## **Chapter 36 The Alpha Prince's Favor**

## William

I immediately requested an audience with my father who has just finished talking with an ambassador.

"Alpha king, I want to talk to you," I said after I saw him shaking the hands of an old gentleman.

The ambassador bowed before me and left while my father only glanced at me briefly.

"William, I have no time for this."

But I was already in front of him on the throne ready to beg for his favor. "Please recall your order to Alana. Father, you know how her own family abused her! How could you ever think of sending her back to that monster?!"

He sat on his office chair and gestured for his secretary to come in who handed him some documents.

"She accepted it, William. The choice lies in her. You and I cannot do anything about it, can we?"

I gritted my teeth. I know he is only setting it aside like it's the least important thing on this plate right now but for me it's personal. It constitutes an emergency.

"Of course, you can! You are the alpha king. You can do everything you want. One word from you and she will come back to me now."

He clasped his hands together and let out a low growl warning me not to push it any further. But at this point, I don't care what kind of punishment he will reward me. I only want Alana back. I want my mate back!

"And you are the alpha prince!" he uttered in a controlled but authoritative voice. "Act like one! Someday, you will inherit this whole responsibility. Look at you now acting like a lovesick man to someone who wasn't even your mate! This is not the kind of son I have nourished! Are you going to end up a weak leader? The Capital and the whole state do not need an alpha king like you who does not have anything in his mind but a woman. And to think that he is not even your mate."

Clenching my fists together, I want to proudly yell at his face admitting that Alana is my mate and my woman but what I discovered about the mystery about her stops me from doing so. Her security is my top priority. I will not tell him she is my mate even though he is my father and the alpha king.

"But dad, you know how those monsters treated Alana," I said in a low voice as I tried to appear calm. "That is the very reason why I brought her here to be protected."

"And it's already enough, William." My father looked at me intently as if trying to grasp the reason why I am acting like the desperate man that I am now. "You have done enough for her as a friend. That's enough. Let her take care of herself from now on. She will not accept the position if she is still afraid."

I bowed my head and remembered Alana's reason for accepting the order and leaving me here even though she knows that I am his mate and she is mine.

"I have to do this alone. Only then will I be able to be whole for you. Please understand me, okay. Please."

But if she is going to leave me, then does she have to mark me in that very passionate way? Why does my sweet little Alana have to wreck me like this?

"Forget about that woman and carry on with your responsibilities. Prove to me that you are worthy to lead the pack and the whole domain as my son."

That's my father's parting words before I left.

The next few hours I waited by the lake hoping that Alana would appear suddenly and tell me that

she won't be leaving. But the sun has already set down but I haven't sniffed her scent in the surroundings.

"Alpha prince, aren't you going to say goodbye to Alana? She's leaving tonight," Lucas said at my back when darkness swallowed the whole place but I am still sitting on the grass lost in my own deep empty thoughts.

"Make sure she's safe during her travels," I replied softly and stood up. "I have to work the whole night."

"I'll ask the chauffeur later, alpha prince."

Lucas left me but I am still rooted on the ground. Sighing, I mounted my horse in a hurry and stopped just a few meters from the gate where Alana was standing outside the car obviously waiting for me to show up.

"She's waiting for you," Lucas said at my back to my surprise.

This man is hiding anywhere and I would not sense him.

I looked back at Alana who was looking from side to side with hope in her eyes.

"I know."

I am sorry Alana but I cannot make myself see you off tonight because I know I will only beg you to stay with me. You have made your decision and I am trying my best to respect it.

"Why are you doing this, William? You could have told the alpha king and the queen luna about Alana and everything will be alright. You could be married to her in an instant."

"I cannot do that, Lucas. I can never do that to her. Getting her married to me is like chaining her. I will be no different to her father. I will just cage her in a more beautiful and bigger prison."

My best friend threw me a confused look like I said the most absurd thing in this world. "But you love her, William. I am sure you will not do that."

But this is more complicated than he could have ever thought. Alana's roots will unearth many secrets and wars that is why I will tread carefully for her own sake.

"Lucas, can you do me a favor?" I asked while my eyes were fixed on Alana's face as the hope in her eyes slowly died down.

Lucas' body straightened when he sensed the urgency in my voice. "What is it, alpha prince?"

"Leave by midnight to Alana's village. I will be sending you to an official visit there as the chief security for her."

"William..." he turned to me in shock. "What are you..."

He was not able to finish his sentence when I looked at him. "Please. I am not ordering you as an alpha prince. I am asking you to do this for me as your friend."

Sighing and then nodding afterwards, he agreed wholeheartedly. "I will, alpha prince. I will prepare now."

"Thank you."

He left while I remained in my spot longingly staring at my mate who was forced to go inside the car. The windows of the car where Alana has been sitting for hours now rolled up and the convoy began moving.

"May you stay safe out there, Alana," I whispered into the air when the tail lights disappeared from my view.

"May you always take care of yourself there, my mate."