Henceforth", King Dakota spoke from his seat. "I break every ties I have with you, Nosheba. "You are no longer regarded as a Queen of this Palace, and as a member of this Mountain". Another gasp was made from the crowd; including Nosheba who flinched and swiftly looked at the King

What?

"From today onwards", he continued. "I strip you of your entitlements and ban you forever from the Wind Walker Mountain. You are not permitted to step foot here or communicate with any member for any reason. Come a day you break this rule, you shall be killed on sight, Nosheba". 3 He paused and stood up. Nosheba's hands were already trembling. Banishment? She wasn't just banished from the Palace but the Mountain as a whole? How possible?? "Guards!" King Dakota called out. "My King...!" "Escort Nosheba out of the Palace and make sure she gets to the end of the Mountain. After that, inform all the border guards and tell them to kill her on sight if she ever comes anywhere close to the boundaries of the Mountain. She is no longer worthy to be a part of us. Is that understood?" He spoke authoritatively "Yes, My King" the guards answered. And dismissively, King Dakota walked away. FROM THE AUTHOR: Nosheba was banished???0002 What are your comments? Do you think she deserved it???

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Chapter 158 Her Departure

Shilah followed the King to the room, a grateful smile on her face. She had been so scared Nosheba was going to be killed and had no idea the King was actually going to honor her wish. Although, Nosheba had done a lot of evil and deserved death; but Shilah felt she wouldn't be able to live with the fact that someone had died because of her. Besides, the poor baby in her womb also shouldn't be killed because of his mother. 4 King Dakota, icily, walked over to his wardrobe and took off his head band before taking off his jacket. Shilah noticed he had been avoiding her gaze. "Thank you so much, My King, for honoring my wish. I'm truly grateful" she spoke elatedly, but the King gave no reply. Huh?

He continued taking off his regalia while moving about like no one was talking to him. "You...you must be tired, My King. Should I make you some tea to put you to sleep?" Shilah asked, but still got no reply from him. Hold on; was he ignoring her? "What did I do wrong?" She asked calmly. "I badly wanted to use my sword on her, Shilah. And I am not happy you stopped me" the King gritted.

Oh...

Shilah stared down at the floor, wondering if she was meant to feel guilty or not. "But... You already banished her. I think that's fair enough...." 1

"Fair?" King Dakota turned to look at her. "Do you think I'd ever forgive myself if I had ended up killing you and later found out you were innocent? Or do you think I've gotten over killing that guard when he did nothing wrong? Tell me, Shilah". 4 Shilah could see the pain in his eyes. Would it have been best if she had let Nosheba get killed?

She took her gaze to the floor and unable to say anything, King Dakota walked away to the bathroom.

Shilah left the room sombrely, still thinking about the whole scenario. She was still shocked that Nosheba had gotten banished. When the King had announced sparing her life, she had expected him to either have her whipped, tied up, chased out of the Palace – anything else. But banishment?? It definitely wasn't on her list.

Well, she didn't feel bad for her. Aside death, Nosheba deserved anything worst and banishment was definitely one of them. At least, she still got punished. 1

Lost in thoughts, Shilah didn't realize the lady coming in front of her and had nearly bumped into her.

"Hey! Be careful" she called out her attention, and that was when Shilah jolted back to reality, realizing it was Lady Cami.

Lady Cami! Queen Chaska's sister.

Oh...

She still hadn't left? Well, almost everyone from the banquet had left already.

"Oh! Please, forgive me. I'm so sorry for being careless" Shilah lowered her head in respect

immediately "Please, it's fine. You do not have to be sorry" Cami held her shoulders mildly. And when Shilah looked into her eyes, she realized just how beautiful they were. Indeed, she was so different from Queen Chaska.

"You look troubled. Are you okay?" Cami went ahead to ask.

"Of.... Of course. I'll be fine. Thank you" Shilah bowed again. "Are you sure? Besides, you shouldn't be moving around this way with your condition. Don't you have maids? You should be resting". Cami suggested.

"Oh! Please do not worry about me. I was just on my way to the kitchen. I...."
"Cami?" A familiar voice interrupted them, and both ladies turning in unison, they discovered it was Chaska. That deadly look on Chaska's face reminded Shilah she shouldn't be communicating with her sister. After what happened with Nosheba,

she really didn't want to have anything to do with someone like Chaska. "Thank you so much for your care, Lady Cami. I'll be on my way now" she bowed again and left. Cami went afterwards to meet with Chaska.

