

Chapter 31 - Alpha Alexander and Omega Scarlett Novel by IS Barbosa

Scarlett:

“Good morning, little one” I smiled, lifting my daughter in my arms and sitting on the edge of the bed.

A nurse stood in the room, ensuring that I didn't need any help while Alexander was outside tending to the pack's needs.

I covered my shoulder before I pulled my shirt down, bringing my little one to my breast as to feed her, before massaging her back gently. This has been the first time she's breastfed from me since I left almost two months ago, and knowing that my baby was almost four months now and has barely had my milk was enough to make me feel guilty about myself; however, I also knew that with all the circumstances that I have been through, it was better for her that she didn't drink from my milk. At this point, I wasn't even sure if my milk was even healthy for her to drink from at that time.

The door was knocked, and looking up, I smiled when I saw Luna Katlyn and Nia, one of the pack's members, entering the room with smiles on their faces. I nodded at them, and watched as the nurse walked out of the room, giving us our privacy, before they sat down. Luna Katlyn simply watched for a few minutes before speaking.

“How are you, Scarlett?” Luna Katlyn asked, breaking the silence in the room. It wasn't an awkward one, I grew used to staying quiet for hours anyway. The fact that I have lived in this pack for years made me learn how to keep to myself most of the time, and that required me to stay quiet for very long hours. A person got used to it after a while, and eventually, it was simply your 'lifestyle'.

“I am fine, thank you, Luna” I said, nodding at the woman. Regardless of the fact that I now felt out of place, more than before at least, I still respected the woman deeply. She had taken me when I had no one in my life. My grandparents, from my mom's side, never wanted me around after mom chose to leave their pack with her mate, and rumors had it that it was them that initially started one of the wars, including the last one, and that was what led to my parents dying. Their initial plan, as I was told, was to get rid of my father, and hopefully, me. And even if I didn't die, in their eyes, I was a part of

THIS pack, and in theory, they were right; however, mother was part of theirs, and that meant that she could go back home.

What they never considered was the possibility of her dying in the fire to keep Luna and her son safe. It was something that they never wanted, especially since they never really expected that Luna Katlyn would be visiting their pack's 'omega'. The odd part in this story was the fact that they had told me that despite my father being an omega, my mother was an Alpha's born, and that was the main reason why they resented my father. A funny twisted game to find that his daughter, his pack's omega, was mated to the Alpha. However, I, at least, carried my mom's Alpha blood, something that everyone failed to admit, I couldn't blame them though. They had watched many people fall and die because of those who were blood related to me, and maybe that was one of the reasons why I was exiled, in theory, to the farthest house in the pack.

"I believe that it is up to us to start calling you Luna" Nia said, making Luna Katlyn frown. Now, if I have ever seen Luna Katlyn angry before, I wouldn't have been surprised; however, the woman was never one to be angry about titles. At least, that was how I saw her.

"She is yet to be marked, and cannot be called that until she is, Nia" Luna Katlyn snapped. I stayed quiet, not bothering to answer, not really caring if I were being honest I had more things to worry about and the last thing I needed was for them to distract me from my tasks as a mother and around the house as a member of the house. I believed that it was time to actually start getting out of my room. If Alexander and I planned on having something together, I didn't think that it was the maids', nurses, or the butlers' duties to take care of the house.

"You needn't worry about me being this pack's Luna, Luna Katlyn" I said, snapping the woman-out-of her anger. I could tell that it was because she knew that if I were to be Luna, she would have to resign from her position as the pack's Luna, something that Delilah has been fighting hard to reach. However, I wasn't stupid as to try and fight the Alpha's mother for such a position Not when I knew that I wasn't mentally prepared for such a responsibility, and not when I knew that the LAST thing I needed was more stress on myself.

Me being a mother was enough for now, and the number of things that I still needed to fix were countless. Therefore, before anything could happen, I knew that I had to settle my own shit down, understand MY responsibilities, and force the pack members to respect me somehow. That would also have

to start with this pack's previous Alpha and Luna who saw me as nothing but this pack's weak member.

Yes, I will never deny their love for me, and I would never deny them treating me as a daughter; however, I will also not deny the fact that they too have caused me enough pain to last me centuries of needing recovery. The number of toilets that I have cleaned, the cooking, the dish washing. I used to think that it was something that she was trying to teach me because it was something that every girl had to do. Only when I found out that I wasn't their daughter did I understand that they were treating me that way because SHE, in specific, was treating me like some maid that they were raising.

