#### **Cursed 1121**

### Chapter 1121 - Leave The Children In The Palace

### **Crystal's POV:**

After we finished discussing Lucy, I asked Laura about Beryl. I left without saying goodbye to Beryl today, so I was worried that she would be furious.

At the mention of Beryl, Laura's voice became much more relaxed.

"Beryl did well today. She will spend the night at Rufus' place. And he will drop her off at school tomorrow."

Relieved to know that my daughter was all right, I was about to bid goodbye to Laura. As I was about to end the conversation, Laura hesitantly said, "Well... There is one more thing I wanted to discuss with you."

"What is it?"

I was baffled.

Laura rarely beat around the bush like this.

revealing Beryl's and Arron's true identities and letting them stay in the imperial palace?" Laura asked tentatively in a

sank and my breath became shallow

exceptionally talented and the lycan power from both his parents runs in his veins. He is the perfect candidate for the heir to the crown. Beryl has also adapted well to palace life. And she has an inherent affection for Rufus.

capital are superior to those of the border pack. Don't you think this would be

Laura's explanation was reasonable, it didn't move me

to grow up with a stepmother. And I

you shouldn't think in that

She sighed but was still reluctant to give

always continue like this. All children need their father. Arron and Beryl are eager for their father's love, and his presence

need their mother," I

and hurriedly gulped down two cup of tea before

create opportunities for her to meet the kids

wasn't satisfied

she wanted

I worked hard to restrain my emotions, not

Rufus was trouble.

concern, trying to take my kids away from me. I massaged my temples and could feel a headache coming

I regretted coming

## Chapter 1122 - Cute Baby

#### **Crystal's POV:**

The raging anger in my heart was instantly extinguished by Arron's soft sweet voice.

I reached out and pinched his soft chubby cheek.

With a smile, I said, "Mommy is not angry. Well. . . Sweetie, how about going to the garden for a walk? It looks like a lot of stars will be visible tonight. After we come back from watching the stars, mommy will read you a story."

"Okay! Mommy, you're the best!"

He reached out and grabbed my hand, rubbing it like a kitten.

My heart softened and I pushed all my negative thoughts aside.

As I calmed down, I pondered for a while.

Maybe Laura had just voiced a thought and didn't really mean to take Beryl and Arron away from me. She had been of immense assistance to me in these past few years. I couldn't believe that she would really do something so selfish and cruel to me.

So, there was no need for me to lose my temper just because she loved her grandchildren. I grabbed Arron's hand and took him to a small garden in front of the palace.

Only a few flowers remained in this season. We were surrounded by trees with yellow and dry leaves, but the view of the night sky was not bad.

Arron was very excited.

around like a wild horse with no rein. There was a

often.

like a lot of other kids were playing with him

He was constantly giggling.

to

when they

more

bench and observed Arron with a

shone brightly, and stars were scattered all over the

again because of Arron, and I got a chance to

from behind the flowering shrubs and ran up to

"Mommy, let's go home."

"Okay."

smoothed down his hair, which was stuck to his forehead because of his

"Did you enjoy yourself?"

"Yes."

and rubbed

mommy, my tummy

with my finger, and lifted him into

back and have

Arron for a

then that he finally

book back next to his pillow and waited for him to close

his big eyes, Arron tilted his head a little and sweetly asked,

#### **Chapter 1123 Long Time No See**

# **Crystal's POV:**

I nervously waited for my son's answer, afraid that it would crumble the foundation I had been building around my fragile heart.

A knot of dread formed in the pit of my stomach, and I found myself starting to think that Laura was right.

Children did need their father to be present in their lives.

And while my twins might not be old enough to make rational decisions, they were certainly old enough to know what they did and did not want.

I couldn't be so selfish that I would inflict my own choices upon them.

"What's wrong, Mommy?"

My little boy tugged at a strand of hair hanging on my forehead and gazed at me quizzically.

Jolting back to my senses, I tried to compose myself and act as though nothing was bothering me.

"It's nothing. Mommy was just thinking of something. Sweetie, you haven't answered Mommy's question. Do you want a father?"