"What were you doing with her?" Chaska asked, having that disgusted look on her face.

"Nothing serious. She was absent minded and had nearly bumped into me. So, I was trying to know if she wasn't okay or not" Cami answered with a light smile.

"Really?" Chaska scoffed.

"I really do not think her wellbeing should be your concern, Cami. If I had been in your shoes, I'd have pushed her off the balcony". She hissed and started walking away, while Cami followed. 4

"Lord Ryder and I will be leaving tonight" Cami said along the walk, but Chaska replied nothing.

"So, how do you feel, Chaska? Now Nosheba is gone? I still cannot believe she was banished". "Well, I feel better. Although, I had been expecting the King to execute her, but since he allowed Shilah get to him, banishment is still fair enough. Now, I have just Shilah to contend with" she smirked. "I keep telling you this, Chaska; you don't have to fight anyone. You don't have to get your hands dirty. Just continue praying to the goddess and watch them fight your enemies. 2 "Take a look at Nosheba, you weren't even involved, but she got banished. So, keep praying and if Shilah is meant to be out of the way, then she would be". Cami advised. "Whatever" Chaska rolled her eyes. "Of course, I will keep praying. But one thing is for sure and that is the fact that I am never going to be the loser. Shilah shouldn't be much of a problem like Nosheba was. So, I think she should be easier to deal with".

They continued walking, and Cami, knowing her sister wasn't one to be argued with, just let it slide. *****

Nosheba kept staring at her baby's face as she walked under the very hot sun with the guards behind

her Pitied by a woman she had met outside the Palace, she had gotten a cloth to wear. It was a wretched shabby cloth that not even a maid would've been able to wear beside her. And it was so impossible to believe she was now putting it on. She had also been able to get some water and a piece of cake. But she still felt weak and was sure of going hungry soon due to her condition. With the sun glaring at her face, Nosheba didn't care but kept staring at her baby girl who had her pretty eyes open and seemed to stare back at her The baby had been handed to her just before the guards escorted her out of the Palace and it was obvious the King didn't want another man's child growing up in his Palace. 1 But where does she go from there? How does she start a life with her child? What if the baby does not survive? Surely, she shouldn't subject her daughter to such treatment. What could she possibly do to help?

The route was getting longer. And suddenly, she stopped walking and turned to face the guards. The alerted guards were about pulling out their weapons, but Nosheba's expression stopped them. "Please.... Can I ask for a favour from you?" She requested, hoping for a positive reply. "What favour?" One of the guards asked sternly, and Nosheba looked at her baby. "Is it possible to.... Take my baby to my father's house so he could take care of her?" She asked morosely. "Our orders are to take you to to the end of the Mountain. We're sorry but we cannot grant your request" the second guard replied. "Oh! Please, I beg of you. My baby does not deserve to suffer along with me. Besides.... I am the only one who got banished, right? Then, I do not think my baby should come along. Please, just do me this last wish, I beg you". She pleaded. 4 And after much persuasion, the guards finally agreed.

As Queen Nosheba walked into her father's compound, she kept thinking of how terrible her life had become. Some days ago, she had walked into her father's compound as a Queen; and it was so

unfortunate to know she was now going in as a banished wolf.

Her heart beat rapidly as she approached the doorstep, and getting there, it made her realize she might never see her daughters again. Sadly, her children would grow up not knowing someone like her.

She stared passionately at her baby's face and kissed her forehead before carefully placing her on the floor – right in front of the door.

She couldn't even afford to see her father, or Etta.

Of course! How does she face them, when few days ago, she had been there to rub her victory on their faces? How does she face her father who must've confirmed she was indeed, a liar? Just how? 2

She sniffed and turned around to leave, leaving the baby on the floor. But suddenly, the door went open with Etta coming out.

She had sensed the noise and was shocked to find Nosheba, and the baby on the floor.