It just killed me that I couldn't see that until the time I took off as I lay on a long bedrest.

The amount of thinking that I did was endless, and the long nights that I spent going back in my memories, trying to find the clues that told me that I was being taken advantage of without my knowledge were countless. However, there was no going back now. Now, my duty was to ensure that no one, not a single soul, managed to take advantage of my daughter. My baby girl was to be my pride and glory, and I wasn't going to allow anyone, regardless of who they were, to break her heart. I was going to protect her with my life if I needed to, but I wasn't going to allow them to treat her the way that they treated me.

"And need I ask what do you mean by that?" Luna Katlyn asked, clearly sounding offended by my words. I smiled at my daughter as she removed her mouth from my nipple, and covering myself, I fixed my shirt before raising my daughter to lay her head on my shoulder as I burped her. I kissed her cheek before looking at Alexander's mum who was waiting for me to respond.

it means that I have no intentions of taking your place as this pack's Luna. If that is what you are worried about, then you can rest assured. I am happy raising my daughter the way that I am. Luna, omega, beta, these titles are the least of my concern right now" I said, answering her.

"You seemed to have forgotten your limits" Luna Katlyn stated coldly "a slap or two should remind you of who is standing in front of you, and believe me, you being my son's mate would make no difference to me. Therefore, mind your limits with me before I force you to"

“For a person who has pretended to love me as a mother, recalling how many times you have slapped me, spanked, locked, insulted, or even had me washing your toilets makes me regret ever calling you mum” I said, remembering the fact that as a child, I actually believed that she was my mother, reminding her of it,. “I just couldn’t understand how I didn’t see the amount of abuse that she has put me through compared to anyone else in this pack, and how I was still more than willing to give her my love and earn hers.

“I have raised you up as my daughter, and if you are ignorant to remember that, then I believe that speaking to you is pointless. However, I will have you remember, had it not been for me, you would have been eaten by the other wolves” she said, getting up from her place. She nodded at Nia to follow her, and opening the door, her next words caught me off guard, annoying me more than I let out in front of my daughter who was currently closing her eyes to sleep, forcing me to stay calm so as not to scare her.

“The next time you cross your limits with me, or think that you can, I will be sure to take my 1

granddaughter from you, and believe me, she can be fed porridge for all I care. She does not need your milk; therefore, I suggest, from now on, that you remind yourself of your limits; otherwise, I will be the one reminding you of them” Luna Katlyn said, walking out of the room before she could hear my response. I simply rolled my eyes, as I looked at my baby girl as I got up to put her in her crib. I smiled at her and ran my finger over her belly, my chest swelling when I saw that she was growing big, and more beautiful with each passing day, making me grow attached to her.

“They can all dream of taking you from me, bambina, I won’t let them separate us, okay?”

Alexander:

I watched in silence as mom and Nia left the house.

Having heard them talking to Scarlett, I was sure to stay out of things, not wanting to interfere, however, that didn’t mean that I was going to let things slide.

“Carter, we need to prepare the pack for the night’s shift, and I don’t want any mistakes to happen. It is bad enough that we had a few of them roaming around other territories, and had they been in a hostile mood. things would

have been bloody, and that is not something that I want to deal with” I said, and Carter nodded in understanding. I looked at dad who smiled, putting a hand on my shoulder. I nodded at him and turned to look at Jason who was arranging the new shifters. Those who had broken the rules last night were the new shifters, and I didn’t want that happening again.

“I take it that we all understood from last month that mistakes like entering another pack’s territory came with a consequence” I said, watching as they sat down. The pack members stayed quiet, looking down at their laps, avoiding my eyes. Their parents knew that me punishing them last month was for their own goods; therefore, I was thankful that none of them dared interfere.

“I don’t want such mistakes happening again, as I will be sure to do more than just lock you up in your houses for three days. This time, it would be a cell, and the next, would be a different punishment, and I don’t think that you want to enter the cells” I said, looking at them, making sure that I had their attention. I looked at Jason who nodded, crossing his arms over his shoulder, knowing that he and four other wolves would be surrounding the pack’s corners, ensuring that neither one of them went crazy.

“Yes, Alpha” the kids said and I nodded. I looked at the house’s door smiling when I saw Scarlett walking out of the house with Anastasia in her arms. She has been debating on whether or not to do so; however, we both knew that she was four months old now, and was able to at least leave the house for a bit, if only around the pack’s grounds.

