

Chapter 12: See His Face

~ Kate ~

After that talk with Sebastian, they were headed to the hospital. Kate's thoughts went back to his words. 'I won't have those feelings for you.'

'He is so arrogant,' Kate mused while crossing her arms against her chest. 'I can't wait for him to be king, and I can go back home.'

'Who would want a masked man who is also cursed?' She muttered silently while staring at the car's window from the backseat.

Just as she thought of the curse, she realized something. Kate turned to Sebastian and asked, "Is that why you chose me? You had to pick me as your wife so you can potentially break the curse?"

Sebastian had been working on his laptop the whole time. Kate saw how the veins on his neck protruded, yet he ignored her at first.

Whatever it was that kept him busy was probably over. He stopped typing and closed his laptop. Only then did he give her the time. He replied, "Yes and no."

"It was King Henry who suggested the marriage as a form of an alliance." Sebastian answered indifferently. "Yes, I wanted help from your mother. I wasn't going to lie about that. I did not pick you, per se. If it were up to me, I would remain unmarried or choose a less complicated woman."

Kate was stunned by his honesty. She thought she would have to flush it out of him since he was so mysterious about his face. Her mouth hung open as Sebastian leaned back in his seat, closing his eyes.

"So, you still want my help with that?" Kate asked. "For the curse?"

"If you were willing to help me, then yes. I appreciate that this damn curse be lifted," Sebastian said, his eyes remaining shut.

"But you gave me the impression that you did not want to fall in love? No love means no marking. Isn't it what the curse is all about?" Kate pointed out. "So why bother?"

After taking a deep breath, Sebastian opened his eyes. His beautiful blue orbs stared into Kate's. He opened his mouth and then shut it right back. He let out a low growl and said nothing for the rest of the

ride.

"It's really true. You are alive. I'm glad you are okay. I don't know how I could forgive myself for not being able to protect you back then," Gus, the gamma, said to Kate.

After Kate's follow-up talk with Sebastian, they drove to the hospital and into Gus' private room.

Gus was extremely thin. His black hair had grown down his shoulders. He had scars all over his body, and while it looked like he was receiving treatment, watching it made Kate feel woeful. Apparently, what kept him fighting for his life in captivity was the possibility that Kate was in the hands of Alpha Peter. Gus' ultimate goal was to escape one day and save Kate.

How heroic. How selfless. Gus' dedication to Sebastian was even more admirable.

Because of what Kate learned about Gus and how he was in such bad shape, she unknowingly reached for his hand and said, "I'm okay, Gus. I took a rather long detour, but forget about me for now. Please, Gus, take good care of yourself. Rest, stay here in the hospital until you are fully recovered."

Gus turned to Sebastian, sitting across from Kate on his hospital bed. He said, "Alpha, I promise. When I get out of here, I won't fail you anymore. I want to guard your luna personally."

"Let's talk when you get better. You can prove that to me later on," Sebastian said. He leaned down and gave Gus a light hug, saying, "You can feel at ease now, knowing that Kate is alive."

Gus nodded before Cassandra took over, giving Gus his medication and a dose of what looked like a healing potion. The poor man quickly fell asleep out of exhaustion.

"Is that what I think it is?" Kate asked, referring to the liquid in the tube.

"Yes, this is Taplean's healing potion," Cassandra responded. "We had treated you with the same serum while you were unconscious."

Sebastian turned to Kate and revealed, "Now and then, your father sends us a box of your miracle healing potion."

Kate smiled. She did not realize that Sebastian's ties with her father had gone deep to the point that he would share one of their nation's most excellent elixirs.

Taplean, Kate's birth country, was the home of Mount Nefarious, an active volcano that grew the miracle plant called the Fire Root. Its medicinal property was considered magical, but acquiring it was risky because the volcano could erupt anytime. Kate's father, however, had found a way to create a plantation of the said miracle plant with minimal risk of getting exposed to the volcano's unforgiving crater.

For the rest of the day, Kate went around the hospital with Zev, introducing her as Sebastian's future Luna. Everyone gave her a warm smile and greeted her like she was officially the alpha's wife.

Sebastian also brought Kate to the pack's training ground, and it was there that alpha implied how Kate could choose to train in that facility. It was a huge gym that was close to the woods. Outside the gym was an open field covering two hectares, where obstacle courses could be found for the warriors to train with.

All the warriors that Kate came across also bowed down to her with respect and called her the luna. That experience somehow gave Kate a different perspective of the feared Wind Walker Pack.

When evening came, Kate wondered while resting on her bed, "Maybe if I had just married Sebastian from the start, things would not have been difficult for me."

She then thought about Sebastian and the curse. Kate experienced a painful love with Xander, and she agreed that love could kill. However, her parents were true mates. They were fated. She grew up seeing the love between them.

Kate still believed that with the right person, love can still be beautiful. She muttered, "Wouldn't it be funny seeing Sebastian lovey-dovey with someone?"

Suddenly, Kate stood erect. Her eyes widened. During Sebastian's tale, the curse mentioned that his family will forever not find their true mate. Did that mean Sebastian has a destined mate, but the same was also bound by the curse?

Kate's brow raised at the possibility. Then, she recounted the way Sebastian had narrated it. Sebastian's father was in search of his true mate. Thus, Sebastian had a fated mate. They might have even crossed paths, but they both could not feel the mate bond.

"Heck!" Kate internalized. "They could hate each others' guts and not realize they were destined! What if I am his true mate?"

She thought deeply. Then, she began to laugh. Her face reddened at the idea. She snorted as she lay back in bed. She softly muttered, "No. That's not happening. No. Haha. Anything but that!"

"Get some sleep, Kate," she scolded herself before closing her eyes completely.

In the wee hours, Kate awoke, hearing Sebastian's loud voice.

"I'm heading now! Save as many as you can!" Sebastian screamed. "Ask some of those on patrol to help with the rescue!"

Kate rushed out in her nightdress. She caught up with Sebastian outside the packhouse. Sebastian probably noticed her presence when he turned to her and said, "A fire broke out in one of the residential districts down west. I'll be out. Go back to sleep."

She saw Sebastian leap into his wolf form. His bronze mask quickly fell to the ground, but very quickly, his dark brown wolf picked up the mask with his jaws.

Kate's mouth fell open. Sebastian had removed his mask! Her mouth twitched altogether. She offered, "I'll help!"

She did not give him a chance to respond because she was already in her wolf form, trying to catch up to him.

Genuinely, Kate was a helpful person, but a big part of her was also curious about why the alpha had to cover his face! So, if there were a chance to see Sebastian's face, she would take it! Why not hit two birds with one stone?

Kate had a solid plan. As she tried to catch up with Sebastian, she thought, "He will surely shift back into his human form. Before he would put on the mask, I'm going to see his face!"