

The Billionaire Alpha's Contract Lover by Caesar Erickson

Chapter 221

Chapter 221

He was just as much an Alpha as Griffon was, and he didn't give a good god damn if he was on the other's wolf's territory or not.

No one would treat Taya that way.

When Taya's clothes slipped off just now, leaving her exposed, Griffon's pack guards had turned their backs to give Taya privacy. Nudity might be common among shifters and within packs, but it wasn't common for non-shifters. And clearly, this non-shifter meant something to their Alpha, so they wanted to be respectful.

Now that they sensed Jackson's hostility, scented the pheromones of his lycan form, they immediately turned back, shifting into their own lycan forms and leaping at Jackson before he could reach Griffon.

No matter how powerful Jackson was, he was no match for so many men in half-wolf form. He was quickly pinned to the ground, unable to move.

Andre stepped forward, patted him on the shoulder, and smiled, "Alpha Sterling, Alpha Knight has some personal issues to deal with. Please step aside."

His tone was very polite, but his actions were very rough.

Whether Jackson was willing or not, the pack guards pulled him away.

Jackson's chest heaved as he boiled over with rage.

Taya knew nothing good would come of Jackson and Griffon getting into a fight. There were too many pack issues and Alpha issues at play, so she tried to smooth the situation over as best as she could.

Especially since she couldn't bear the thought of either man getting hurt by the other. "Alpha Knight, I'll go with you. Don't hurt him."

The wound on Jackson's head was still bleeding and there was no way he'd be able to combat all Griffon's pack guards. He was a powerful Alpha, but he was weakened from blood loss.

However, Griffon acted as if he hadn't heard her at all. He raised his hand and pinched her chin between his thumb and index fingers.

"You're so worried about him. Did you have a great time sleeping with him, letting him touch you with his filthy hands? I should remove his hands for that."

Taya opened her mouth to retort but didn't know what to say.

He let go of her chin, lifted her coat, and looked at her collarbones covered with bite marks. His expression turned from chilled to glacial.

"You two really can't bear to be apart from each other, even during that time of the month..."

Taya was floored. She had only told Greyson that she was on her period. How did Griffon know?

She looked at Griffon in shock, only to see his eyes fall on her blood-stained hands.

That was a lot of assumptions for him to make.

In the face of his humiliation and distrust, Taya was much calmer than before.

She said in a low voice, "We are no longer together. Whom I sleep with, how I do it, and when I do it is none of your business."

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Before Taya could blink, Griffon's large hand was wrapped around her neck, and she was lifted off the ground.

The force of his tight fist choked her airway, suffocating her.

The suffocating feeling was slowly taking hold of her heart, making her desperately gasp for air.

However, Griffon only tightened his grip on her neck...

Taya tried to tug at the corner of Griffon's shirt with trembling hands, but she didn't have the strength. She'd never have the strength to fight back against a ruthless Alpha like him.

She could only look at him with tears as she struggled to breathe, hoping he would show mercy and let her go.

Seeing her face abnormally pale, as if on the verge of death, Griffon quickly let go of her and tossed her to the ground.

After taking the chance to breathe, Taya lay there with her hands covering her heart.

With difficulty, she managed to get out the word, "Medicine..."

She needed to take her heart medicine or get oxygen.

Otherwise, she would die!

Every time she saw Griffon, she would take a lot of medicine to control her condition.

For so many years, she had only had an attack once in front

of him, but that time he mistakenly thought that she was pretending to be ill for money.

Since then, she had hidden her heart disease very well and had never told him about it.

But now...

Taya stretched her hand to Griffon and begged for help in a trembling voice. "I... Heart attack... Please... save me..."

She was not afraid of death, but the feeling of suffocating made her body and brain's survival instincts kick in.

Griffon narrowed his eyes at her.

"Where is the medicine?"

The medicine was...

Oh no.

She'd taken an extra dose right before leaving the house.

Which meant she hadn't brought it with her.

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Taya gave up on asking for help.

Covering her heart, she turned over and looked up at the sky.

It was dark and gloomy, without a trace of light, as if she had come to hell...

It was her time, and she accepted it.

Then, she felt the world spin around her, and a man picked her up.