Her head got confused, noticing the guards as well. She was aware of Nosheba's predicament and knew she had been locked up. So, seeing her there with the guards and the baby on the floor got her

really confused; she had a lot of questions to ask. Nosheba's heart grew weaker as Etta stared at her like that. She had always wanted to prove her superiority to this woman and it was so unfortunate that she turned a loser. "There is no time. Let's go" the guards urged from behind. And soberly, Nosheba turned to leave with them. "Nosheba?" Etta called, and she turned to look at her again. This time around, Etta had picked up the baby. "Wh... Where are you going? What's happening?" She asked, but Nosheba could give no reply. And without saying a word, she turned and left with the guards

After a very long walk, they finally got to the borders just when Nosheba was almost losing strength. She looked around the deserted land, and looked back to the place she used to call home. "This is the end of the road" The first guard announced. "We wish you luck". He afterwards, left with his partner. Nosheba finally let out a painful tear and dipped her hand into her dry hair. Where does she go from there? How does she survive? Which Mountain would even accept her? 2 Her story was flying all around already and she was sure no Mountain would take her in. To start with, how would a former Queen like her, go in and start life with commoners? How does she blend into this new identity she had just received

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Chapter 159

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Chapter 159 Pishan's Request

AT THE WITCHES PALACE A Sukie fixed in the last cloth into her bag before tying it up. And as she did, she couldn't help thinking

about Pishan.

Had he gotten her letter? Was he going to honor her request and come over? But, why didn't he write back to her? 7 What was she even doing? Perhaps, it was a bad idea sending him that letter afterall. Maybe, she shouldn't have asked him to come over to her vacation with the Queen. What if they end up getting caught?

Well, she couldn't tell why, she just wanted to see him.

A soft knock came on her door and jolted her out of her thoughts.

"Who is it?" She asked as she tied up her bag.

And when the door went open, it turned out to be Remata.

Sukie paused and glared at her, especially at the grin she was wearing on her face.

"What are you doing here?" She asked grumpily, making Remata scoff.

"I am not here for trouble, Sukie. The Queen only sent me to tell you she's waiting outside and needs you to come out already" She replied, leaning on the edge of the door.

"Message received. You can leave now" Sukie said hoarsely, and with a chuckle, Remata left the room.

Now alone in the room, Sukie took in a deep breath and placed her bag over her shoulder. That lady was always getting on her nerves and she couldn't wait for the perfect time to give her what she deserves. 3 She went out of the room, locked her door and walked down the hallway to meet the Queen. On the other hand, she was really excited about going for the vacation as it would be her first. She felt it would be fun taking a look around the other villages, drinking some wine, eating as much as she wanted and sleeping for a very long time. She just couldn't wait to experience it all. Her eyes were staring at the floor until she had gotten outside where she found the Queen getting ready to climb her big white horse. Oh. Sukie could confess she looked so beautiful in her long red garment with it's hoodie over her head. The Supreme Sister has always been a pretty Queen, but sometimes, Sukie felt it was just too much for her.

She budged forward to meet them and getting close, the other sisters around kept greeting respectfully. Even Remata were there.

Well, since the vacation was announced, Sukie had been gaining so much respect as her relationship with the Queen became so obvious. They all felt she was as important as the Queen since she was her lover.

"What took you so long, Sukie?" Kylie asked, already on her horse.

The dark shades just below her eye lids were so perfect for her.

"Forgive me, Supreme Sister. I had a lot of things to put in place" Sukie bowed respectfully and Kylie sighed.

"That is fine. Get on the horse" she say, and without being told, Sukie rightly took her own horse which was just behind the Queen. The two sisters who were meant to accompany them as protectors, climbed onto their own horses as well. But it muddled Sukie when Remata also took her own horse. "What are you doing?" Sukie asked with a repudiating glare. "Oh. I am actually coning along" Remata smiled. 5 And Sukie couldn't believe her heavy ears. What?? "Y.... You are?" She stuttered.

"Sorry for not telling you in time, Sukie" Kylie said from her horse.

"She came to me this morning and gave me some good reasons she should come along. Do not worry,

she won't cause any trouble".

And pulling the tie of her horse, she started riding out. The two other sisters followed, and with Sukie and Remata left behind; Remata smirked at her and rode on as well. 2 "That demon!" Sukie thought angrily. She couldn't believe she had gone behind her back to convince the Queen into letting her join the vacation. How dare she!? That lady was too sneaky and if Pishan were to come around, Sukie was scared she might just discover it. Now, she was beginning to hope Pishan wouldn't come. Else, there might be a problem. 3

DAKOTA'S PALACE

King Dakota was trying to concentrate on the numerous messages he had on his desk. His head had been heavy for some days now, and his muscles tired. But he still needed to work. 1

Son

Some parts of the Fire Wing Mountain were experiencing some land dryness as their crops had refused to grow. He needed to find a solution to that as they were all part of his governance. Then, he also had one of the Vampire Clutches to settle disputes with. A fight was going on between the leaders and he needed to make sure it doesn't get out of hand. He was scribbling down on a blank page when a knock came on the door and he knew it was Pishan. Well, Pishan had been fond of knocking ever since Shilah moved into his room.

