

She's staying

Isabella's POV

The next morning, I woke up with a pounding headache. I didn't sleep much last night, tossing and turning on the bed. The memory of my conversation with Xavier yesterday kept replaying inside my mind.

I didn't receive any answer from him when I asked him if he ever loved me. I only noticed how his eyes ickered for a moment, as if shocked, and there were some unknown emotions in them that I couldn't place a finger on. But it only lasted for a moment until his face went back to the usual reaction each time he sees me. Cold and indifferent.

I sighed and sat up. It was not only my head that was hurting. The pain in my heart feels so suffocating. Especially when I saw the divorce papers on the ground which still lay where Xavier had tossed them last night.

I never imagined that this was how my life would turn out. Pain, anger, regret... the mixture of feelings inside my chest wouldn't disappear, only turning worse as seconds went by. However, I know that I have to make a decision for my own sake.

As I stood up, a wave of dizziness washed over me along with the feeling of nausea, my stomach churning as I rushed to the bathroom and vomited. Tears hung within the corner of my eyes as I rinsed my mouth.

My body's sudden state left me confused. Perhaps it was all due to stress and lack of sleep. I haven't had the time to look after myself these past few days.

As I shook off these thoughts, I prepared myself and got dressed, thinking about my plans for today. I wanted to talk to Xavier's parents. During the three years of my marriage with Xavier, they have always been supportive of me, and I knew that if I told them about the divorce, they wouldn't definitely be pleased with the situation.

But since I had already made up my mind, I needed to tell them my decision.

With heavy steps, I made my way to the pack house. It was still early in the morning and the hallways were quiet. Scanning the interior and walls, which has been my second home ever since I came of age, made me feel so melancholy, realizing that I'll be leaving here soon.

When I entered the dining area, I saw that Xavier's parents were already there, having breakfast. Surprise was evident on their faces when they saw me approaching.

Well, these past few months, I rarely come here for meals anymore.

"Isabella..." Luna Grace greeted me with a warm smile, but her eyes showed concern when I finally neared them. "What happened? You look pale. Are you feeling alright?"

"I'm fine, Luna, Alpha." I also greeted Alpha Martin as I forced a smile at them. "I just need to talk to you both about something important."

They exchanged worried glances but then gestured for me to sit.

"What is it? Is something the matter?"

Taking a deep breath, I tried to steady my racing heart. This was it.

"I've decided to leave the pack." My voice came out firmer than I expected. "I've already signed the divorce papers, and I'll be moving out as soon as possible."

Luna Grace gasped, shock was evident on her face while Alpha Martin frowned.

"You and my son are going to divorce?"

"Yes, alpha." The feeling on my chest was so tight that I had to take a deep breath from time to time.

"Dear, is this about Sophia? Please think twice... My son is just confused." Luna Grace reached out to hold my hand.

"It was Xavier who got the divorce papers..." I said, trying to keep my voice low and not lose my composure in front of them.

"Isabella, are you sure about this? You don't have to rush into anything. I'll talk to my son." Alpha Martin said with a frown.

But I shook my head. "He would only be more unwilling if you do that, Alpha. Besides, I can't stay here any longer... Not with everything that's happened. My bottom-line has been tested too many times, and I can't take it anymore..."

"I'm so sorry to hear that, dear." Luna Grace's shaky yet concerned voice touched my heart. I held back her hand firmly.

"It's not your fault, Luna." I said, trying to sound normal even though I was already breaking inside. "I think this is for the best... for both me and Xavier. We can't force things to work out between us."

Then I smiled bitterly. "It's... hopeless."

"I understand, dear. But where will you go? You have no family outside this pack." Luna Grace asked me in worry.

The reality of my situation hit me hard. I had no other place to call home, no one else to turn to. I was alone. But I don't want to stay here and continue living in a lie.

"I'll figure it out, Luna." I said, trying to sound confident even though I knew the uncertainties that was waiting for me better than anyone else.

"This won't do." Alpha Martin spoke firmly. "I promised Jonas that we would take care and protect you. The outside world is dangerous."

Jonas was my late foster father and the former beta of this pack during Alpha Martin's reign. He had made significant contributions to the pack and even risked his life to protect Alpha Martin in the past, that's why, on the verge of his death, Alpha Martin promised him to take care of me.

A bitter smile formed on my lips. "I'll be safe, Alpha. I'll try to find a new path for myself."

Before they could respond, the door suddenly burst open, and Xavier stormed in with a dark and unreadable expression on his face. My heart sank when his eyes landed on me, noticing the fury in his eyes.

"No divorce is happening." He suddenly declared, his voice echoing in the room. "She's staying and that's final."