Taya forced her eyes open in his strong arms and looked at the perfect profile.

She couldn't see the expression in his eyes clearly, but she could feel that he was holding her very tightly as if he was afraid of losing her.

This was the first time Griffon had shown her affection or care in front of anyone.

She was greedy for such an embrace and couldn't help but to lean her head on his chest.

I'll just indulge myself for once...

Griffon quickly put Taya into the car.

Walking toward the hotel, Tara saw Griffon getting in the car with a woman in his arms. Her face darkened, and she hurriedly walked over, her wolf rippling inside of her with warning.

"Griffon, who is she?" she asked.

When Griffon saw her, he quickly closed the car door so Tara couldn't see who the woman was.

She could only stare at the woman in the passenger seat through the dark window tint.

"I said, who is she?" she growled out.

Griffon had already proposed to her, and they were even talking about when their mating ceremony would be. But here he was, embracing another woman and putting her in his car.

And for everyone to see!

"Why aren't you saying anything?"

Ignoring her, Griffon went straight to the driver's seat, got in the car, and closed the door without hesitation.

When Tara saw the stretch limo disappear from her sight at an extremely fast speed, it was everything she could do to keep from shifting into her wolf and chasing after the car. She hadn't even been able to catch a sniff, to scent if the woman was familiar. And she knew better than to ask Griffon's pack guards.

They wouldn't say a peep about anything unless they had been explicitly given permission to.

She took out her phone and made a call. "Find out who the woman is that accompanied Alpha Knight to Seaview Hotel today!"

Breathless, Taya used all her strength to turn her head and look at Griffon. He was concentrating on the road as he drove at high speeds.

“You... Go... Your mate... Don’t worry...about me...”

Every syllable was a struggle.

She leaned back against the passenger seat and tried to take a deep breath, but she could not relieve the suffocating feeling no matter how hard she tried.

Griffon frowned and glanced at her, but he didn’t reply. With a

Once the car stopped, he came around the side of the car to pick her up. Taya stretched out her weak hand to pull his white shirt.

“I... I don’t want...hospital...”

Taya’s fingers were cold, as if her body temperature was dropping rapidly. Or maybe she was losing circulation?

Either way, Griffon’s heart trembled, and his wolf pawed at him that he had to hurry.

“Listen to me. You’re struggling to breathe, and there’s oxygen in the hospital.”

After comforting her, Griffon held her tightly and went straight to the emergency room. One of the doctors rushed forward.

“Alpha Knight—”

“Stella, I think she’s had a heart attack. Help!”

Stella was interrupted by Griffon before she could even speak.

She glanced at the woman in Griffon’s arms, then quickly led him toward a hospital room.

“Come with me!”

She pushed open the door and asked him to put her on the bed.

Seconds later, an oxygen mask was over Taya’s ashen face.

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Breathing in the fresh oxygen made Taya feel like a fish that had been out of water for too long, suddenly returning to the pond and regaining a new life.

She grabbed the oxygen mask and desperately inhaled.

Seeing that her face had regained a hint of color, Griffon’s furrowed brow started to

unwrinkle slightly.

He looked at Stella, who was examining Taya. "How is she?" he asked.

After listening for a while, Stella felt something was wrong with Taya's heart.

"The oxygen has helped a bit, but I need to examine her further and run some tests."

Taya's heart didn't sound healthy at all, and given how she looked and her symptoms, Stella was sure it was some type of heart failure. But she didn't dare to say anything in front of Griffon before she had conclusive test results.

"Run everything. I need to know exactly what's wrong with her," Griffon demanded with a growl, letting the commanding

tone of his Alpha seep through.

Stella nodded. "I'll go make the arrangements."

Hearing their conversation, Taya gave up struggling.

Her illness could no longer be hidden. If Griffon knew, then let him know.

After Stella left, Griffon took out his phone and called Andre. "Two things. Remove the hotel's surveillance footage and shut Jackson's mouth up."

"Yes, Alpha," Andre replied respectfully.

Only then did Griffon put down his phone and look at Taya. "Why didn't you tell me you had a heart attack?"

His expression was as unmoved as ever, as if he was not worried about her illness but instead blamed her for hiding it.

