

The Alpha's Rejected Bride Chapter 41

As my eyes open the next morning, I met two beautiful ones staring at me. It was the best way to start the morning.

" Good morning, baby," I kiss the boy, he smiles and I place kisses over his face. The first agenda of the day is to take him to the hospital to run tests to see if he's in good health.

I get up and leave him in bed, he fussed a bit but I assured him I'll be back. I go in the shower and pick my outfit today since I have no time to wait for the girls.

I brush my hair while he plays on my fluffy carpet in my closet. I'm wearing a maxi dress, heels and a warm red sweater. I grab the baby from the floor and take him to the bathroom. Just as I watched Meredith give him a bath I do as well, for a child, he is strong and hits the water a lot. He giggles sweetly when I squeal.

He cried for a while when I got him out.

I get him ready with the few baby clothes Meredith brought last night. A sleeve red hoodie and long pants and socks.

The door opens just as I finish getting him ready.

Rhodes and Meredith come in, they smile and greet us.

After feeding the baby, I sigh and carry him.

" The king wants to see you," Rhodes informs me, she looks worried. I nod and follow her out. I'm nervous as I walk and I only hold the child tighter.

She has led me to the queen's apartment. I enter and it's just as I remember. Calm and beautiful.

Rhodes is by my side and I walk to the dining area. The royal couple, Enol and Jasper are there. I bow my head and greet them. Enol and the queen get up to see the child in my arms.

" He is precious," she cries. I smile and let her carry him. I notice she is looking at me as I instruct her how to hold him properly so that he is comfortable.

She laughs " I raised three boys," I blush embarrassed, me out here being all protective over a baby that isn't mine.

" Look at Lucy being all mama and stuff," Enol laughs,

I glare at him playfully.

"Let's eat," The king announces, he looks worried just like Jasper. Rhodes gets the baby from me and disappears into one of the rooms.

As we eat I can feel tension building up, what is my godfather going to say? I glance at Jasper but he gives me an encouraging smile. It doesn't reach his eyes though.

The king clears his throat and speaks in a deep voice.

"What you did last night was dangerous and reckless,"

I knew I'd get a scolding. I'm sure Jasper already told them everything.

"I'm sorry," I apologize timidly.

"Child what were you thinking leaving our border?!"

I smile awkwardly "technically I was still in the territory, just closer to the border and I'm sorry godfather but I just couldn't ignore a child in danger," I say.

"You have a kind heart but your safety should always be a priority,"

After spending the first ten minutes of breakfast being scolded for neglecting my safety, they stop.

"I can't believe you fought demons without me," Enol sounds upset. He is glaring at his brother.

"It wasn't much of a fight," Jasper says with a smug expression on his face.

"What happens to the baby now?" I ask.

Their faces fall "we have to hand the baby to the bureaucracy, he can't stay among us," the king explains.

"Why?" It's Enol who asks.

"We don't know what he is but one thing I'm sure of is that he's no wolf," the queen answers. I feel my eyes water but I push back my tears.

"I can't just let him go," I declare. Jasper wants to say something but I cut him. I explain to them how I feel about this time. Pisces and I can't let him go. The king is in deep thoughts.

" I understand but my dear we can't keep him, if he grows up in this city, we have to convince the bureaucracy. That child will have to learn to live with werewolves, people will be wary and Lucy no," he's solemn.

I understand the fear they have but they are powerful, if they can declare that the child won't be treated as an outsider, they will listen.

I convinced them a while longer until their resolve start to weaken.

" So you're okay with the child being at an orphanage here in the city?"

The queen asks, scrutinizing me. It's like she already knows what I feel for the baby. I can't let him go from me.

"I was thinking of caring for the child, if we don't find his parents of course," I suggest. They look shocked, everyone has frozen. Suddenly a loud chuckle resonates at the end of the table.

" My dear, now the council will sure hate that idea more than letting him grow up in the pack!" he sounds amused. From how he's talking about the court, it's like he enjoys pushing their buttons.

" Martias will fume," The queen laugh, according to them, he is the one who controls what gets published in the press. He's in charge of maintaining the royal image and communicating to the public.

" I can imagine the tabloids, the royal family adopts an unknown child,"

" Are they becoming weak? Or prince Rayan has an illegitimate son,"

" Or they might think he's yours, Dad," Enol chimes, and the queen low key growls.

They are laughing at the stories that will arise over this matter. I'm glad didn't vehemently oppose my idea about keeping the baby.

The king says seriously

" If the bureaucracy allow the child to stay, of course, he's welcome in our family!"

" Really! Aah!" The queen squeals, clapping her hands in excitement like a child. My godfather smiles as he looks at her happy face.

" What does Rayan think about all these, you too will be the kid's parents, right?" Jasper asks. He has a sly expression on his face. He knows very well I'm avoiding his brother since last night!

” We won’t act, it sounds so wrong. We will be his guardian and if Rayan agrees, we can be his parents, legally,” I tell him

” Is he as excited as you are?” The king narrows his gaze.

” I haven’t talked to him about it yet,”

” Oh,”

I haven’t even told him about my encounter with demons, let alone that I plan to keep the child.

I don’t know how he will react. Will he reject him? What about me? I don’t know what will happen but what am sure of is that this child is not leaving my side.

The rest of the day we go to the hospital to test the baby, he is in perfect health, thank goddess. Everyone is gushing at how cute he is, luckily they don’t ask too many questions.

Around noon, I go home to change since Japer has booked me a meeting with the bureau. I wear a white elegant suit and brown heels, pearl earrings and I let my hair down.

I leave the baby with Meredith and Arabella as I meet Jasper and Enol at the skyscrapers in the city, that is where the bureau is.

I greet the princes and I breathe in as we enter the elevator.

” You look beautiful, as always,” Jasper compliments, I smile a little flustered.

The elevator stops and we walk into an all-white corridor, and on the sides are desks where people are working smartly.

They are reacting to the princes presence by standing and bowing.

We enter another room where a woman and three men are.

The room is spacious and cool. There is a rectangle table and black office chairs around it.

They get to their feet and bow. I assess every one of them, they look serious.

I notice general Illinois is among them. He sends a small smile my way and I nod to acknowledge him.