I nodded at her to come, and despite her hesitating for a second, I smiled when she approached me. The pack members who haven’t been seeing her for a while now. Scarlett was sure to stay away from all the spotlight, and was sure to simply recover and tend to our daughter. The two of us were barely making any progress; therefore, this was more than I could even expect from her.

I extended my hand to her, and smiling, she approached me, thinking that I wanted Anastasia; however, I wrapped my arm around her, pulling her to my chest, ensuring that everyone around was watching. Dad smiled, being proud of the decision that I made. I had to admit, had it not been for him, I didn’t know how things would have ended up between Scarlett and I; however, I chose not to want to think about that right now.

“I believe that most of you are yet to see my daughter” I said, smiling at Anastasia who cooed upon hearing my voice. Scarlett smiled, and taking a

strand of my mate's hair, Nasia decided to pull it, making my mate wince a bit "and I have not announced the fact that I have found my mate..."

Scarlett's eyes widened in surprise, clearly not expecting it, but I smiled, wanting her to know that she was no longer alone. The fact that she felt like she was, was something that I couldn't deny being the cause or for a long while; however, I had my plans on making things light between the two of us, and the first plan was to announce her as my mate, and that was something that I knew would put almost everyone in place.

The females who were either single or hoping to at least have a chance with the Alpha after Delilah left frowned, clearly annoyed by what they just heard; however, I had my attention on the woman who was standing beside me, ensuring that SHE knew that she was the only one I was looking at.

The pack's women didn't matter to me, and needless to say, they never did, not in terms of anything that sensual at least. Me being their Alpha simply meant that I was responsible for them; however, it didn't mean that I would want anything to do with them.

"I want the pack members to act as so. Her being my mate forces each one of you to respect her, and those who don't respect her, or dare cross their limits with her would be crossing their limits with me directly, and believe me, the last thing any of you want is having me as an enemy, and I believe that you all know that" I said, looking around the pack who avoided my eyes. They knew well enough that I took no shit for excuses. I was not one to enforce harsh punishments on my pack members, and thankfully, I never had to force them into doing something that they didn't want to do; however, that did not mean that I would allow anyone, regardless of who they were, to break the rules that I put in.

Mom's eyes met mine from a distance, and raising an eyebrow at her, I let her know, silently, that I was well aware of what she did, and that if I was being quiet about it now, it was because I wanted to. The fact that she was my mom gave her a different treatment; however, it didn't mean that she could go around doing what she wanted, especially since I knew that she was now feeling threatened for the power that she may think she's losing.

"Yes, Alpha" the pack members said, and Scarlett smiled, looking up at me. I kissed her temple, making sure not to hurt our daughter in the process, and smiling down at Anastasia who fisted my shirt. I took her hand in mine, gently kissing it when I pulled from Scarlett's temple. She hummed in response, and

taking my baby in my arms, I looked around the pack members. My princess was going to be my heir, and that was something that I wanted the whole pack to know of. Her eyes studied the pack members, and I knew that she was catching the pack's scent, memorizing it despite how young she was, knowing who she was seeing and where she was. I ran my finger over her stomach gently before handing her back to Scarlett.

"You can all go, but I will expect you to be back here before sundown. There are a few things that we would need to prepare for before the shift, and I believe that we still need a final discussion for the rules. Those who need to be positioned, have to be in their posts right after sundown, and I will not accept any mistakes from you. The younger members of the pack can still make their mistakes as they'll need to learn how to control their instincts; however, you are going to be there to guide them" I said, looking at Jason, Carter, Mason, and the other pack members who were around. I looked at the mothers, knowing that they would be the ones to have the biggest influence on their kids. It was common that a wolf was more attached to his mother than they would ever be to their fathers, especially at a young age.

"I believe that you mothers know that your children would need to guide you. Yes, I understand that some of you can be human, and others can be busy with their own shifting; however, I want you to also be the ones to ensure that you remind your kids of the pack's rules. They know them, but to ensure that neither one of them gets punished, I do not want the same mistakes to occur" I said, looking around the mothers who nodded in understanding, knowing not to go against me this time. I initially wanted to give their kids a tougher punishment; however, it being their first shift, and me choosing to consider the mothers' feelings, I chose not to do so; but they knew that it wouldn't be an every time thing, and it was something that I was reminding them of.

"Yes, Alpha Alexander" they said in sync, nodding at their kids who were looking up at them, maybe hoping that they would try to at least negotiate with me. This was something that I couldn't excuse them for, especially since they could end up costing their own lives, or even worse, could even end up starting a pack war, and that was NOT something that I wanted to deal with. Especially not when I knew that things were still shaky in my own pack.