Seeing his unconcerned expression, the little ripples stirred up in Taya's heart gradually faded.

She raised her hand and wanted to remove the oxygen mask to speak, but he grabbed her wrist.

"Don't move."

Griffon's Alpha voice rang in Taya's ears, sparking hope that he actually cared.

She pressed down on her chest, trying to control the frequency of her heartbeat, but she was frightened by Griffon, who suddenly leaned over.

His tall and large, muscular body, with its stifling sense of oppression, hit Taya, making her unconsciously shrink her neck backward and into the pillow.

If he noticed her shrinking away from him, he gave no indication. He pressed her down on the bed even more, lowered his head, and stared at her pale face.

“Are you still feeling unwell?” he asked softly.

It was rare for Griffon to show care for her like this. Actually, it could be said that he had never been so concerned about her before. This unexpected gentleness made Taya extremely uncomfortable.

She pressed her body tightly against the hospital bed despite the pain, only heaving a sigh of relief when she had managed to put another inch between them.

She lowered her head and said softly, “My back...”

She looked well-behaved and quiet, the same as when she

had been with him, as if she had never changed.

Griffon’s cold expression softened slightly.

He undid her coat and looked at her back.

The three dark red marks of the iron rod almost sank into her flesh.

It was as if he could see the marks of broken bones.

“What the goddess happened?”

Griffon’s expression was deadly.

“Did Jackson hit you?”

Taya quickly shook her head. “Not him. Roman...”

Griffon frowned. “I don’t understand. Explain.”

Taya had no choice but to tell him everything that had happened in the hotel.

As soon as Griffon knew she hadn’t had sex with Jackson, his furrowed brows slightly relaxed.

However, when he heard that she was almost violated by the

pack guards brought by Roman, his eyebrows tightly knitted together again.

Without thinking, he took out his phone and made another

call. “Joe, deal with Roman!”

Mr. Chilton quickly replied dutifully, "Yes."

Taya looked at Griffon, shocked that he would help her deal with Roman.

Did he help her because he found out that the woman he had slept with almost violated by someone else or because he cared about her?

Thinking of Mr. Chilton of the Knight Pack that Roman had mentioned, she couldn't help but ask, "Is that Joe... Mr. Chilton?"

Hearing this, Griffon's expression didn't change much, but his eyes narrowed. He nodded slightly in response.

When Taya saw him nod, her face darkened. Roman said she conspired with Mr. Chilton to trick him and suspected Mr. Chilton was Greyson.

What did this mean? She wanted to ask Griffon, but she didn't want him to know that she had slept with Greyson.

She was afraid that Griffon would be angry, afraid that he

would think she was promiscuous, and even more afraid of his verbal insults, so she didn't dare to bring it up.

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Looking at her pale face get even paler, Griffon raised his hand to touch her cheek. "I'll get the doctor to look at it."

His broad palm almost wrapped around her face. His fingers caressed against her skin, and for a second Taya let herself get lost in the fantasy that the man before her cared about her very much and could not bear to let her get hurt. As if he loved her deeply.

Seeing Taya staring at him in disbelief, Griffon suddenly came to his senses. He removed his hand from her face, turned around, and quickly walked out.

Through the glass window of the hospital room, Taya saw him instructing the doctor named Stella to check her back first.

Soon, Stella came in. Under Griffon's gaze, she first checked the wounds on Taya's back.

"It looks like your soft tissue is bruised. I'll get you something for the pain."

After saying that, Stella took out a can of ointment, scooped up a spoonful, rubbed it in her palm, and applied it to Taya's back.

Her movements were gentle, but as soon as she touched it, Taya felt a piercing pain and cold sweat dripping down her back.

Griffon stepped forward and held her trembling shoulders. The high temperature of his palm made Taya grit her teeth and endure.

Stella took a few more vials of her blood for testing.

Taya was exhausted. She closed her eyes and wanted to fall asleep, but she looked uneasily at Griffon.

Taya forced herself to open her eyes and looked at Griffon, who had been sitting by her hospital bed the entire time. "Can you let go of Alpha Sterling first?"

Seeing that she was still thinking about Jackson when she was in such a state, Griffon's eyes, which had finally softened, turned cold.

