

## Chapter 32 Shattered Heart

Alana

The morning came fast and even though I would have wanted to leave with him back to the castle, I cannot and should not. He comforted me all throughout the night making sure that he was there by my side.

Before the sun rises, he bade his goodbye to me because he should be back at the capital before six.

“I will leave some of my guards with you. If only I could leave Lucas here, I would but my mother would wonder where he is.”

I sniffed his scent to calm my senses. No one in the camp knew about what happened. When I asked William about it, he said that he took care of it silently and so I did not ask anymore about the details. I don't want to relive the trauma anymore.

“William, you don’t really have to do that. I am safe here now. I promise I won’t go to places without Francine and the guards.”

“No, I insist.” He combed my hair with his fingers while his eyes roamed around my face. This has been his gesture when he feels worried about me. “I will not be able to do my job properly if I don’t leave them here to guard you.”

I ended up nodding and agreeing so he would not be concerned with me at all. “Okay. Leave them to me.”

His smile finally etched around his mouth. “Good girl.” He pulled my waist towards his body. “I will see you tomorrow, okay?”

That’s when I scowled. He is just going to tire himself out going to Roan from the capital and back again. “You don’t have to come tomorrow. Please rest.”

“No, I will come. That is my promise,” he insisted and then kissed my nose before leaving with his guards.

Since then, it has been our routine to spend the night together in the room. I will come home to see him already in my quarters waiting for me to open the door.

“How was your day?” he asked while I was combing his hair. He is lying on my lap while I yap all about the things that happened to me today.

“It was very beautiful. I had really fun painting with the kids. They are so talented and eager to learn. They even gave me this bracelet. How about you? How was your day?”

He did not answer. Wondering, I glanced at him only to see him already sleeping. Smiling, I leaned down to smell him.

“That’s right. You should sleep tightly, alpha prince. For your people. For your state. Many are going to rely on you someday, William.”

I fixed a blanket on his body and decided to sleep too.

“Ms. Alana, you are recalled back into the castle by the queen luna,” our head teacher informed us that morning when I started preparing for my class.

I still have some days left before I could return to the capital and William also informed me that he will be late to see me.

“R-Really?! I will be going back now?!” I gasped in surprise.

I must have done something good to be rewarded like this!

“Yes, Ms. Alana. Good work.”

“Thank you so much!” I beamed in happiness and ran back to the classroom where I am teaching.

But to my utter surprise again, the kids are all standing in front holding up a banner.

“Ms. Alana, thank you for everything! We will miss you so much! Please marry someone kind and handsome!”

I laughed, barely holding up my tears. “I will. Please kids, learn a lot, okay?”

“We will, Ms. Alana.”

I hugged each one of them and hurriedly packed my bags.

“Francine! We are going back now! I can’t wait to see William! I am so excited to tell him that I have done well with the task given by queen luna to me here.”

“Aren’t you going to call the alpha prince, our lady? He will be very happy and pleased to hear from you.”

“I was recalled a day earlier so I am planning to surprise him.”

“But I think you should inform him too, our lady.”

I shook my head smiling deep inside while my plan was going on in my head. I could only smile while imagining what would be his reaction. I know he will be more than happy to see me. “But Francine, it will not be a surprise anymore. I want to give him this painting as a gift.”

I held out my precious painting that I painstakingly and lovingly painted while he was away. Drawing me this masterpiece made me miss him less.

“Will he be happy to see me finally back home?”

Francine tousled my hair playfully. “I am sure he will, Alana. This will be the happiest day for his life now.”

“Really? I am so excited now!”

The second the bus landed; I ran out of the vehicle into the castle to look for William while carrying with me his painting.

“Where is the alpha prince? Did you happen to see him?” I asked the royal guards at the entrance wearing stoic faces.

“I am sorry lady but we cannot just tell you where the alpha prince is. Right now, he is in a very important engagement.”

“Oh, is that so? Then I am just going to wait here.”

I waited outside the gates for William but time passed but he still hasn’t shown.

I decided to just go to the cabin where Francine has been waiting for me. “Francine, did you see William?”

“No, my lady. He is still in the queen’s quarters.”

“In the garden?” I asked panting for air, the painting I held secured close to my chest.

“Probably. My lady! Alana!”

I ran to the queen luna’s garden not minding the warning on her voice hoping to see William over there. If he is doing something, then I could just wait in the corner for him.

My smile got wider when I saw his very familiar back on me. I swallowed the racing thought in excitement and raised my hand to wave at him when I saw who he was with and what he’s doing.

He is seated on a lovely chair on a lovely table decorated charmingly in front of an equally attractive lady who is smiling from ear to ear while they both eat.

“W-William,” I uttered, the painting fell to the ground as I felt thousands of daggers stab my heart.