"Good, you can go and tend to your own things. Tomorrow would be proceeding as usual since it's a weekend; but we would be cutting off a little early if you have anything to finish before you shift tonight. Those who have exams can skip their training for the day, finish up what you need to study for as you won't be able to study tonight, and tomorrow, you can proceed with whatever

is left of your studies” I said, watching as the kids got up from the floor. I wrapped my arm around Scarlett again, and pulled her to my chest, wanting to speak to her. She looked at me and raised an amused eyebrow; however, she didn’t say a word as she walked with me.

The two of us walked for a while, watching as the pack members proceeded with their duties. Scarlett held Nasia in her arms, occasionally looking down at her to ensure that she was not getting annoyed by the different weather. The house was adjusted to one temperature to ensure that it wasn’t too cold or too hot for her, but we couldn’t really do the same thing now, and with the temperature dropping as winter approached, we didn’t want her getting sick; but keeping her inside the house forever was not an option either.

“I take it that you want to say something” I said once we were away from earshot. Scarlett smiled and shook her head. Despite her emotions being completely off. Unless it was her doing her basic duties, I was aware that she didn’t really show any feelings anymore, not like she used to anyway. She was far too broken to do so, and I knew that it was due to everything that she has been through; however, I was well aware that she still looked a lot better than she did when I first brought her back.

The color in her cheeks was back, and despite her not talking as much as she used to, I could tell that the smile on her face was genuine, most of the time at least.

“No, I do not, not in terms of complaining or questioning at least. But I was not aware that you wanted to announce me as your mate” she said, making me smile. I knew that it was something that she wanted. But with everything that the two of us went through, it was something that she chose to keep to herself.

I told you, Scarlett, things are going to be different from now on. Yes, we have been through a rough patch, but things are going to be getting better now” I said and she smiled. Her smile genuine toward me for the first time in months. I couldn’t help my own smile as it formed on my lips. The way she looked at me and the way she didn’t move away from me as we walked told me that things were somewhat changing for the better, and that was something that I wanted to hold on to.

“Is there anyone to stay with Anastasia for the night?” She asked, making me frown in confusion. She smiled, and biting her bottom lip, I couldn’t help the

smile that formed on my lips as I heard her next words, my heart skipping a beat as she spoke them so easily.

“You know, I think that it is about time that our wolves got to know one another after everything that happened” she said “my wolf may have been dormant for a while, but I think that being around her mate can change a few things, how about it?”

Scarlett:

I smiled down at my daughter who was asleep in my arms.

Having breastfed her, she was holding my hand in hers, sleeping peacefully right over my beating heart. I got up from the edge of the bed and gently put her in her crib, wanting her to sleep.

Thankfully, she has been having more nights where she would sleep for a full night, and now, we didn't even need to worry about her waking up every hour or so to either want to be fed or changed. Yes, sure she needed changing, but she mostly didn't wake up through it much.

“If she needs anything...”

“Scarlett, the nurses know what to do, neonata” Alexander said, stopping me, shaking his head at me. He knew that I was more worried about this than I could let out; however, I couldn't help it. This would be the first night that I would be away from her side in months, mostly because I could barely leave the house after being injured, and also because I wanted to make it up to her for not spending as much time with her when she really needed me.

Me being pregnant and carrying her inside me was not the best experience, and I didn't think that I did the best job at that. The number of things that I have missed, and I had to admit, had it been for Alexander finding me on the night that I was giving birth to her, I believe that I would have lost her that night, and that was not something that I wanted to think of anymore. Thankfully, my relationship with Alexander was also growing stronger, to some extent. The two of us have agreed to at least try and throw our past behind us. We knew that we both couldn't delete or erase it, it wasn't that simple. However, we both knew that eating one another alive for it wouldn't change anything at this point. We had a daughter to take care of, and we had a life to live, and we both knew that we only lived once, therefore, choosing to

live our life while fighting, arguing, or constantly being upset was not something that we wanted to do, especially not at this point.

“I know that, but you know that this would be the first time she’s left alone throughout a whole night” I said, pouting my lips. Alexander smiled and nodded at the nurses to leave us alone. He stayed quiet for a few seconds, motioning for me to sit on the bed. The bed the two of us started sharing a lot more lately. I knew that it was only a matter of time before we left this room; however, I couldn’t help but dread the idea of not waking up in his arms anymore. I blamed it on the fact that I got too used to being in his arms, and that was not something that I did not want to think of right now.