Arron's lips puckered, and his brows furrowed.

blinked at him, surprised by

that. . . The other children all

shifted, and he gave me a

only wants Mommy. There's nothing much different between

will have regrets in

in my hands and peppered it with

not have regrets as long as

took my face in his stubby fingers, and then planted a big, fat kiss on my

back, there was a serious glint in

father was a great war hero. He died in the battlefield and brought honor to our family. That's why, Mommy, when I grow up,

heart. I sniffed back my tears and whispered, "Do you

is an

little boy puffed up his chest and lifted his chin with pride. I was torn between laughing and crying. I picked him up and placed him on my

Mommy believes in

good," Arron

but then he pulled back again with a

willing to have

I chuckled and pinched

no plans in getting you a new Daddy. A

at me, probably trying to determine whether I was lying

nodded

"That is great, then!"

bed now?" I swayed him from side to

**Chapter 1124 Missing** 

Crystal's POV:

I was so shocked that my grip slackened, and the phone slipped from my fingers. I could feel my back break out in cold sweat.

I took several deep breaths to calm myself, then turned to check on my son.

Fortunately, he was still sleeping soundly. I carefully lifted the quilt and got out of bed. I padded out of the room as quietly as I could and paused at the empty corridor.

The cold was brutal in winter nights, and goosebumps immediately rose on my skin.

It felt especially chilly at my nape, and 1 subconsciously reached up to rub it for some warmth.

"Who are you?" I quickly typed and sent to the unknown number.

No reply came, however.

Not even when my fingers began to feel numb.

A part of me knew that I had a slim chance of finding this person right now, but I still called them back.

I was greeted by a series of beeps, followed by an operator's voice informing me that the other party had turned off their phone.

there,

was picked up after a couple of rings,

one who would dare to disturb me in

and Rufus, that

I need your help."

happened?" I went straight to

to trace a phone number for me and

on, Crystal,"

not in the imperial capital.

well, so! didn't

Blair. This person

"What? Are you sure?"

imagine him sitting up in

They texted me and called me

into it right away. Send me the phone

and sent him the

Blair should be able to find the

sleep, but I

wisps of clues appearing and disappearing, taunting

I pondered them, the more worried I

no surprise, then, that I woke up the next day with dark circles under my eyes. I forced myself to cheer up and trudged to the kindergarten. I passed by my daughter's

little girl was nowhere to be

school this morning? Well, that wasn't likely. I shook

pack, she had a habit of skipping

### **Chapter 1125 Clumsy Comfort**

## Crystal's POV:

"What did you say? How? Why would Beryl suddenly disappear?"

My knees buckled underneath me, and Laura had to reach out and catch me before I slumped to the ground.

A rush of anger shot through me.

"I thought Rufus was supposed to bring Beryl to school! How can she be missing?"

My anxiety seemed to fuel Laura's, and her words just flew out of her mouth.

"Yes, yes, Rufus was indeed supposed to do that, but something urgent came up this morning. He had to leave, so he asked a maid to take Beryl to the kindergarten. I just happened to drop by Rufus' place a while ago and found out that said maid hasn't returned. I had a hunch that something was wrong, so I asked the servants to look for the maid. They found her lying unconscious on a dirt path. So, I immediately rushed here to make sure that Beryl is okay."

I could only stare at Laura, my eyes widening with every word she said.

They registered in my brain, but it was as if my brain refused to process their implication. Laura's expression turned glum.

"But judging from your reaction, I'm guessing that Beryl isn't here, either."

for a leave of absence, and then proceeded to

"Beryl!"

called out her name until my throat burned, and even then, I didn't stop. I couldn't relax for

a naughty

so, I did not hesitate to search every corner of the palace, scouring every nook and cranny as often

I could

a voice called

around and

looked like the news of Beryl's disappearance had already reached him, given that a large group of patrolmen was already scouring the area in

Have you found her?" Rufus

expand the search beyond the palace grounds. I'm sure we'll find Beryl in no

in

palace was not that

else could Beryl be? Was it possible that she had been abducted? The thought sent me reeling,

startled. He ducked his head to look

Crystal, hey. Come

crying," I retorted, swallowing back

streaming down my cheeks. I could have pretended to be strong, and I could have pulled it

I feel like I had the

me tentatively

We will find

"Of course..."

my mouth, but the tears just

## **Chapter 1126 A Python**

#### **Crystal's POV:**

'What did it say?" Rufus asked, turning serious now.