Why do I feel like I’m in a supreme court right now, I’m shivering a little, I wish Rayan was here to strengthen me.

After exchanging quick pleasantries and an introduction, I learn that the bureau consists of five members.

The head guard, Miss Maryanne is tall and beautiful, no one would tell she is a commander of the guard.

We also have the Public relations director Martias, who acts as a vessel between the civilians and the council then there is general Illinois, next to him is Senator Chien who is non-other than Olivia's father, and lastly the queen, but her position has been vacant because of her illness.

We take our seats and the meeting commerce.

The head guard gets to her feet and bows to me before speaking. I'm shocked to receive such curtsey.

" So, the general told us what happened last night, and let me start by apologizing to you for the situation. As the head of the guards, I failed and risked your life," she breaths. I don't know what to say.

" Of course you did. If I wasn't with lady Lucy, who knows what could have happened? You know she's the future Queen right?" Jasper is scolding her.

" We shall tighten security on every inch of the territory, sir. Forgive me," she's sounds agitated but polite.

" Well, it's Rayan you will have to deal with if he hears of this," Enol hiss.

" We believe they only made it this far because they were looking for the child," General Illinois says.

" That's why we are here," Jasper looks at me. I clear my throat and start.

" I understand non-werewolves can't be permanent residents in the city, but I was asking you to make an exception for the child we found last night. We have no leads as to where his biological parents,"

The room is silent as I plead my case, they each Look at me with indecipherable expressions on their face.

The senator, Mr. Chien has a grimace on his face.

" And tell the people what? That their future Queen wants someone of non-royal blood to take the throne after his highness Rayan?" He spat.

I close my eyes, he misunderstood me

" This isn't about the crown. This child has nothing to do with it,"

I say sharply. I just want them to let the child stay in the royal city.

" We are having a hard time convincing the people that their next queen is... Well, wolfless? The baby will further complicate issues, my lady," old man Martias speaks politely, caressing his almost graybeards.

" But I see no problem in letting the child stay," The head guard smiles.

" This is Absurd! Why are we even discussing this? The child must be sent to the academy, we are the bureaucracy. We have important matters to discuss than this," senator Chien's voice is sharp and irritating, I see where Olivia gets it now. I'm glaring at the man, it was obvious he doesn't like me.

So far it's a tie, general Illinois and Maryanne are fine with having the child stay while the other two are opposed to it. Martias is only concerned that it will make me look bad to the public that I'm trying to let other species be permanent residents which might bring confusion. I understand his concerns and appreciate but honestly, the only thing I care about is that the baby stays.

And senator Is just been difficult.

I smile a little as the idea plays in me. The queen is unwell so she is absent but if I can take her place at the table, I can vote in favor of my idea.

As the members discuss and argue the two princes are staying away from the issue, I hit the table to get their attention and

get to my feet. They are looking expectantly at me and I feel empowered.

" We are missing one vote to finalize the ruling," I say.

" The queen is unwell and stopped working so, it's a tie. I guess we have to take this issue to the court," The senator Snickers.

I can't let them do that. Many will object to letting the baby stay, people fear what they don't know.

" Well, as Prince's Rayan's mate and your future Queen, I think it's time I take up some duties in the city to learn the ropes, and what better way than starting with the bureaucracy. I need to learn the do's and don'ts," I smile tightly at them. In the corner of my eye, I see Enol and Jasper approve with a curt nod. The senator looks furiously at me.

" No, you haven't been engaged. A human just can't get a seat at the table!" He growls.

Jasper gets to his feet but I raise my hand at him, I need no defending from this bitter man.

I scoff and put a hand on my hip.

” A human you say? Need I remind everyone here that my father was not only a powerful alpha but a councilman, a man of the court,” They are all silent.

“These positions are passed down from generation to generation so as his only child I have a right to be part of the council and I chose this particular spot, it’s fine because I was to take it anyway, why not sooner than later?”

” True,” General Illinois shrugs. I walk closer to senator Chien, place my hands on the table and face him.

” And I’m not a human, I have alpha blood flowing in my veins, I’m mated to the crown prince of all werewolves and I’m your future Queen hence won’t tolerate any insubordination or Intimidation from my subjects,”

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I’m smiling as I leave the room. They were shocked at how I handled the situation. Even, I’m still surprised where the strength came from to talk to the senator like that. With me on the table, they have agreed to let the baby stay in the city.

I only let out a breath when I get into step out of the elevator to the first floor. The car is already waiting for us at the exit.

” Wow, that was amazing,” Enol beams. Jasper agrees but for some reason no words leave my mouth. I’m still in shock I guess.

” Yes, princess. You did a very good job. Rayan will be proud as we are,” Jasper adds. I don’t know how to answer him for his kind words

My heart is overwhelmed with happiness that they are not sending the baby at that awful supernatural academy.

I let out a bloody scream in excitement ” yes!”

Both the princes are smiling at me. Instead of goin straight at the mall.

” Where are we going?” They ask.

” To shop for the baby!” I announce happily now that all my anxiety has completely gone.

Enol and I goggle everything we need for the baby. Jasper is just looking around with a bored expression on his face while driving the cart.

We go store by store shopping, a get a baby monitor, Baby clothes and so many things. Everything we take we left, Enol says they will deliver everything at the castle.

I even picked out clothes for him and creams.

After three hours, the boys are complaining of hunger while I’m so excited and energetic. We have gotten everything and more. I can’t wait to arrange his closet and new room.

” Damn, we didn’t get a crib,” I say as we exit

Jasper looks like he’s about to cry at this point but I still drag him to one of the stores on the third floor.

I ask the assistant which one is best, they all look very neat and stable.

” What about this one?” I point at the one that catches my eye.

The salesman smiles and start to explain

” This crib is crafted completely from nontoxic clear acrylic. The unique piece is also environmentally-friendly – the whole thing can be recycled when baby gets too big,”

He says. ” And it’s only \$2000,” he adds at last with a huge smile.

I like it so we take it. The boys were complaining about hunger so I suggested to have something at Starbucks but the princes refused, instead, Enol took us to a private restuarant in the city, the place is very nice and the food is delicious. I FaceTime Meredith, she said the baby was fussing a little but he’s sleeping now.