“Scarlett, this would be the first time you shift in months. You owe it to yourself to at least have fun” he said, and I sighed. I knew that he was right. My wolf hasn’t allowed me to shift since we were rejected. Mostly because I was pregnant at first and a pregnant wolf didn’t shift, then she was just as broken and depressed as I was. Therefore, to know that she was willing to have me shifting tonight, I knew that I didn’t want to miss it.

“I know, Alexander, believe me, I want more than anything to be able to shift. Hell, I missed it so much, but this would be the first time away from her, and I am just worried...”

“The nurses would be by her side throughout the whole night, and not one, or two, all four will be beside her, ensuring that she wouldn’t need anything. Plus, the two of us would be able to feel her if she grew irritated, and we are not going to be far. One different feeling and we will be back by her side, ensuring that she is fine” Alexander said, assuring me. I nodded, and he extended his arm, hesitating for a second, before wrapping it around me, pulling me to his chest. I smiled and laid my head on it, allowing myself to listen to his calm heartbeat. I had to admit, this was something that I was more than happy about, and it was something that I wouldn’t change for the world. And despite the anger that I still felt toward Luna Katlyn for threatening me the way that she has, I was sure to stay quiet about it, not wanting to stir the man against his mother.

“You know, I wish the two of us were always like this” Alexander said, making me frown in confusion. I pulled away from his arms to look him in the eye and he sighed before pinching the bridge of his nose I don’t mean to compare you right now therefore, please don’t get me wrong here”

“Get you wrong, in what exactly?” I asked, raising an eyebrow.

“Well, I know that the two of us were always close, very close, but I was stupid enough to listen to someone who separated the two of us, and that is something that was very stupid of me I know that I lost a lot, but I also know that despite choosing her because of her rank, I lost someone who brought me peace” Alexander said, making my heart skip a beat. I knew that he was never comfortable with Delilah. The man was in constant fight with his parents who didn’t want her as his mate It was something that everyone knew, hell, even Delilah knew it; however, the woman was strong and determined enough to fight for what she wanted regardless of what everyone said.

“Alexander, you were happy with Delilah, regardless of how the two of you ended, the woman tried her best to satisfy you...”

“Sexually, Scarlett” Alexander said, stopping me “but I don’t remember when was the last time the two of us had a proper conversation. Yes, I do know that she was there for me through a lot, and I know that our relationship started out being beautiful. Hell, I don’t even know how we ended up being the way that we were. But I know that in the end, it was her trying to get in my bed, and when she was denied that, the two of us were just off”

“Maybe because you no longer wanted her around?” I asked, and he sighed but nodded.

“I realized a little too late that losing you was the worst mistake that I have done, and I know that you might think that I am being cliché right now, and I wouldn’t blame you for wanting to slap me in the face for being too ‘sweet’ or ‘affectionate’, but it is the reality of things. I lost a part of myself when I lost you, and I broke you for it. I know that I have apologized, but I also know that you haven’t forgiven me for it” Alexander said, making me frown “yes, you have the heart of a fucking angel who is still sitting in front of me without bothering to spit on my face, and you’re giving me the time to listen when I know that any other female might have ended up breaking my nose after everything that we’ve been through”

“Alexander, where are we going with this conversation? You know for fact that the two of us are no longer the ‘enemies’ that we grew to be for a long while, and you know that I stayed to be your mate not to judge you. Yes, the two of us are going to be taking a longer route to that, but I believe that at least we are making progress. The two of us have started sharing meals, we’ve even opened up to one another. You go to work, come back, and the two of us talk, like adults, rather than fight and argue every other word, and that is something that is very important” I said, taking his hand in mine. Alexander looked down

at my hand for a second, then at me, giving me a gentle smile that reached his eyes, and returning the smile, then I ran my finger over his hand “yes, we had one of the roughest paths that could be taken. Yes, the two of us can end up never forgetting about it. But that rough path gave us our beautiful daughter. Yes, she didn’t come in the way that you would have hoped for her to come, and yes, the two of us fought a lot after she was born; however, I know that it is also my fault that you haven’t accepted her”

It was something that I came to conclusion with when I was once in bed and saw him waking up to her cries as he let me sleep. The man was genuinely sweet with his daughter, caring even. The main issue that was there was the fact that the man was in pain that he missed her wowing inside me. I came back one day, carrying and giving birth to a child, HIS child, a child that I would have hidden and probably lost, if he hadn’t found me the other night, and as much as I teated losing her, forcing myself to hide her existence from him, I knew that I could have lost her either way if not for him.