"You need to worry about yourself and leave shifter matters to the shifters. Such affairs have nothing to do with you."

After saying that, Griffon got up and left without looking back.

Looking at his figure disappear from her sight, Taya sighed helplessly.

As usual, Griffon was as ruthless as ever.

After the blood test, Stella returned to the ward with the report, but she didn't see Griffon.

She thought he was gone, so she handed the report to Taya, who was lying on the bed.

"Ms. Palmer, your heart failure is very serious. Why didn't you get hospitalized?"

Hearing Stella's voice, Taya, who had been dozing off several times, struggled to hold herself up and reached out to take the report.

"Being hospitalized is just waiting for death in a different place..."

Her voice was filled with endless despair as if she was ready to die.

"Does Alpha Knight know?"

Taya shook her head.

Seeing this, Stella understood.

"Shall I tell him?"

She had thought that Stella would tell Griffon directly, but she didn't expect that Stella would ask for her opinion.

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"Do you think you could keep it between us? I know you're obligated to tell him whatever he asks since he's your Alpha, but..."

"Sure."

Stella nodded and made her own request. "But you have to tell me what your relationship to him is."

This was the first time she had seen her Alpha care so much about a woman, which made her a little curious.

"I used to be his lover's substitute, but now... we have no relationship," she replied softly, trying to seem as though she didn't care.

Stella's lips curved into a smile. "His lover? Are you talking about Tara?"

Taya nodded, and the smile on Stella's face

She didn't say anything else. After telling Taya to get some rest, she turned around and walked out of the room.

After Stella left, Taya couldn't hold on any longer. She closed her eyes and fell asleep.

She didn't know how long she had slept, but the moment she opened her eyes, she saw Griffon sitting next to her.

He was wearing a black sweater, and in the sunlight, his tanned skin and chiseled features were set off.

Though he looked casual, almost relaxed even, Taya knew better.

He held a medical report, his eyes moving over the lines as he flipped through the pages one by one.

There was no change in his expression as he looked at the report. Stella must have made a fake report

for him.

She had kept her promise. Not only did she help Taya keep her illness a secret, but she also made a fake report for her. Taya didn't need to worry about it.

But hadn't Griffon already left before she fell asleep? Why was he still by her bed?

She struggled to sit up, but as soon as she moved, the wound on her back was pulled, and pain shot through her.

"Don't move."

Seeing that Taya was moving around as soon as she woke up, Griffon barked at her to stay still. He reached out to hold her shoulders and turned her over.

With his help, Taya slowly turned her body to avoid touching the wounds on her back. But she was thirsty...

She looked up at Griffon and saw that his face was

void of any emotion. She swallowed the words on the tip of her tongue.

She reached out to get the gla*s of water next to the bed, only to find that the blood on her hand had been washed clean. She had even been changed

into a hospital gown.

"What do you want?"

Before Taya could think about who had dealt with her hands and clothes, she heard Griffon's voice above her head.

"Water..."

He picked up the gla*s of water next to her, put his arm around her waist, lifted her up, and held the cup to her lips.

Taya was stunned for a second, and her eyes were full of doubt as she stared straight at him as if trying

to detect any subtle changes in his expression.

However, Griffon did not have any expression

on his face. He was still as distant as usual. The only difference was that the way he looked at her somehow seemed gentler.

As she slowly finished drinking the water, Griffon gently set her down, his movements so tender that Taya began to wonder if the man in front of her was an impostor.

“You...”

She wanted to ask him what was wrong.

However, Griffon stared at her and said solemnly, “I’ve already sent someone to look for a suitable heart for you. Wait a little longer. I’ll do my best to cure you.”

His words were like a warm current that slowly flowed into the bottom of Taya’s heart, giving her a glimmer of hope.

If she hadn’t known that she was in the late stage of heart failure, she would probably have smiled and replied sweetly, “Okay, I’ll wait for you.”

However, she couldn’t make a promise to him. “I’ve been looking for a suitable heart for many years but haven’t found one. But you don’t have to worry. I can

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Griffon’s face morphed into something between rage and frustration.