” Why didn’t you call me?” I ask. I’m beginning to worry now. Maybe he’s crying and she just doesn’t want to tell me.

” I knew you were at the bureau and didn’t want to disturb you,” she says.

” By the way, the decorators are done working on his new room,” she informs me.

Earlier before leaving I asked Rhodes to ask people and fix his room, the room won’t be far from my suite.

I was told that the man is an expert and will do an amazing job. I want the baby to have the best, I want him to have love, care and security.

We discuss a while longer but have to cut it short when I notice the siblings are looking at me.

” What?” I swallow. Jasper shakes his head and continues with his soup.

” Wow, you are really taking this seriously?”

I’m surprised that enol would say that. Did they think it’s a joke.

I somehow take offense to that. I eat and later we leave. During my ride home I keep looking at the phone, I know what I need to know. Talk to Rayan but I’m hesitant. What if he doesn’t want the baby as much as I do?

‘ he will, have you seen that kid?’ Pisces says confidently. Speaking of which, he still needs a name.

We reach the castle. I thank the princes politely before going into the house. As soon as I step foot inside. I’m pulled into a searing kiss. I smile against Rayan’s lips and wrap my arms around him into a tight hug. I didn’t know he was coming today!

” I miss you,” I whisper. He kisses and inhales my hair

” As did I, my princess,”

We pull apart finally with a clearing of the throat. Jasper is watching.

” Hi, girlfriend!” He waves.

” Boyfriend,” I smile. Rayan growls playfully at his beta.

The squeals of the baby snap our attention upstairs. I bite my lips anxiously. They are confused.

” Baby mamas showing up with babies,” Darren is teasing him. Rayan growls and pulls me close to him.

” The only baby mama I plan to have is this beauty here,”

I’m flustered by Rayan’s words and close my face with my hands. How can he be so sweet.

” Aaw. She’s shy. How cute,” Darren muses.

” Seriously though. Isn’t that a baby?”

"It is," I answer timidly. He slowly pulls away from me and gives a confused look. Before I can utter a word, Meredith comes into the room with a smile. She gives me the baby. I kiss him and he is so excited to see me. He lays his head on my chest.

"Um, a baby?"

"Wanna hold him?" I ask look at the bundle of joy in my arms, he seems so calm

"No, I'm not good with kids, I've never even held one," Rayan says, I noticed he stepped away when I asked if he can hold the baby.

"This will be fun," jasper sighs. He seems to be enjoying this too much.

"Explain,"

"Let's sit,"

"Give the.. child back to their owner," he looks nervous. Oops.

Enol also walks in. He is smiling so much while eating an apple.

"That's it, she is the owner," he laughs. I glare at the youngest prince

"Leave, please,"

He simply shakes his head

"Elaborate," Rayan looks scared and agitated now. I would laugh at his expression if it weren't a serious issue

"Can you guys excuse us, please?" I ask. They frown and leave the main room, leaving us three. I take a seat and put the baby on my lap. He's making baby sounds and his fingers are in my hair.

"So, while you were gone, I .. I.." I can't speak properly. Stop looking at me like that. I'm so nervous.

"What happened while I was away,"

"Look on my way back to work, I found this child in the woods, and took him home," I say very fast, leaving out how we were attacked by demons and they were looking for the baby. Rayan looks livid and gets up from his seat.

"You were attacked by what?!" I squint my eyes, did he hear my thoughts? I know mates can hear thoughts each other's thought or emotions once the bond is at its peak but it's too early!

" Did you hear my thoughts?" I ask softly, he nods a little bit unsure. He also looks perplexed.

" I think. But it's... Isn't it.. that's not the issue here. Why didn't you tell me you were attacked by demons and since when do people keep things from me?"

The baby in my arms start to fuss a little, is he sensing Rayan's anger?

Even Rayan is now looking at the baby.

" Please relax, I think he's sensing tension," he sits and look into my eyes. I brace myself and begins to tell him everything that happened, as I continue his facial expression softens and he comes next to me.

He caresses my cheek and ask.

" Are you okay? Gosh, I worry about you,"

" I am,"

We are silent. He's gaze on me is enough to make my body warm. I carefully hold his collar and connect his lips to mine. The kiss is gentle, his lips taste even better than I remember.

" I'm proud of you," he whispers, his eyes are closed and our foreheads are touching.

" Rayan, this baby and I are connected, he needs me that's why I found him.... He's my gift from the goddess," my voice is soft. He nods against my forehead. " I can't let him go, I want to raise,"

He pulls away and looks at me for a long time. I don't flinch. He gulps audibly and smiles.

" If that's what your heart really wants then do it," I smile. Wow that was fast. I inhale.

" My prince, I want to be his mother," I'm eyeing his expressions intently, at first it was that of discomfort, confusion until it settled on a frown and looks at the baby in my arms, his lips curl into a smile. Posted by Jobnib.com; visit us for more free novels.

" Well, do it,"

" And will you be his dad?" I ask in a quiet voice.

" Of course, baby. It only makes sense,"

" Thank you, babe, thank you," I'm so excited. I give him the baby to hold but he's hesitant.

"Come on, Daddy," I encourage. We are laughing at how weird that word sounds.

"Mama?" Rayan chuckles. It's all good vibes here.

He finally holds the baby but he begins to cry. He gets up quickly and panics.

"Oh my no. He's crying he's crying. What should I do," he's pacing, and not balancing him well. I get up and teach him how to do it.

"Hold him closer to your chest and put your arm under his frame," I instruct. He nods and does as I say. The baby quiets immediately. His big eyes are locked onto Rayan's. My prince smiles softly and kisses baby's forehead. I take this moment to snap a picture of them, it's so cute and I take some of all of us then save it on my wall paper. Perfect.

"What are you going to name him?" He asks. I've been playing around with a few names but none of them seem to stick.

"He's my gift from above, so the name should be something in those lines," I tell him

"Our gift now," he corrects me. I nod and repeat. Rayan and I sit down and decide a name as Meredith takes away the baby.

"How about Isaac?" He suggests.

"I told you, it has to be meaningful, what does that have to do with what the baby is in our life,"

He crosses out that name.