“I am guessing that the two of us have wronged one another more than we could simply just choose to...

“Why does it matter now?” I asked, stopping him “we have been living together for two months...” “Because I heard mom speaking to you, and though you have no idea how much I respect and appreciate you not coming to talk to me about it, I hate the fact that you took that pain on your own” Alexander said, making my heart drop to my stomach. My heart raced against my chest and sighing, Alexander pinched the bridge of his nose for a second “I know that it is not something that you should have been through, and her threatening you with our baby is not her right; but I am still thankful that you respected the fact that she is the pack’s ex Luna, my mother, and your daughter’s grandmother enough not to respond”

“Alexander, your mum raised me up as a kid, and yes, despite her taking advantage of me for years, I knew that she was doing it because she took it upon herself to take care of a daughter that was not hers” I said, looking him in the eye “I did not appreciate her threat, I will admit that much; but that did not mean that I was going to cross my limits with her or that I was going to set the two of you against one another”

I know, it was something that I realized when I saw you walking out of the house with Nasia in your arms earlier...”

“Good” I said, stopping him. I took his hand in mine, gently squeezing it “now, can we please go out and check on the pack members? The two of us still need to get ready for our shift, and us talking about this could end up being done by midnight”

Alexander chuckled and nodded, his smile reaching his eyes, making my heart skip a beat “alright, neonata. Let’s get going then...”

Alexander:

I smiled, watching as Scarlett walked beside me.

I wrapped my arm around her waist, pulling her to me, and watching as the pack members took a step back, they allowed us to walk past them, watching as the moon rose to its full height.

I was the first to howl, and returning the call, the pack members howled back, shifting to our wolves as the night’s air grew colder. My wolf, a black wolf with a white belly, faced my mate’s which was grayish white. Her eyes met mine, and she lowered her head, clearly still affected by the rejection.

The wolf sat down, lowering her head to the ground, ashamed, and in return, I got down on my stomach and practically crawled toward her, purring as I did. She looked at me, clearly confused, and nudging her head with my own, I waited for her to react for a second before I purred again, rubbing my muzzle against hers.

She closed her eyes in response to my action, and letting out a low whimper, I knew that she was opening up about her pain; however, it was what I wanted. I wanted her wolf to be free of the pain that • she was blocking in, and before the night ended, I wanted to ensure that my mate and I were in relationship, or acceptance terms.

I got up from the ground, nudging her with my head, causing her to scowl in annoyance. It amused me that I could read her VERY expressive wolf as easily as I could. But that could also be the fact that we grew up together, and that Scarlett was by my side when I first shifted, and I was by her side when she shifted for the first time. At that time, I was aware of the spark between us, and I would be lying if I said that I didn’t suspect the fact that we were mates; however, a mating bond is not expressed until we’ve reached adulthood and that was why I couldn’t catch the fact that Scarlett was indeed my mate.

I nudged her again, and this time, wagged my tail, wanting her to play. Scarlett cocked her head to the side, studying my expression for a second, before I nudged her one more time. That seemed to do the trick as she got up from the ground; however, she wasn't in the same playful mood that I was in. She got up in an attempt to attack me for nudging her way too many times, especially since I was still aware that she was upset with me. She let out a low growl, warning me, but I jumped to her side and leaned in to rub my muzzle against her own.

"Calm, neonata" I said, using our link as an omega and her Alpha. She whimpered in response, and purring, I licked her nose, causing her to shake her head in surprise. I ran toward the woods before stopping when I noticed that she didn't follow me, and turning around to face her, I got down and wagged my tail, cocking my head to the side as I waited for her to come. Taking the hint, Scarlett's wolf took a hesitant step forward before sprinting toward me, causing my wolf to purr in satisfaction.

I got up and sprinted, knowing that she was a few steps behind; however, that didn't last for long as she took a log to her advantage and jumped on it before passing me. Bumping me in the process. I stumbled on my footing, and noticing that, she stopped completely and walked toward me, sniffing my muzzle for a second before I attacked her, taking her by surprise. She went to attack me back, but I licked her nose, stopping her, letting her know that I was simply playing with her.

She purred in response, and that was all it took for me to melt. My heart raced, and had I been in wolf form, I knew that I would have had her inside the bedroom; however, I knew that it was still far too early for me to even consider that. The woman was still very hesitant about the fact of being around me; therefore, I knew that I couldn't risk making one wrong move.