“I said I would cure you, and you’ll do as I say. Regardless of your human status, I am the Alpha in Arcadia, and my word goes.”

He pulled on the quilt to cover her, picked up report again, and sat next to her.

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His thick, long eyelashes drooped down, covering his big, dark beautiful eyes, making it difficult for people to discern what emotions were hidden beneath them.

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But there was a faint hint of anxiety lurking between his furrowed brows, so slight that it would be hard to perceive if one didn’t look carefully.

Griffon had always been good at controlling how he presented himself to others. Most Alphas were pros at hiding their emotions, but Griffon was next level.

Taya didn't have the energy to try to figure out what he was thinking so she lay on her side.

They rarely got along so quietly. It seemed that in the past five years, he had never been with her in this way.

From time to time, Taya would wonder what kind of position she occupied in his heart. If she was just a contract lover, a substitute, then why did he still come to her after he ended the contract?

This time, he even snatched her away from Jackson in front of so many people. Could it be that his wolf was upset to see her with someone else? Was it that he couldn't stand the thought of her being with another Alpha after him, since Alphas were so possessive of ANYTHING that they had ever viewed as belonging to them? Or...maybe, in his heart, he liked her a little.

Taya didn't dare to even think the word "love." An Alpha wolf like Griffon would never fall in love with someone like her. And if they did...they would never admit it or give into it. The Elders would never allow it to happen.

While she was lost in her thoughts, a phone vibrating pierced the silence in the room. Griffon took out his phone and looked at the number on the screen before answering the call.

"Alpha Knight." Andre's voice came from the other end. "The surveillance footage is done. No one else will know about Ms. Palmer's presence at the hotel. Also, after you left with her yesterday, Jackson passed out. I had to take him to the hospital."

"Well, then" Griffon responded flatly. "Is he awake?"

"He just woke up and asked to see Ms. Pal-"

"No," Griffon interrupted, a growl lacing his tone.

Andre was in a dilemma. "Sir, I'm not sure what to do. After all, he's the Alpha of the Sterling Pack. Now that they have been looking for him, I can't keep sending people to lock him up..."

After thinking for a few seconds, Griffon finally said,

“Let him go.”

Then, he ended the call and looked over at Taya, who was sizing him up.

Taya had already guessed whom he was referring to, so she didn't ask.

It would be fine if he were willing to let go of Jackson. When she recovered a little, she would go to Jackson to thank him.

Griffon stared at the IV drip for a long time. When the bag was empty, he pulled out the IV line for her.

Taya glanced at the three bags of medicine next to her. Were all three of those for her?

But Griffon pulled out the needle. Did he not want her to get an IV drip?

While she was full of doubts, Griffon pulled the quilt back and picked her up from the bed.

Taya looked at his profile in a daze and asked,

“Where are you taking me?”

“Away,” he said gruffly as he carried her.

He took her to his private pack manor, located deep in the Knight pack lands.

His portion covered an area of hundreds of acres, and there was a large garden. From a distance, it looked like a sea of flowers.

The drive up to the house took minutes, and Taya was in awe of how massive the estate was. The villa decoration was in French style, simple, bright, and very elegant, yet somehow it seemed comfortable and livable.

When Griffon put Taya on the soft bed, she realized he had brought her home.

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“Griffon, you...”

Taya wanted to ask him why he had taken her here, but she didn't know how to ask him.

She lowered her head and did not dare to look at him.

However, he seemed to have read her mind, glancing

at her.

“You can rest here for a few days before I take you back.”

And that was all he said.

When Taya heard that he would take her home, she was no longer so nervous. As for a reason...

Perhaps because of choking her, causing her to almost break, he felt sorry for her.

Although the reason was farfetched, she didn't dare to think too much about it. Plus, it didn't matter how much she thought about it, she would never be able to figure out his reasons.

The man was a puzzle wrapped in a mystery.

Griffon helped her lie down on the bed and called the housekeeper in.

“Frank, go and prepare some light food.”

“Got it.” Frank hurried off.

As soon as he left, Griffon called two maids to prepare some female supplies and help Taya wash up.

The wounds on her back and the symptoms of heart failure made it painful for her to move. She had to rely on others' help if she wanted to wash up.

anticipated her needs and arranged everything for her.