"Um, Kendrick?"

"Are you trying to offend me Rayan?" I glare at him and he chuckles.

"How about Adiel?" I suggest. He scowls.

"I hate it for him. It will remind me of that pompous warlock," he says bitterly. I notice he doesn't like Yadiel very much.

"Ahyan," Rayan suddenly whispers. I repeat the name softly and it sounds right and rhymes well Rayan.

"I like it, what does it mean?"

"I don't know, it just rhymes well with Rayan, that's why I picked it,"

” It means gift from the heaven,”

My heart skip a bit and I turn abruptly to the door. Alora is smiling at us, standing next to Yadiel. He nods in acknowledgement of us and we do the same.

She walks closer to us. ” Sister told me the good news! Congratulations!” She is beaming at us. I smile.

They only came to congratulate us even though Yadiel looks like he was forced.

” I think we should start training, your birthday is in less than a week,” he reminds me. I was so busy with everything that I forgot all about it. I need to be stronger before my birthday so that It doesn’t take much of my energy when I phase.

After discussing a while longer with Yadiel about the schedule, we have decided to start tomorrow at 5 am. He says it won’t be tough but he has a sinister glint in his eyes that made me worry.

The two leave us, as they leave, Alora is giggling and holding yadiel’s arms tightly. He pats her head. They are now talking about Disney land.

” Alora is very intelligent,” I comment. Rayan nods.

” she’s an intellect, amazing at book keeping, marketing, and memorizing anything. She worked at the company before she fell ill,”

” how did it start?” I ask.

Alora has regression, it’s a return to child behavior to avoid reality. It comes and goes.

” She lost her mate a few years ago and when the pain became to much that’s when it kicked in. It’s a defense mechanism of self preservation,”

Rayan explains, I nod in understanding. After a long silence he speaks .

” I wouldn’t want you to end up broken if something bad was to ever happen to be, I want you to be-” I shut him up with a kiss, stopping him from saying anymore. I don’t want to even imagine losing Rayan. I’d die.

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I'm panting as I finish running 30 laps and this field is so huge. Remember how Yadiel said it won't be difficult, well, the man lied. Instead of 5 am like planned, he got me out of bed at 3 am.

We are in the training field and I'm glaring at the man who is sitting, floating in in the air.

"What's next?" I mutter.

He smiles and exhales.

"You do it again. Child, you were to be here in less than 10 minutes and you have missed by ... 3 minutes," I growl and step closer. He raises an eyebrow.

"I've been running for the past hour, I'm done and we are going to the next step!" I shout. I've only been missing by a few minutes but he won't cut me some slack.

He doesn't even seem fazed by my glare.

I sigh in defeat and start my run again, this time I'm faster, my lungs are burning but I push harder, and harder. I go to our meeting point. Yadiel checks the time on his wristwatch then nod.

Next, we are doing hand-in-hand combat. He says I should pin him down in less than five minutes but Yadiel is a good fighter and I can't even get one hit on him. I'm not the best fighter out there but I know I'm not the worst, I grew up with wolves and I watched them train, I did sometimes too.

He teaches me some techniques and defense moves.

"Your arms should be strong," he gruffs. I nod and do as he says but still he catches and twists my arms easily. I'm getting frustrated

We keep at it for a long time and at the end of the class, we do some breathing exercises then leave.

I'm going to the castle alone and I decide to listen as Yadiel taught me. I hear growls and fighting. I was told that they were a training field where top-class warriors fight, the one we were using was for everyone.

It's almost 8 am and I need to check on Ahyan but I take a detour to go there, I enter the huge training stadium and stand behind the bleachers as I watch men and women interacting.

There are so many wolves training. They look organized and In uniforms others in human form.

They are fighting and the one instruction is no other than Rayan's driver.

He is going role by role, shouting and scolding them if they mess up. The man is tall and has a muscular body. He lets his hair fall on his shoulder.

I begin to walk away but I step on something. He snaps his attention here, I close my eyes then open them.

"Continue!" He shouts then approaches me. Once close, he bows his neck curtly and ties his hair quickly.

"May I help you, miss?" He asks politely. His voice is deep but very low pitch. I notice he looks younger when he's not wearing a suit.

"I was just looking," I say. He nods and eyes my outfit. I wore a black tight breast holder and leggings. I'm feeling conscious now. I smile awkwardly.

"Oh, I see you are going to train too. Do you want to join us?" He asks with a smile. I shake my head

"No, I'm just watching, I didn't know you were in charge here," I say. He nods proudly.

"Not really me but I help in prince Rayan's absence. They are his elite soldiers," he informs me. I didn't know Rayan was in charge of training warriors too

"We have unique fighting style, they are agile and the very best,"

We discuss a little about their fighting,

He is very easy to talk to. I ask him for some pointers and he gives does. Even demonstrating.

I realize I didn't ask his name.

"Sorry, I didn't even ask your name,"

"I'm Kai," he says. "I already know you," he says.

I watch the soldiers train for a while longer before I bid him farewell. We agreed that he can help me train on my free days.

So we will meet in the evening every day

I take a long shower before I go to my baby's room.

He is in his crib, still dressed in his blue pajamas. I take this time to look around.

The decorators did a fine job alright. The room is big and the ceiling is high.

The walls have blue and white stripes that are uniquely blended of playfulness and sophistication.

The windows are large and allow just the needed amount of sunlight with vibrate curtains.

There is an eye-grabbing rug that adds softness to the space, with a grand flower chandelier just above his crib.

And lamp stand next to a rocking chair

There is another door leading to what looks like a play section, it has many baby tools.

There is a closet and ensuite bathroom that is almost as big as mine.

The nursery is very friendly and happy.

” Hi Ahyan,” I test out his name once I sense he’s awake. He smiles and moves his body. Does that mean he likes it? I get him out of the crib.

He rests his head against my chest. So calm and we are staring out the window. I can feel in my heart that I was meant to love him, to keep him safe.

The rest of the day was pretty easy, I stayed with Ahyan and arranged his clothes. Rayan has called twice to check how we are doing.

And when it’s 5 pm I feed the baby and leave him with Meredith. They get along well. I change in my training clothes and I go to meet Kai at the training stadium, it’s empty this time.