"Come in" he answered, and Pishan entered immediately, looking really calm. His eyes went round the room and was relieved he didn't find Shilah in. He had with the King

"Greetings, Alpha King" he bowed.

With the look on his face, it was obvious he was about making a request. "What is the problem, Pishan?" King Dakota asked, dropping his inked feather. 4

He was always too straight to the point – Pishan thought.

"Uhm.. there is no problem, actually" he cleared his throat and crossed his hands at his back.

"I just.... came to inform you, and equally seek your permission. I might be gone for some days, and would have to leave by first light".

King Dakota arched his brows. "Why? Where are you going?" He inquired. He couldn't recall the last time Pishan made such request. "I just have some important things to handle, My King and would very much appreciate it if they were kept personal. We could say .. I need a little break to clear my head" he enthused. Pishan knew there was no way he could reveal the truth to the King. Despite how close they were, he knew King Dakota would never allow him go to see Sukie when she's with the Queen of Witches. "And how many days are we talking about here?" He asked. "Well... Perhaps, three days". He bowed. The King looked displeased; but he'd agree his Physician really needed a break. 1 "That's fine, then" he took up his feather. "You have my permission". Pishan's heart beamed. 12 "Thank you so much, Alpha King'. He was all smiles. "I'll go get ready right away". King Dakota simply waved, and he bowed and left the room.

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Chapter 160 Intimacy

The room was cozy in the cool of the evening; soft breeze wafted in through the windows and blew the curtains with some freshness. It was so windy – materials on the floor blew around at some point – and one could guess it might rain soon. With the atmosphere already dark, it gave the room some dimness as just a single lantern was lit on the table. And perhaps, that was how King Dakota wanted it. 1 He stood in front of the window, staring into the dark and having just one thought in his mind – the one thought such weather always brought along. Years after his mother's demise, he's been trying so hard not to think of her in order to stay strong; but each time the weather gets windy, he couldn't help but have a glimpse of those memories. 3 It had rained on the very night she was killed. After chasing after the strange killer and ending up killing a servant of the goddess, it had rained heavily. It had happened on a dry season – one reason everyone was confused about the rain as it wasn't meant to pour at that time. King Dakota could remember holding his mother's corpse while he cried on his knees – under the rain. He could remember getting beaten by his father's guards that very night – under the rain. 1 And progressively, he got to realize the rain was probably a symbol of his curse from the Moon goddess. He had gotten cursed with the rain.

There was a soft knock on the door, one that made him realize he had gone so deep into thinking.

He sighed and brushed his fingers into his hair.

"Come in" he answered, guessing it was Pishan. +

Pishan had left for his journey already. And since it was late, he felt it could only be Shilah.

The door went opened, and taking a backward glance, it turned out to be indeed, Shilah. But she wasn't alone.

She had about two maids with her that held two trays of food; while herself, she held a covered cup.

King Dakota stared in a little bit of confusion, recalling he never asked for food. Tho, he was hungry; but he knew he wouldn't be able to eat at that moment and didn't ask. 2

"Greetings, My King" the servants bowed and proceeded to drop the trays on the table.

They knew they didn't have to wait for the King to respond first as he could grow cold at times.

Done dropping the trays, they received the go-ahead signal from Shilah, then bowed and left the room. "I brought dinner for you, My King" Shilah said as she dropped her own cup on the table. "I realized you haven't eaten since I returned and felt that wasn't good for you. So,...." "For me?" King Dakota cut in. "I didn't request for food, Shilah" "Y... Yes, I know you didn't. But..." She paused and moved her hair backwards.

"I think you really need it. I also made you some tea to put you to sleep once you're done eating".

She felt a little cringy talking to him as that was their first conversation since the last time he showed anger towards letting Nosheba go.

She dropped her countenance and walked towards him, the cold wind from the windows wanting to make her dizzy. "You know that cannot be achieved, Shilah; Not unless we copulate" King Dakota mumbled. "I ... I know" she swallowed hard. "And I've always been fulfilling that duty, My King. Unless..." She lowered her eyes to the floor, pitifully.