"I deleted it," I lied without missing a beat.

That message was calling me out by my original name. Rufus must not see it, no matter what, or things would only get even more complicated.

"Do you still remember what it said?" Rufus frowned, his eyes never leaving my face.

I nodded.

"I didn't recognize the number, and I have no idea who the sender might be. But whoever it was, they knew my name and made some threats. They even mentioned Beryl."

"Do you think you can recall the phone number?" Rufus asked, never doubting my words for one second.

"I can have someone trace its IP address."

"Yes, I remember."

that message repeatedly last night,

I cited the numbers without batting an eye, only for Rufus to hold

fast, I didn't

"Huh?"

confusion. This man had

missed a short series of digits? Nonplussed, Rufus took out his

on your contact list and

I found myself at a

Beryl, so I quickly

then turned his back to me and made a few

address was traced back to the imperial palace, and it was last active in... the forbidden

dark as he spoke, and 1 knew that I

go there

moment to lose, Rufus barked at his men, and we all headed to the forbidden forest. The place was shrouded with a foreboding aura, just as it

be denser, and a veil of mist seemed to hover among

divided his men into several groups before sending

side by

had a special connection, after all, because he strode

the ground beneath us was covered with thick moss so green, it was

we weren't careful, the moss

vines intertwined on massive tree trunks in a strange,

## **Chapter 1127 Palmer**

## **Crystal's POV:**

It felt like my world had crumbled in an instant. I lost the strength in my legs, and if Rufus didn't catch me in time, I would have fallen on my knees.

"Calm down. This isn't the time to lose your wits. Pull yourself together."

I willed myself to stay upright, but I was still trembling all over.

My precious Beryl was just a toddler, nothing more than a snack to the vicious python.

How could anyone be so cruel as to try and feed her to that monster? I pushed Rufus aside and took a deep, steadying breath.

"What should we do now?"

"Don't worry," Rufus said in a low voice, his face set in quiet determination.

"I have an idea."

He signaled at his men to remain silent and retreat slowly.

The more people there were, the higher the chances of alerting the python to our presence.

trusted guards remained, stationed at intervals a few feet away from the tree. I held my breath and stood still. I was like a spring wound tightly, ready to

and it was notorious for

far as I knew, the creature lived in the inner

be here, unless it had been drawn out

existence, no one had ever survived its

it was currently winter, so there was a high chance that

a single noise could rouse it from its slumber, and my daughter would immediately

in

ones now, silently instructing them where to position

as well, so I

my arm, stopping me. He leaned close and whispered in

eyes may be closed, but it's probably just dozing off. The tiniest sound will alarm it, so we need to act fast. We both know

but I didn't feel

I sighed, choosing to put my faith in Rufus regardless of my

"Be careful."

smiled and squeezed my

I'll bring Beryl back safe

ached, and before I knew it, tears had

be careful. Promise me

gathering me

Rufus turned toward the tree. He flicked his hands, and his fingers turned to claws. He scaled the massive trunk, silently weaving in and out

didn't move

could have easily believed that it was indeed asleep, but

## **Chapter 1128 Ugly Head**

## **Crystal's POV:**

I was so scared that I almost shrieked at Rufus.

It was too close! If Palmer opened its eyes, it could swallow Beryl whole in an instant! And Rufus—I was afraid he was going to get hurt, too. I didn't want him to be in any kind of danger.

Rufus and our children were the most important people in my entire life. I would rather die than see any of them suffer any kind of harm.

Maybe I should have gone with Rufus.

It would have distracted the python and made the situation a lot less dangerous.

At the height of my anxiety, Rufus turned to me and offered me a comforting look.