He’s already waiting. He gets up from the floor and approaches me. He bows.

” Are you ready?”

I nod and together we begin with 30 laps.

Kai is encouraging and hyping me up when I fail to complete a task, unlike Yadiel who thinks it’s easy for me.

Kai says I should be light as the wind and very fast on my feet. I should predict moves and be able to dodge and hit back.

I

When we finish training, I come back exhausted and fall asleep immediately.

The next morning is the same routine.

After training, I go to the hospital since I was on duty.

I only stay there for about four hours before knocking off as I have training with Kai in the evening.

On my way out, I meet Misheck. He is smiling.

He raises his hand to stroke my hair and asks.

"How are you?" I back away a little uncomfortable,

"I'm fine doctor, how are you?" I smile.

"I don't see you around, is everything alright?"

"Yes, but I have other responsibilities so I'll be taking fewer hours," I inform him. He scowls

"That's a shame. I like seeing you around,"

I gap and squint my eyes, how do I even answer that? I walk past him but he grabs my wrist.

"Let's go out for coffee one of these days," he smiles.

"Um, sure. I'll let you know when," I take back my hand and take long strides to the car. I feel Misheck's eyes on me.

He is acting really strange

"Lucy!" I shut my eyes and turn to doctor Ronald. He is waving

"Hello!" I wave back. He asks me out but I say no, I've been telling him that I have a mate but he's persistent.

"Well, we were supposed to have a barbecue at my home on Friday remember?"

I bite my lips. I promised the girls I'll go and I don't want to disappoint them so I nod and rush to the car before anyone stops me again

"Ok! I'll tell them it's on!" I hear him call. I give him a thumbs up. I sigh when I make it to the gate.

Kai is already there, ready to pick me up. He gets out of the car.

” Hello,”

he opens the door for me and I get in.

He tosses me my gym bag and I smile gratefully.

I learned that Kai is twenty-one years old and the second son of Mr. Illinois, I didn't know that, he is so humble.

Five days later.

Today's training is intense and he's pushing all my limits. I feel my muscles getting stronger and I can run 30 laps in less than 20 minutes then we proceed to man to man combat

My schedule is the same. After seven days I feel baked and ready, I can sense a sneak attack miles away.

My senses are sharper and I think I'm a few inches taller. I'm now 5'10, almost as tall as Meredith.

I'm strong. Training with Yadiel and Kai has been bitter work, they have different styles but the results are the good.

Yadiel's is so calm and collective, it's learning how to be one with your counterpart but letting her operate at your pace, showing that you are in charge. While kai's is more military. It's savage and fierce. Fighting back to survive or kill.

This morning, I'm standing in front of Yadiel, this is more like training graduation for me and Rayan came with me for support. For the first time ever, he is smiling and looking proudly at me.

He sighs

” These few days, you have shown so much, I saw you change from a frail girl to a woman-” he doesn't finish his sentence as Rayan interrupts.

” Bla bla bla, can we get it over with? It's cold you know,” he sounds like a child. I laugh. Yadiel snorts and glares daggers at him.

” Well, you're ready to meet your counterpart,” he smiles. He salutes then leaves. As soon as Yadiel is out of sight. I jump into Rayan's arms, I close my eyes in tiredness, Instead of putting me down so that we can walk, he gives me a piggyback ride.

We leave the clearing and only meet a few guards, they look surprised when they see us but bow in respect.

"Baby, after work I have a thing with some colleagues of mine, do you want to join us?" I ask him.

"What kind of thing?" He asks.

"Just a few beers and barbecue for a few hours," I sigh.

"I'll be working, have fun," I don't know how to tell him that Meredith and the girls are going to the countryside so he is supposed to watch Ahyan, I inhale deeply.

"So the girls are going in the country house for restocks, and you have to watch baby Ahyan," I tell him. He stops and abruptly turns me to face him

Our faces are close. Rayan has never spent more than ten minutes with the baby and I want them to bond. Ahyan has to get used to him

"I'm not good with kids," he simply says. I look at him seriously

"Rayan, I'm sorry but I can't go drinking with a one-year-old. Plus, you're his Dad remember? He has to get used to your presence,"

He sighs and kisses my throat, a delightful chill goes down my body.

"Fine,"

I tightly wrap my legs around his torso as he begins to walk again and talk about Ahyan. He's such a happy baby and I notice Rayan has a picture of us on his phone screen.

"Has he called you Mama yet?" He inquires. I shake my head sadly.

"I spend more time with him so it won't take long," Rayan snorts at that

"I bet he'll say Dad first, it's easier,"

"A mother is the first person the child familiarize with so there is a high chance he'll say the words Mama sooner than Dad,"

"Blasphemy! Fathers work a lot but that doesn't mean they care any less or the child doesn't feel their love,"

I snarl and oppose him until he gets petty

"You know what, get off me and walk on your own,"

I'm laughing so much as my legs hit the ground.

"Are you upset?" I'm trying to hold my laugh but it's so hard. He really is upset about this

"I bet by tomorrow, I'll have Ahyan call me Dad, you know what, I'll spend the whole day with him,"

He looks pretty serious. I stand closer to him.

"Well, we'll see," I smirk challenging him.

The Alpha's Rejected Bride Chapter 44

Rayan pov

I woke up early in the morning and cancel all the meetings I had.

I walk to my new son's room, I've been there but I'm always with Lucille.

I slightly open the door and peek my head in. There are baby sounds that are coming from the crib. I step into the room. Ahyan is standing in his crib, one hand holding the rail, the other his toy.

His neck slowly turns to me, his smile falters and curiosity takes over his face. He has seen me several times but never alone, his obsidian eyes look past me to the door expectantly. I bet he's surprised that Lucy or any of the girls are not coming. I smile to try to put him at ease but he doesn't smile back. Now I'm standing just looking awkward.

He ignores me, sits down, and goes back to playing. I clear my throat

"Ahyan?" I call. He looks at me, waiting. So, he knows his name already.

'He's been here for weeks,' Rex reminds me. I draw closer to him and ruffle his hair, he shakes his head in disapproval

"What does mama do first?" I get my phone out of my pocket and read the text Lucy sent me a few hours ago.

