ALPHA'S REGRET: HIDING MY EX-HUSBAND'S TWINS

HIDING 59

The Luna he never replaced

ISABELLA'S POV

The realization that Xavier hadn't replaced me, that he hadn't moved on after all these years, sent me both a feeling relief and a sharp pang of regret in me.

I was silent for a while, deeply pondering Jane's words. I couldn't even believe it somehow. The idea that no one had replaced me—that Xavier hadn't sought another woman to fill the position of Luna during the years I disappeared, was both shocking and deeply unsettling.

In the past, he had never really shown me affection. I had always believed that he married me not out of love but because it was his duty as Alpha and as my fated mate. I had convinced myself that my role was merely to fulfill the responsibilities of the Luna, that our bond was more about duty than desire.

On the day of the rogue attack five years ago, just before I fell off the cliff, Xavier confronted me. He accused me of trapping him into our marriage, claiming I had drugged him to spend that night together. His words that day had casted a shadow over me that has never truly lifted, even after all these years. It left me hesitant and constantly questioning whether he was ever genuinely affected by my disappearance

or if everything between us was nothing more

than obligation.

But then, why had he never sought another capable woman to replace me if I was no longer

needed, after I disappeared?

My palms turned clammy as I recalled the intensity of his gaze every time our eyes met. Deep inside, I somehow knew the answer, but I was still terrified to confront it. The fear that perhaps

these feelings were just illusions and misguided hopes, that Xavier only wanted me back

because there's already Liam and Lily around, made me uncertain.

Jane's voice broke through my thoughts once more. "It was Luna Grace who took over some

of the responsibilities. The pack never really had another Luna after you. Alpha Xavier never find another one either."

My tongue felt as if it was glued to the roof of my mouth as she continued explaining. The weight of her words pressed down on me, leaving me unable to speak. I struggled to find my

voice, with so much chaotic emotions surging inside me.

"Luna, I heard you came back this time with two kids... Are they...?" Jane's eyes searched mine

with a gentle curiosity.

I nodded slowly, the weight of her question sinking in. I knew what she was gonna ask. So I

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"They are my twins with Xavier."

finally answered, this time, with a much calmer voice.

so too. The news has spread in the pack."

Jane's reaction was one of shock, though it seems not that much as she nodded. "I thought

A wave of anxiety washed over me at the thought of becoming the center of attention within the Lunar Crescent Pack. I had known that my return would stir up discussions, but the idea of

my children being the subject of gossip was unsettling. I was worried about what others might say-not just about me, but more about

children. But then, this was a consequence of the decisions I made in the past. Now, I had to face it

head-on. I had to protect Liam and Lily, to give them the best life I could, even if it meant

dealing with the pack's scrutiny.

"What did they say?" I ask in a low tone, quite dreading of what might come next.

Jane hesitated, her expression becoming more guarded. My heart tightened even more after

seeing the look on her face.

"I don't want to lie about it," she said finally, her voice filled with a mixture of hesitance and

uncertainty. "The pack members have mixed opinions about you coming back, Luna."

I nodded, though I could feel the strain in my shoulders. Jane's words now had an undertone

of reassurance as she continued. "But you don't need to worry too much. Most of us are happy

to finally have you back."

Her reassurance was a small comfort, though it did little to alleviate the complex emotions swirling inside me. I had anticipated the gossip and judgment that would follow my return, but

hearing it acknowledged out loud made it all the more real. I had to remind myself to stay

strong, to not let the pack's opinions affect me more than necessary. As long as they don't cross my line-especially when it comes to my children-I'll handle whatever comes.

"This is Seinna, Beta Lucas' mate." A while later, Jane introduced me to a woman with auburn hair. She was gorgeous, and her stomach was slightly bulging that I immediately

realized she was pregnant. "It's nice to meet you," I said, offering a warm smile.

immediately comforting. This was the first time I met her. Five years ago, I can remember that Lucas, Xavier's beta, still hasn't found his mate. Perhaps it was after I left that the two of them finally met and found each other.

Seinna returned the smile with genuine friendliness. She radiated a warmth that was

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We quickly found common ground, discussing topics related to maternity care. Jane joined in, and we spoke about our experiences with raising children. I learned that Jane had also recently given birth to a boy, and the three of us conversed longer than I expected, though I wasn't complaining.

"It's nice that I've finally met you, the woman whom I've only heard about from the pack. members' conversations," Seinna said softly, her sudden words causing my heart to skip a

Their presence was a soothing balm amid the emotional turmoil I was experiencing, and our easy conversation made me feel a little more at

beat. I braced myself for negative remarks, but her next words were unexpectedly kind. "They all said you were such a strong Luna, even

comparable to our Alpha. In the past, I felt it was quite a pity I hadn't met you sooner."

ease.

"Well, she really is," Jane chimed in with a note of pride, causing me to chuckle softly. I shook my head, feeling a bit self-conscious. "But really, Luna Isabella," Seinna continued, her gaze earnest, "even though I've just met you now, I can sense that you are truly

just be exaggerating. I'm not that great."

"But Alpha Xavier never found another Luna when... you were away." Her voice also turned

more lower and somewhat cautious. "If it were another Alpha, he might have just appointed

I maintained my smile, though it was tinged with a hint of embrassment. "Some of them may

another Luna to keep the pack strong and balanced. Alpha Xavier's actions only proved that

he truly cared about you."

someone else was overwhelming.

Seinna's expression grew more serious.

extraordinary, just as they say."

Her words struck a deep chord within me. My smile faltered, and my heart began to race as the weight of her statement sank in. I admit, I wanted to give Xavier a second chance and I've already decided to give him that. I

had hoped that his actions were a sign of his deep feelings for me, but hearing it confirmed by

your disappearance really affected our Alpha. He said Alpha Xavier had changed completely. He became colder and more... ruthless. Every pack warrior was like standing on a thin layer of

ice due to the intensive training he personally leads."

I listened in silence, my emotions swirling like a storm. The thought that my absence had

Seinna continued, unaware of the impact her words were having on me. "Lucas told me how

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such a huge impact on Xavier was both painful and validating. I had always wondered if that my departure affected him, and all this time, I

haven't really got to confirm. But hearing Seinna's words just now made me feel more certain.

"But then just a few days after you returned, everyone felt a shift. There was a noticeable relief, and Alpha Xavier seemed less harsh," Seinna added.

"Alpha Xavier... never stopped searching for you." As I absorbed their words, my heart was tangled in a web of emotions. The fear, regret, and

the longing I felt were getting more intense and consuming. I knew that I had to face the reality of my situation, to confront the past and navigate the present for the sake of Liam and

Lily. To allow Xavier back into our lives and give us a chance once more... I looked at both Seinna and Jane, trying to steady my emotions. "Thank you for sharing this

with me. It helped me to understand how things have been since I left." They nodded at me, their expressions a genuine sense of support.

I knew that the road ahead would be challenging, but with the support of those around me, I felt a renewed sense of determination to face whatever came next.

Perhaps... it was time to really start anew.