I got up from the ground, my wolf towering my mate's for a second. She flinched, lowering her ears, fearing that I would hurt her; however, I leaned in and laid my head on hers, letting her know that she was safe. She took a second before she relaxed, or allowed herself to loosen up before she took a step back and sniffed me. I stayed still, giving her the chance to do so, wanting her to recall the mating-scent I knew that the scent was not one that she would have wanted to have, not now at least, not after she's been as broken as she was by me; however, I wanted her to trust that I wouldn't break her again, and it was something that I was determined to prove to her.

Scarlett hesitated for a second before her wolf buried her nose in my neck, sniffing it. I purred in response, and lowering my head, I couldn't help but want to smile when she lay down on the ground under me, wanting me to lay by her side. Doing as requested, I lay beside my mate who lowered her head on the ground, listening to the quiet surrounding around us before she moved a little to press her body against mine, nudging my muzzle with her own and licking my nose. I rubbed our muzzles for a second, before watching as she lay her head on my wolf's chest, her purrs rumbling through her chest, causing mine to vibrate.

However, that wasn't what had my wolf's heart skip a beat or my own heart dropping to my stomach. My mate, my wolf's mate, looked at me, allowing me to listen to her thoughts as she broke the barrier that she built between us when I rejected her, letting me know that she was willing to give it a shot. Her scent which smelled like roses and vanilla, now filled my nostrils as she stopped blocking her scent as my mate, and purring in response, Scarlett simply responded with her mind link, her next words making my heart swell with more emotions than she could imagine. Hell, those feelings were ones that even I couldn't imagine, especially since I could read and understand the underlined meanings under them.

The struggling and her suffering, I have seen them all; therefore, to know that she was happy was something that I couldn't be more grateful for, and knowing that it was because of me, I knew that I was blessed. The four simple words played in my head, loud and clear, even though she had said them a minute ago as she looked at me with a gentle gaze that I couldn't help but miss throughout the time that I lost it.

I hated admitting it, but I knew that I was very wrong in the way that I have acted around her, and that was something that she should have lived through, especially since I knew that she was too good for me, or anyone to say the least. The woman was an angel coming from above. It was the ONLY explanation to the way she acted.

I looked at her as she stared at the stream ahead, her words playing in my head again, something that I haven't heard from the woman that I called mine for years. Delilah always believed that everything that I did was done because had to, whereas Scarlett never got half of what Delilah ever got, and yet, she was always more genuine and grateful for the smallest of things.

And now, instead of lashing out on me after everything, she was here, making me feel like I was a complete fool for losing her, simply for saying one, small sentence...

“Thank you, Alpha Alexander...”

Scarlett:

I woke up on Alexander’s chest.

His arm was wrapped around my back as I lay on my stomach on top of him. The two of us slept on the grass in the meadow he took me to last night, but that was not what had my heart dropping to my stomach.

The two of us were completely naked, and needless to say, bodies were pressed against one another. I tried moving from his arms only for him to groan, tightening his arms around me as he stopped me “and where do you think you’re going?”

His voice was deep with sleep, causing my body to flush. He opened his eyes to look at me, smirking as he realized the effect he was having on me. The bastard was using our mating bond against me. He lowered his hand on my lower back, gently massaging it, making my eyes widen in surprise.

“What are you doing, Alexander?” I asked, glaring at him.

“Do you know how fucking hard it is right now to not make love to you until the whole pack hears you screaming my name?” He asked, spreading my legs using his thigh as he pushed me down over his hardening cock, making me grind over him to feel his hardening cock under me. My heart raced against my chest, and letting out an involuntary moan, I blushed crimson.

“Alexander...”

“I won’t force you into anything that you don’t want, neonata” he whispered, his voice growing raspy “but I do believe that we should go inside before anyone sees my hard cock for you”

I laughed, shaking my head. Smirking, Alexander tightened his arms around me, pulling me up as he stood. His eyes met mine, and wrapping my legs around his torso, he held me to his body, not wanting to put me down.

“What are you doing?” I asked.

“Fighting the urge of claiming you as mine” he said shrugging his shoulders, making me laugh “thank you for shifting with me last night”

“I should be the one to thank you, Alexander” I said honestly. It had been a while since I felt my wolf, let alone felt at peace, and seeing as she chose to give in to him last night, I was more than grateful for agreeing to shift with him last night. He smiled, and leaning in, I found myself kissing his cheek before he could say a word.