I have to bathe him first. "Wanna shower?" I ask, he makes baby sounds and I take that as a yes, I pick him up. While in the bathroom I take off his romper and make sure the water is just the right temperature before I put him in.

He looks at the water, he is smiling and giggling.

Hitting the water with his tiny hands and for the first time, he smiles at me. He f*****g smiles, quickly for evidence, I snap a picture to send to my mate.

Getting Ahyan out of the tub is a hassle, he loves playing with the bubbles and splashing water.

"No, let's get you ready for the day," I murmur to the baby, he has a deep frown on his face as I lay him on the dresser, I open my YouTube and watch videos on how to dress a kid, they make it seem easy but they haven't met mine, he fuses a lot. I didn't know kids had so much energy.

When I'm done, I carry him downstairs, on my way there I find my brothers in the hallway, Jasper is scolding Enol, I wonder what my little brat of a brother did.

"Morning," I greet. They turn their attention to me

"Hi, Ahyan," Enol waves enthusiastically at the boy in my arms, the boy seems familiar with him and he smiles. Enol makes funny awkward faces and the boy is giggling.

Even Jasper comes close to holding his nephew.

Ahyan doesn't smile at him.

"He doesn't like me," Jasper scowls

"I'm sure he recognizes you as the uncle who wanted to send him to an awful academy," Enol laughs and Jasper looks livid.

"I didn't, it was the council! Why do you always make me the bad guy around here?" He asks exasperated. We shrug.

"You're the goody two shoes, they are always the bad guys,"

Jasper snarls.

Butler Cullen and two staff members approach us and bow.

They are complimenting about how cute the little prince in my arms is and I find myself smiling.

"Young masters, do you need anything?" The butler asks politely.

"Can someone make him food, what do babies eat?" I ask Jasper. He shrugs. We've never had a child this young before.

"Sir, do you want me to look after him?" A young woman asks in a timid voice. I shake my head.

"Just make him food and bring it to my parents' apartment,"

My brothers and I go to my mother's apartment where we are to have breakfast this morning.

We knock on the door and we are allowed in by Miss Savannah.

She is adoring little Ahyan while he keeps his serious face. Oh boy. Can't he smile? He's so rude, kinda like me when I was a child. It's true what they say; like father like son.

My parents walk out of the room, I frown when I look at my mother, she seems frail and her skin is white, her eyes are sunken.

We exchange pleasantries and won't stop gushing over her new grandson.

"He's so adorable and Rayan, these clothes are not matching at all, you're lucky he's handsome," Mom lightly pinches his cheeks.

"I have a present for him," Dad announces. My brothers and I exchange a look. What kind of present? He takes out one of his wristbands and puts it on Ahyan. It's a royal artifact that symbolizes royalty to supernatural. It's generational and every royal wears one.

The king caresses Ahyan's cheek and a white halo surrounds us. Its energy is unmatched and powerful. We are all looking at it in awe, and the little boy jumps and squeals in my arms.

Once it fades, my father smiles and says,

"Welcome to the family, Prince Ahyan Altamonte,"

The love they are showing Ahyan is something I didn't imagine. Everyone is so accepting of him.

We are sitting at the table, waiting as the servants bring food.

"Mother, how are you feeling?" Jasper asks a question that has been on my mind. The Queen forces a smile on her lips.

"I'm better than yesterday, my son,"

She's lying. My heart breaks for her. Dad smiles at her and she returns it. Even after 25 years in a relationship, my parents still love each other endlessly. Their loyalty to one

another is amazing and their love is one of a kind, it's as Intense as it was the day they met.

I'm reminded of my Lucy, my feelings for her are overwhelming and just the thought of losing her is scary, I might just crumble to pieces if that were to happen.

I'm looking at my father, he knows that sooner or later he might lose his mate, he can feel her wolf getting weaker as we can. There is a sadness lingering in the air, even Enol is quiet.

Ahyan's squeals get me out of my thoughts. He is hitting the table with a toy.

The maids start to serve food and a special plate comes for Ahyan.

Mother claps her hands.

" Can you give me my grandchild now," she stretches her hands. I smile and I get to my feet, handing her the baby.

" Have you found anything about him?" Asks father.

Jasper was in charge.

" No, father. And we are yet to know what he is. Yadiel says he can't tell because he's too young," he explains. Dad nods.

Ahyan is only a year and a month old, so we will know in a few years what he is. We don't know who left him there, we searched the whole area to no avail.

" Did you make his stay here legal?" Mom asks as she feeds him.

" Oh my love, didn't you hear?" Father laughs

"Hear what, babe? You never tell me things these days," his wife complains.

" Oh, sorry dear, but I don't like you worrying. Our Lucy, make sure they didn't send little Ahyan to the academy. They tried to intimidate her but she spoke up and reminded her just who she was. She left senator Chien scared and impressed the bureaucracy. it's all the council talks about these days!" I'm smiling, I heard that everyone was impressed by Lucy and the news spread like wildfire. Most of them applauded her for saving a child.

My mom is laughing as Dad tells her details of what happened, the man knows how to tell a story.

" I'm sure Chien was furious, he must hate dear Lucy,"

Mom adds. The Chien family are our associates. For a long time they thought, Olivia had a chance to be Queen.

” Well, she showed him who’s queen, you should have been there to see it,” Enol muses.

” And Martias?”

” You know him, he was only worried about the people, but up to now, nothing negative has come out,” Jasper says.

Tomorrow is Lucile’s birthday so we continue to discuss that. Tomorrow, if she’s strong enough, she might shift.

After breakfast, I make my way to my suite, Ahyan is sleeping peacefully on my bed and I use this time to make a couple of calls.

My phone keeps beeping, it’s messages from Olivia, she is getting desperate.

Olivia Chien: why are you doing this to me? We need to talk

Before I can finish reading one, another comes. I put my phone in a silent mood and begin to work while listening for Ahyan’s heartbeat in my bedroom, he’s still sleeping.

An hour or so later, I hear the cries of Ahyan. I get out of my chair and go to him, he’s crying while rubbing his eyes. He stops once he sees me and frowns. I wipe his tears away before picking him up. He is laying his head on my shoulder.