"...you're still angry at me".

Her pathetic face got King Dakota solicitous. "Of... Of course, not Shilah" her forced himself to say.

"The only reason I do not want to touch you is simply because I don't want to hurt you, or the baby".

Shilah lifted her gaze to look at him.

"T... The baby is doing just fine, My King. And I am equally fine. I do not think that should be a problem, My King" she ended it with her eyes on the floor again.

Was she ever going to get used to this?

"Are you sure?" King Dakota asked after a little bit of silence, and Shilah nodded without looking at him.

Perhaps, he needed a warm body beneath him for the evening – King Dakota thought.

Shilah's heart suddenly started pounding heavily in her chest – recalling how long it had been since the King last touched her. Hopefully, he should remember to be gentle enough. She felt his cold hard hands suddenly hold her cheeks, prompting her eyes to look up at him. And next thing that tripped her off, was when he placed his lips on hers. Precious Selene! The Alpha King was kissing her! Having his lips on hers! Was she dreaming??? Her eyes brightly went opened as she couldn't believe the act happening right at her! She never thought the King could kiss! And never thought the King would kiss her. That was actually her first kiss!

Her hands froze and shook beside her, she had to place them somewhere, and his shoulders were the closest alternative.

It felt so strange to her – the kiss – but at the same time, it equally felt soothing.

He took the kiss so gently, parting her lips with his tongue and taking all the essence he could get from her mouth. Shilah had to quickly practice on holding her breath for so long as she discovered it required that. She finally got a chance to breath when the King left her mouth and took her bottom lip instead, sucking it so seductively. He suckled it like a nipple and took the upper lip afterwards. Shilah was gobsmacked and got lost in the kiss – enjoying every bit of it and all the flavors she equally got from the King's lips. He dived into her mouth again, this time around, making their tongues waggle and Shilah's short breath echo into his. She flinched when he bit her tongue, and slowly, he began pushing her backwards – bit by bit until she hit the edge of the bed. And that was when he cut the kiss and carried her into the bed.

Shilah found herself wanting him so much! Wanting to do anything with him, and for him. 2

She opened her arms for him to lay in, but he didn't – as he focused on taking off her clothes. He stripped her off in no time, but wouldn't let her do his as he was so much in a hurry to go deep into her.

Oh! Even the moon would bear him witness of just how much he has missed her!

Touching her pelvic, he realized just how wet she was already and was thankful it made everything so easy for him. Shilah was already panting heavily, her heart nearly feeling like she wouldn't survive without the King at that moment. Her breath hitched when she felt the tip of his manhood, hit against her pelvic. She closed her eyes, licked her bottom lip and awaited the penetration. And fjnslly, the King penetrated into her.

Her hand flew over to his back as she had almost forgotten what penetration felt like. She had nearly forgotten that insane feeling that came with it. And for King Dakota, he felt like exploding right inside of her. She felt so tight and squeezed him as he felt the warmth of her vagina. It had only been some days and she had tightened up this much? That only proved her innocence the more. 3 His hands gripped her hair roughly, pulling them hard while trying to maintain his sanity that she was pregnant. He kept his manhood stuck into her without moving and that was because he was trying so hard to calm himself so he doesn't have to thrust in roughly. Because at that point, he was on the verge of tearing her apart. Shilah let out short whimpers, trying to adjust into the King's size as he rested inside of her. She had fought through the pain already and was now awaiting the pleasure. But why wasn't he moving? Oh! She wanted him so badly. Finally, he got his control switch and thrust out of her, then went right in – as gently as possible. 4 Soothing moans racked Shilah's throat as she wrapped her hand tightly around his back, pulling him closer to her chest. 3 Her legs were perfectly opened, and the feel of his thighs hitting against hers made her shiver. There was a thunder roar in the sky, and instantly, it began. And as it did, King Dakota found himself increasing his pace bit by bit. 6 The wind had turned off the litted lamp in the room, making it impossible for them to even see their faces as the room had

gone completely dark. 1 Shilah's moans echoed in the room, enjoying the King's length stroking in and out of her tight walls. Oh! It was a feeling she had craved so much! A feeling she had always wanted to have for the past

Releasing her hair and tracing her lips, King Dakota locked his lips on hers, making her moan the rest of the time into his mouth.