Alexander simply smiled, and walking toward the house, I was thankful that most of the pack was either asleep or already inside.

“Now, how about we go and shower before going to see Nasia? I don’t think that the nurses should see us in this...”

“Or, we can/shower, doze off a bit, until morning because I don’t think that you’re realizing that it is still a while into dawn” Alexander said, walking toward his room.

“My room is the other way...”

I know where your room is, Scarlett” Alexander said, stopping me from completing my sentence. His eyes met mine, and setting me down in front of his room, he opened the door before motioning for me to go inside.

I hesitated for a second, this was the first time he’s invited me inside his room since he started dating Delilah, and though I never used to sleep in his room. The two of us simply spoke when he wanted to tell, me something in private or when he was just annoyed, and at times, it was just us spending time together; however, that was when he lived with his parents. The two of us barely spoke at all by the time he got his own place.

I turned to look at Alexander only for my heart to skip a beat when he connected his lips with my own, taking me by surprise. He pushed me back against the wall, caging me between his arms as he put them on the wall either side of my head, and putting my hands on his chest, I couldn’t help the low moan that escaped my lips upon feeling his skin against my palm.

He opened the door, with his arm wrapped around my waist, as he pushed me back into the bedroom, and pulling away from my lips, he turned to the door

before closing it. My cheeks flushed, and looking around the room, my eyes widened in surprise when I processed the fact that we were actually inside.

The room's walls were grayish white, aside from one wall that had a black wolf's painting. I knew that he was the one that made it. It was a hobby of his since we were kids, and I'm guessing that it was something that he chose not to drop as he grew older. The king sized bed was in the center of the room, literally, it wasn't by a wall or anything. His dresser, which had his colognes, pens, and cigarettes was beside the closet, and his desk was on the far side of the room, beside the window.

There was also a couch, but the couch was in a whole sitting area which had a TV, carpet, and coffee table on the left side of his suite, and there were two doors. One leading outside the room, which was behind me, and the second, I could only assume was for the bathroom.

"Do you like it?" Alexander asked, breaking my train of thoughts. I turned to look at him, blushing at the fact that he caught me staring, before I nodded. He smiled, his smile reaching his eyes as he cupped my cheeks, gently running his thumb over it. I smiled back, ignoring the pang that I felt in my chest at the scent of the woman who was here before me. I could tell that her things were removed; however, I couldn't simply ignore the fact that he had gone to her, wanting her to come back, before he decided that he no longer wanted her. I knew that it was stupid of me, but I couldn't help but feel like I was a simple replacement "I want you to start staying here with me..."

"Alexander..."

"We don't have to do anything that you don't want" Alexander said, stopping me. His eyes studied my expression for a second, noticing the fear that I had in them "if I wanted to hurt you or take you against your will, believe me, Scarlett, you're more tempting now than you ever were. Your beautiful plump lips, your sprawled hair, beautiful body, your innocent smile. All that is enough to just want me to claim you right here and now; but I didn't. I am respecting the fact that I know that you could still be scared of the fact that I could hurt you, and I am also respecting the fact that you might not be ready for anything like that. Therefore, I don't want you thinking because the two of us are going to be sharing a bed that I would end up hurting you"

"I am not afraid that you would take me against your will, Alexander" I said, honestly, wrapping my arms around myself as I feared his anger. I didn't want

him getting upset with me, and I especially didn't want to ruin a beautiful moment that we were having.

"What are you worried about, Scarlett?" Alexander asked, and looking down at my feet, I avoided his eyes.

"What if you grow tired of me? Or if I'm Just a replacement..." his eyes softened, the reaction not what I expected it to be His eyes studied my expression for a second before he took a step back, walking toward his closet. He pulled out a shirt of his, and a towel, handing them to me.

"First of all, you are not going to be anyone's replacement If anything, I will prove to you that YOU are going to be my world, it would take time, I am aware, but I will prove it to you eventually. Second, go and shower, for now, you'll wear my shirt, and when we wake up, I'll have the maids bring your things here" he said, letting me know that he won't take no for an answer "we can even bring Nasia's crib here. That way, it would be easier in terms of her sleeping here, she would have her room, but at least we would know that she has her own crib here beside us as well"

"You want me here, by your side..."

"You are my mate" Alexander said, stopping me "the mistake that I made was not showing it to you in every possible way when I should have before. However, I will be sure to change that, my beautiful neonata..."