

Chapter 27 A Queenly Favor

Alana

That morning, Francine came down knocking at the door of the cabin house where I stayed the night.

“Our lady? The queen luna sent a letter for you,” she excitedly handed me a piece of a dainty small pink envelope.

My heart thumped out of its cage when I opened it and read it. For a few months that I stayed in the castle, I was already able to read and write sentences to the delight of my tutors who complimented me for being a fast learner.

I let out an air first before I finished reading the letter.

“Alana? What is it? Can you tell me what the letter is about?” Francine asked. She cannot contain her excitement already.

“T-The queen luna wants me to visit her quarters.”

“Really?!” she shrieked in happiness. “Then come on! Let’s get you dolled up!”

She pulled me into the car and went back into the castle.

“Pretty dresses should be worn, our lady. The alpha prince made sure every precious piece of clothing in the country that is fit for a noble princess will be brought to you,” Francine said as she opened the closet of dresses in the room that I would never dare to wear.

Am I really capable of wearing them? Will they look good on someone like me? What if I get them dirty? Surely, these dresses cost so much! But I cannot just face the queen luna with William’s shirts and shorts. I would surely melt in shame in front of the great woman!

And so, Francine chose to let me wear a knee-length baby pink dress just enough to cover all of my unhealed scars yet. She also put my hair on a bun, put colors on my face using those magic brushes and paints before putting a small tiara on my head as the only jewelry on me.

“Francine, I am shaking. I am nervous, I feel like I am not worthy enough to face the queen luna!”

She took my hands inside hers and warmed them gently. “Alana, the queen luna is a very gentle woman. She must have heard about a lovely lady in the castle whom the alpha prince cherishes so much that she also wants to see her for herself. William likes you very much Alana so I know queen luna will also be fond of you, okay?”

I nodded, feeling soothed by her words. “I can do it, Francine. I can do it.”

“Yes, you can! That’s the spirit!”

Francine walked up to the door to knock but before she could raise her knuckles, the door opened and Belinda came out wearing a big smile on her face as if just finishing a happy and hearty conversation.

That smile faded the instant she saw me. Looking at me from head to toe, her eyes lingering on the tiara on top of my head. Her face soured especially when she stared at my dress.

Did she see my scars? Did the make-up hide them properly?

“What are you doing here?” she asked with her arched brows.

Francine stepped in making sure to keep me behind her back.

“Princess Belinda, our lady Alana is here to see the queen luna. She is invited by her through a letter.”

Francine gave the invitation to her and when she read it, a cunning satisfied smile appeared on her lips.

“Ah, so you will be one of them? Sure, go inside so I will not have to deal with your presence anymore in the castle!”

What she said baffled me greatly but my nerves on meeting the queen took the best of me so I did not dwell much on what she meant by that.

Francine opened the door and ushered me forward. “Please go in, our lady.”

“Thank you, Francine.”

I entered slowly, bowing my head until I reached the chair where a regal woman as white as snow wearing a blue dress and a fur shawl scarf is sitting.

“Queen luna,” I greeted her and knelt in front of her.

“Arise, child. You must be Alana, a friend William brought home with him.”

Even her voice is so soft and so nice to hear in my ears it’s like an angel is singing!

“Yes, luna.”

I glanced back at her amused eyes, feeling the heat all over my face.

“You are a very pretty lady. Come. I want to talk to you.”

She reached for my hand and let me sit next to her as she surveyed my appearance quietly as if she was thinking about something so deeply.

“Your talent in painting reached me. I have only heard nothing but praises for you, Alana.”

My face heated again and I bowed over and over again. “Thank you, our queen luna.”

“Which is why I called for you.”

I raised my face at her. “What is it, my luna?”

“I am thinking about a project that I will kick off into the rural areas of the state. I want to establish a school for underprivileged werewolf kids who do not have access to education.”

My heart skipped a beat when I heard that.

She cupped my face and smiled at me kindly. “Your talent in painting could be of great help so I want to ask this favor from you, dear. Will you help me with these kids? Can you be their teacher for a month?”

A month? Can I survive being away from William for that long? I thought.

I will try to help the kids! I was once like them. An ignorant lady at the age of eighteen. I did not know how to read and write until William rescued and saved me. I want to be like William too to others.

I fervently nodded to the queen luna. “Yes, queen luna. I will be their teacher! Thank you so much for the opportunity! I promise you will not be disappointed! I will teach all those cute kids to the best of my ability!”

The look that she gave me is of someone who looked so pleased and amused. “I never thought you would be this excited. Thank you so much, Alana.”

My cheeks blushed as I averted my eyes. The queen luna is just shining before me. “It is me who has to be thankful, my luna.”

“But we have a problem, Alana.”

I immediately looked up at her. “What is it, queen luna?”

“My son, the alpha prince is so fond of you and I know he will be opposed to the plan. Can you help me convince him to let you go to the area?”

I went silent knowing that she is not right. Of course, William will be happy for me because I will help those kids.

“The alpha prince will agree to his noble idea, queen luna. He will let me go, queen luna.”

She sighed in relief as she gathered me in her arms. “You are such an innocent and sweet lady that I am hoping you are the one my son is looking for.”

Her hand paused from caressing my face as disappointment flooded her. “But I guess you are not because he would have been beaming in excitement to introduce you to us.”