” Hey, you thought I left?” I whisper. He looks at me only to go back to resting his head on my shoulder.

” Ahyan? Can you say dada?” I ask. He is quiet.

I give up on that, I think he’s missing Lucy, this is the first time they have been apart from each other this long.

I put him in warm clothes and decide to go outside. We go to the lake, I put him down to play while I sit on the bench.

I’m thinking of sending my mate a text message but I stop myself. Ahyan is enjoying himself crawling and trying to catch the doves.

” Aah!” He screams as another one gets away. He is beginning to look frustrated, he tries again but they get flying into the air or sit somewhere else. He starts to cry as he points at the doves.

"Wow, very manly Ahyan," I say sarcastically. I don't carry him this time. I point at another one next to him, he is speaking gibberish.

He crawls stealthily towards it but it flies away. He starts to cry and I call him here. Ahyan is crawling here. I pick him up and he stands on his feet while holding the bench

"Can you say, Daddy?" I try again, he only smiles and goes back to playing. One thing about him is that he is not a quitter.

After lunch, we decide to go to the amusement park, I wear a black hoodie and cover my head so I'm unrecognizable to the public. I change the baby into a matching dark outfit then put him in a baby stroller before heading out.

On our way out I meet Darren, damn it. He narrows his gaze on us

"Are you going to rob a bank? What's this? Robinhood?" He is teasing and laughing. I scowl and look at my son, he is not smiling. Darren tries to play with him but he doesn't smile back until he makes the stupidest smile.

"I'm going to the park, move,"

"Too many people, should I close it for you?" He says seriously. While being royal in a city as mighty as this one is amazing and a blessing, sometimes it can be just too much, the pictures, the scrutiny, and the praise. All that can be overwhelming sometimes. I take off my hoodie and carry the baby stroller.

We can just go in the clearing not far from here plus, Rexan has been wanting to meet him.

"Alright, I'll see you later," I say walking away.

Darren is now looking serious. He nods and says

"I'm glad you accepted this child, he brings you..." he pauses in thought then adds "peace,"

I smile and nod before leaving.

Ahyan is a gift that the goddess gave us. He is calm and easy, and I'm glad we got to bond today.

Reaching the clearing, the guards who were patrolling leave the area.

"Ahyan, wanna meet someone?" I ask. He doesn't seem excited, just looking at me.

I take off my attire and within a second I shift into my wolf, Rexan is walking closer to the stroller and the baby's eyes are wide, he looks amazed. Instead of crying, he stretches out his little hand with excitement on his face. I try to mind link him, royals can do that with any supernatural around.

'Hi Ahyan, I'm Rexan,' The boy looks around in confusion. Could it be that he heard?

He squeals and jumps in his stroller. Ahyan is excited! His fingers are in my fur and carefully, I hold him by his shirt with my fangs and put him on the leveled grass.

Rexan nudges him with his snout and he throws his head back in laughter. He is between my legs while holding them for support.

'He can't walk?' Rexan asks me.

'He can but not for a long distances,' I notice he can stand and try to walk with support from items like chairs and tables.

We play in the clearing and it's pure Bliss.

I think Ahyan likes my wolf better than me. His giggles are all you can hear and it's music to my ears.

I notice it's getting darker and colder, so despite my wolf's protest, I shift back.

I Swiftly get into my clothes and wave at Ahyan, he recognizes me immediately and he stretches his arms to me, indicating the wants he carried. I do. He is smiling.

"Wanna go home, I'm sure mama is back," I whisper.

"Mama?"

No no no, he was supposed to say Dada first.

I smile and only nod. "Mama!" He squeals happily. My Lucy will be pleased to hear this.

"Can you say dada?" I ask a long silence follows. I sigh and just hug him. I won't force it, when the time is right, he will say it. I want to put him back into the stroller when a voice stops me.

"Hi, Dada,"

I twist my neck and Lucy is approaching, I can smell alcohol all the way here. She is smiling and I go to meet her halfway, I give a long deep kiss while Ahyan won't be still in my arms, he's now fusing for me to realize him. We pull away and before I can properly give him to Lucy, he jumps to her.

” Oh, baby!” Lucy looks taken aback but smiles and kisses him so many times.

” Did you have fun with Dada?”

Ahyan looks at me and softly says.

” Dada,”

My wolf howls in happiness and I feel my heart pound against my chest.

” Yes, Dada,” Lucy is pointing at me and emphasizing the word Dada.

I kiss Ahyan softly then Lucy. I hold her hand as we leave the clearing. I’ll send someone to bring the stroller.

” Did you have fun with your colleagues?” I inquire.

” Too much, actually the director -” she suddenly stops talking. Worriedly, I ask if she’s alright. She shakes her head negatively and gives me the baby.

‘ My prince, my body is – in so much pain,’ her breaths are ragged. For a while I’m shocked, she just mind linked me.

‘ Jasper, come to the clearing ...now,’ I holler through the mind link.

Lucy holds her head and screams before falling to the ground.

‘ Someone come get Ahyan,’ I whisper while watching my mate thrash on the ground.

” Mama,” an innocent voice rings in my ears. I lay Ahyan’s head on my shoulder and I crouch down to touch Lucy, her body is hot. Very hot.

‘ Dad, Mom, I think Lucy is shifting,’

The Alpha’s Rejected Bride Chapter 45

Josh Pov

I’m standing on the balcony. As the clock hit exactly 00, fireworks have exploded in the air, it’s Lucy’s birthday today, ever since she was a child, the whole pack celebrated her birth like a festive, that’s how much alpha Allard loved her. My wolf is on the edge, he really did take a strong liking to her as I did. Who wouldn’t though? Lucille is kind, loving, and compassionate, she’s everything my Luna isn’t

I recently hired a new detective to find Lucy, he is doing his level best to find her but it's hard. It's like she just disappeared into thin air. I feel disgusting hands around my waist and I growl. Crystal annoys the hell out of me. I push her away and twist my neck in her direction. She is silently looking at me, she is angry, there is betrayal in her eyes but I don't care about that.

I watch the fireworks and big words appear in the sky, happy birthday, Lucy.