He nodded, seemingly to confirm that he, too, had noticed what I saw.

A deep sigh of relief escaped my lips.

I stared back unblinkingly at Rufus, trying to tell him that I understood what he was trying to tell me.

The next moment, Rufus transformed into a wolf, silently stalking his prey.

His men knew what was happening, and none of them dared to move even a muscle.

king, ready to pounce the moment

majestic giant wolf perched itself on the top of

felt the potent lycan power bursting

Rufus

incredible power

was, indeed, our only option at that

power was so strong it made all the creatures around retreat in

wasn't so close to the animal,

He can do

though worry was

murmured, trying to

I stared at the two people I loved the most

and Beryl will be

at that exact moment,

to look around, confused by everything that was happening

at any moment. I was

definitely cry. We need to figure out a way to catch her attention and distract her from seeing what's in front of

her calm facade up

tensed up. I stared at Beryl, hoping that she would look over to

because of the telepathy between a mother and a daughter, she looked over her shoulder and to me. I could

motioned to her to

Beryl] pursed her

to relay what she was feeling at that

## **Chapter 1129 Saved By Rin**

# Crystal's POV:

The python's eyes flew open and it launched an attack in my daughter's direction while I was midway through transforming into my wolf form.

It stuck its scarlet tongue out.

It looked as if it was preparing to swallow my daughter in the next second. I didn't have time to stop the python.

Even if I did my best, I wouldn't be able to get to my daughter in one second. Beryl was so terrified that all the color drained from her face.

She shut her eyes and sobbed bitterly.

that moment, Rufus sprung forward. He positioned himself in front of

not ready for this, and it sustained a huge gash in the

again. This time, the python responded in time and twisted its

ears ring. Ignoring the pain in my ears, I quickly leaped onto

trunk, and I could not seem to dodge the

sleeve and stabbed the python forcefully. It let out another shriek of pain and its tail squeezed more tightly around

My head began spinning.

I summoned my lycan power to fight against the python. The soldiers around us also began moving, surrounding the

up with one arm. Beryl was too scared to cry loudly. She wrapped her arms around Rufus 'neck and called him

with our daughter, I once again plunged the dagger into the python's body. It swung its tail and slammed me hard against

focused on

he could only defend himself against the python. Beryl had never witnessed

was so agitated that I shouted to Rufus, "Why don't you toss Beryl to me? I will catch

glance at me, he nodded. I extended

around me in

## **Chapter 1130 Usurp The Throne**

## Crystal's POV:

Rin successfully caught Beryl and safely landed on the ground. The little girl in Rin's mouth seemed to be startled. She didn't make a sound after landing on the ground.

She just unblinkingly gazed at Rin. Rin tilted her head and watched my daughter curiously without saying anything. They just stared at each other in silence. I heaved a sigh of relief.

Noting that my daughter was safe, I didn't waste any more time and shouted to Rin, "Protect her!"

Rin let out a howl, indicating that she was on the job. Then I spun around to help Rufus. At this moment, he was tightly wrapped by the python's body, and only one hand remained free to resist its lethal mouth.

If Rufus became exhausted and couldn't resist anymore, the python would sink its fangs into him without hesitation.

die in seconds. I didn't have the nerve to imagine that scenario. Without a second's hesitation, I turned into a wolf and charged

through its tail, trying to catch its

it completely ignored me, its entire focus dedicated to dealing with Rufus. I was flung away by not working. The python is very smart. It wants to tire all of us out and then capture us," Yana moments and said, "We need to find an

was tossed away by the python again, I

distraction and climbed up the tree trunk till I was level with its back. Then I turned back to human form and raised

the python seemed to sense some danger and moved to the side. My dagger only ended up grazing at its body and

gripped the dagger's handle firmly to stop

force burst forth from the python's

originally dark sky instantly brightened. I could feel Rufus' lycan power. The fierce force, which was like a sharp blade, ruptured

on tightly to Rufus. It released its brute power, even though Rufus' power had nearly charred its body to death. The python, which

I watched Rufus be gradually enveloped by