She was touched and couldn't help whispering,

“Thank you...”

Griffon didn't reply. He just glanced at her and turned to leave the room.

After he sat down on the sofa on the second floor, he took out his laptop and began to work.

It was not until Frank, the housekeeper, went upstairs with the food he had prepared that he stopped his work. He looked at Frank and said, “Give it to me.”

Frank was stunned momentarily when he realized that his Alpha was going to take the young lady's food to her himself.

Now, it made sense why he was working here instead of his office.
He'd been waiting.

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Frank quickly handed him the tray. "Alpha, be careful. It's hot."

Griffon nodded, got up, and walked towards the second bedroom.

The maid had just finished drying Taya's hair. When she saw the Alpha coming in, she quickly lowered her head and left quietly.

Both maids had helped Taya bathe, and there was no makeup on her face, which made her look pale and sickly.

Griffon would probably have thought she had an incurable disease if it weren't for her beautiful features that covered up some signs of illness.

Fortunately, he had read her examination report and found nothing wrong with her except for congenital heart disease, so he didn't think too much about it.

Sure, humans were weaker...but money could fix anything.

He placed the tray on the bedside table, took the small bowl of soup, stirred it with a spoon to cool it off a bit, and held it out to Taya.

"Open."

Taya looked at him blankly for a moment, unable to react immediately. Was this the same person?

"You don't like it?"

Griffon put down the soup in his hand, picked up another bowl from the tray, lifted a spoonful up again, and motioned for her to open her mouth with a look.

Taya finally came to her senses from disbelief when the warm soup touched her lips. She opened her mouth awkwardly and ate the bite.

"Do you want more?"

After feeding her spoon by spoon, Griffon picked up the other bowl of soup next to him and wanted to

continue to feed her.

Taya quickly shook her head. "I'm full."

Only then did Griffon put down his bowl and wipe the corners of her mouth with a cloth napkin.

Taya had been with him for five years, but he had never cared for her like this, had never even shown her any inkling that he was capable of caring for someone like this.

She opened her eyes and stared blankly at the man before her. Was this really happening right now?

But Griffon didn't think it was odd or inappropriate at all.

After putting the napkin down, he took out his phone and called Stella, asking her to bring the medical

equipment to the villa.

Hearing this, Taya quickly recovered from her shock.

"I'll be fine after I rest. There's no need to trouble Stella."

Griffon gave her a sidelong glance and used his Alpha voice on her. "It's up to me to decide if it's troublesome."

Taya had no choice but to shut her mouth obediently and let him do as he pleased...

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Griffon had already left the room when Stella came in with a pile of instruments.

Watching Stella give her medicine and administer IV fluids, Taya felt embarrassed. Stella gave her a meaningful smile.

"Ms. Palmer, you're so lucky."

Stella was probably referring to the fact that Griffon treated her differently.

But this difference was probably only be due to pity.

After all, they had been together for five years, and even the most indifferent person would show more concern upon suddenly finding out that she had heart disease.

Stella didn't know what Taya was thinking, though.

She applied some tape to the IV on the back of her hand, took a few boxes of medicine, and handed them to her.

"You are so lucky. I just bought a batch of medicine from a pack abroad. It's not something we typically need, but since it has a long shelf life and we see humans at the hospital since they come into town for business, I decided to stock up.

"It should at least relieve some of the pain..."

Taya's heart warmed. She'd heard horror stories of other shifter areas never having anything for human medical needs. That it was something Stella thought about showed just what a good person she was.

She reached out to take the medicine, smiling and softly saying, "Thank you."

After telling her to rest, Stella left.

Griffon was sitting on the sofa outside, dealing with business, using several phones and computers at the

He was busy to the point of being overwhelmed, yet he remained at home steadfastly, obviously for the sake of the sick beauty in the bedroom.

That sickly beauty must be very important to him, Stella thought.

After Griffon hung up the video conference, she walked over.

"Alpha Knight, Ms. Palmer still needs to rest for some time. I'll come later to give her another infusion."

Griffon didn't even look at her. He just nodded, looking a little tired.

He thought Stella would leave when she finished filling him in, but she stood there.