I regret my actions so much and I feel my heart tighten, the day I find her or when she comes back, I'll grovel on my knees and beg for forgiveness. I want to marry her.

"Why are we doing this again?" Crystal snarls

I push past her and go back to my room.

She follows me. She is calming her breaths. She smiles and lets her kimono fall to the ground, revealing the sexy lingerie she's wearing. She gets down on her knees and starts to suck my c**k, even in this action, all I imagine is Lucy, it would have been a good sight considering how shy she is. A smile involuntarily appears on my lips at the thought of my fiancée.

Crystal straddles me and I kiss her neck, I rip off her fabric. I get her off me so that I can take in her nakedness, no she's not Lucy alright.

Lucy had more feminine features. She had a slender hourglass silhouette.

Her breasts were perfect, her waist was slim, and her belly toned. Her hips and butt made her look attractive in many ways and made men desire her and women turn their head in her direction.

Growing up, most girls bullied her because they were jealous of her.

Her face appears in front of her and I attack her lips hungrily.

Lucy, Lucy Allen chants in my head. I quickly take off my clothes and bury myself in her core. It's hot and wet.

I let out a long breath as she begins to move immediately. Lucy is moaning and screaming my name as I thrust inside her relentlessly. Pleasing her feels right, this feels good. A few more thrusts and I c*m undone, like a teenager on her first time.

I'm panting and satisfied, happy.

'you know that's not Lucy, right?' my wolf says

' I know, but it makes this s**t bearable,' I sigh and get off the bed to wash up. Again Crystal joins me but I only shake my head negatively. I turn off the water and leave her there, but as I leave her hurt voice cut her.

" Until when?" She croaks. I don't turn around to look at her.

" When will you stop thinking about her, you and I got what we wanted, Josh, let's enjoy it,"

This is wrong.

" Do you think she's hurt? What if she's dead. Aren't you worried?"

Crystal is silent. It has been bothering me that up to now no one has heard from her

" She's not," her voice is cold. I turn to her.

" Sound sure,"

" Wolfless or not, Lucy is an alpha, we would have felt the loss If she died,"

Crystal is right, Lucy has alpha blood even though she didn't shift therefore, she is connected to us all, and when a pack member dies, it is felt through the link we share.

" She might come back!" My voice is filled with hope

Crystal clicks her tongue and a sick smile appears on her lips

" Oh, as soon as she steps foot here, those rogues will kill her," she declares and in less than a second I have her against the wall. Allen is angry. Just how dare she try to harm Lucy?

" Let.. go, Josh," Crystal is struggling to breathe and her eyes are red. I take pleasure in that. I move closer to her ear and whisper

" You will do no such thing, if anything happens to Lucy, I'll kill you and your f*****g mother," I warn sternly.

All strength is leaving her body and I throw her on the floor.

Crystal is glaring at me while massaging her neck

" Dear Josh- after what you did? She'll never take you back, must I remind you that you killed her father?"

" I did not!" I growl loudly at her. She forces a smile.

" Somehow we were responsible for his death and if you didn't, why didn't you tell the elders, or called for help sooner?" She grills. I snarl at her.

" Because you thought they would have saved him,"

" He was already dead!" I shout. My chest is rising and falling quickly.

The door suddenly opens, lady Bridget is fuming. I look down at Crystal and she is as shocked as I am.

From the look on her face, it tells me that she heard us.

" You dirty bastards," she growls, This woman has always scared me, as beautiful and gracious as she is, she is one of the strongest pack members here.

She immediately attacks Crystal and kicks her in the stomach, Crystal cries out in pain as lady Bridget repeatedly attacks her with her long claws easily. I try to help but with her strength, she pushes me against the floor and uses her knee to kick my cheek, and blood spat out of my mouth. She is hitting us with ease. I abruptly get up and claw her arm, I'm still her alpha, and can't attack me as she pleases.

She simply laughs, her eyes turn gold then dark then hit me as hard as she can.

" You little traitors, after all my family has done for you! You betray us like this?" She screams as Crystal attacks her. Crystal is trying to push her away but she's no match against her. My room is a mess and finally, lady Bridget pushes her against the wall and she hits her head. Bleeding.

I rummage through my drawer quickly and find the injection that contains wolfsbane.

" And you little boy, my brother trusted his pack and daughter to you and you betrayed him," She is moving around me in circles, not fazed by my glare.

" I can't wait for the elders to demote you after they learn of all this,"

Crystal is groaning and holding her head in pain and just as lady Bridget turns to leave, she superspeeds towards her and pushes her against the wall. I throw the wolfsbane injection in my hands and she uses it on her. The lady groans a bit before falling unconscious to the ground. I exhale and realization just dawns, what have we done?

Crystal is looking at her with a bitter expression on her face.

" Damn, she's strong," she sighs at last. Crystal goes to the minibar while I look at the lady's body on the floor. Regret fills my heart but we had no choice, she would have exposed us.

We are catching a break from the crazy fight we had with the pack's matriarch when suddenly a knock resounds. We panic and pick up the body.

"What should we do?" I hiss to Crystal

She signals me to stay calm,

"I'll take care of this, don't worry," She hisses as she carries Bridget on her shoulder.

"Crystal," I warn. She simply nods seriously and exits quickly through the balcony.

I inhale and open the door, it's a warrior and Derek behind him

"We heard noises," he snarls at me, trying to get into the room but I deny him entrance.

"My luna and I were enjoying ourselves, problem?" I smile in annoyance, he lowly growls at me.

"You know Derek, your insolence in this pack will cause you banishment," I tell him. He glares at me one last time before turning on his heel.

"Anything else?" I ask the warrior who is still looking at me

He shakes his head and bows to leave.

I close the door and follow Crystal to the balcony but she's not there.

'Where the f**k are you?' I ask through the mind link

'Looking for lady Bridget,' she all but growls.

'You were with her!'

'Well, dear, alpha. I was taking her to the rogues but as I got there, the b**h regained consciousness and hit me before shifting and running,' She explains.

I'm dead, is all I can think to say.

'I'm coming, she couldn't be far. Ask the rogues to assist in the search,'

No matter what, Lady Bridget can't leave the territory or go to the packhouse. Even if I have to kill her myself. Sorry, Lucy.