The Defiant Luna Chapter 56

Nathan POV

Nathan had sent his Elite warriors all back early this morning to the pack. As soon as the sun was up, they were all on his parents' private jet. That pilot of theirs was getting a real work out of late. He had flown him and Jackson out here to L.A. and then Nathan had sent him back. Didn't need him as his own jet was there to be used.

Then the man had flown Ethan and the Elite Warriors out here just a few days later and was still there. He had not sent that jet back. There was no point, he would need to transport them all home. So he had kept it here for the return trip.

His own jet seated twelve comfortably, and there would be ten on it for the return trip, he and his unit. Jay-la and her father and brother. Suzy and her mother and sister. Jay-la had told them she was pregnant and this allowed not only Suzy to see she really was needed, but also show Elena that she was really needed as well. Being pregnant and trying to handle triplets at the same time, would be tiring.

It was good that they were all coming. Hed seen Stephen call home and make sure that the suite he'd shown Suzy was ready for their arrival today. They would be on a nonstop flight to his private airstrip. The pack had been warned about the human's coming from his father and mother and to be on their best behaviour.

He knew that most would wolf out and before they got home to let their beast roam about and be free, also knew that his father and his entire unit had led an impromptu pack run last night, for their wolves, knowing that three humans were going to be entering the pack. For about a month.

Though there would be times when those women were off in Rochester, and his pack could shift and let their wolves out, he had no idea how long they would all be staying inside the pack. It was probably going to be a solid month.

That was what the offer to stay was. He wasn't particularly concerned about that much. His pack knew what to do.

Human families were hosted twice a year inside the pack if they so chose to visit that was. A week in the summer and a week in spring. It was good for humans that had been turned to see and still be able to connect with their human family. He tried to keep everyone happy.

There was a line of cars for all of them waiting outside the front of the hotel to take them to the airstrip.

He watched as all three of the Martinez women looked at the inside of his private jet, heard Maya murmur, must have some real money. As she'd walked down and sat in a seat directed to her. No surprise that her mother sat next to her, and Stephen dropped right into the seat next to Suzy, watched as the girl smiled up at him and he right at her.

Knew Stephen had been the perfect gentleman the whole time he'd been around her, from what he'd heard, he only kissed the girl once, spent most of his time with her holding her hand, or with his hand on the small of her back. Had only kissed her that one time upon seeing her for the first time after being taken and had gotten back

Had gone right to her the next morning, seeing as it had been late when they'd all gotten back from the ordeal and asked to speak to her, she'd stepped outside the room and hed, according to Ethan, pulled the door closed behind her, then had tilted the girls face up to his and dropped a gentle kiss right on her mouth without so much as a word. Shed practically melted into the man's arms.

He'd then kissed the hell out of that girl, all long and slow and then told her hed come by and see her a bit later, ushered her back into her room. Sighed with relief himself, after she'd been in her hotel room once more, he had needed to be with her, after the ordeal. Could well have been killed and never gotten to be with his Mate, and likely just wanted to know what it felt like to kiss her.

Then he'd gone back to being the perfect gentleman it seemed. His one need, likely both he and his wolf, were settled. Ethan had simply stood by and watched it, shaken his head and smiled at the man. Stephen was never giving her up, human or not. He'd chuckled softly.

Their flight was a single trip with no layovers, only 5 hours.

Made sure they all had a nice lunch on the plane and that there were plenty of snacks, and good coffee, on board.

Jay-la he'd seen practically drooled at the smell of coffee right now. Hunted it out like a vengeance this morning CH 56

when she'd gotten up. He'd let her sleep in, needed to, because Havoc had spent half the night in control of his human body making love to her. Nathan had never seen his beast be so gentle with anyone.

Every time his beast looked at her yesterday hed wanted to have her. There had been no stopping him in the end, the scent of her being pregnant with his child was driving his beast crazy, it seemed. She'd seen him on the surface a few times looking at her, just smiled at him and said "Hi Havoc." Gotten growled at on more than one occasion by his beast and then when shed come out of the bathroom after a shower he'd stalked her around the room, Nathan had been shoved to the back of his mind. There'd been no containing him anymore.

Shed stared right at Havoc as shed turned to look up at him, seemed to just know what his beast wanted and not seemed to care at all, had slid her arms around his neck and let him kiss her. Made Nathan a little jealous to be honest, nil hesitation from her to his wolf in human form, she trusted Havoc completely, likely always had done. Also, she knew it was coming. Havoc had not been shy about claiming her ever, not been shy about telling her he was going to have her either. Now he had had her, he still couldn't stop looking at her. Nathan knew that it likely wasn't going to be the only time he had her either. She'd slept soundly this morning, Havoc was very pleased with himself at her languid state. Shed been so very relaxed all morning.

There were cars waiting for them at his airstrip, to take them back to the pack. It was once again snowing here, but the pack snowplow he saw had been here, cleared the way for them and they would likely meet up with it on the way back to the pack. It travelled much slower than they would

He mind-linked to all those driving, to take them directly to the packhouse. He knew that most would want to see her, lay eyes on the Luna and know she was home safe, especially her mother. The triplets were none the wiser but would also be waiting to see her, along with Suzy.

They'd put a call to the triplets last night to let them know that they would be home today, and bringing Suzy with them. They'd sounded happy and excited about it, a good thing. He knew that Stephen would take Suzy and her family on a quick drive through the pack. It would be better in the summer, but it did look pretty in the winter as well.

Surprised him that there were several snowmen built around the pack, made him smile himself, even a few wolf-looking ones, that had made Jay-la chuckle as she'd leaned on him, heard her sigh softly as they'd crossed the pack border and were home, sounded happy and content to be home to him.

He hugged her to himself, and murmured "You used to do that, your dad always liked a wolf, not a snowman in the front yard."

She'd just smiled up at him "Brad used to wait till dad headed off to work and make it fat, cause it was supposed to be dad's wolf." They'd both chuckled. She was finally happy to be here with him, he could see it and feel it. It was a truly good feeling.

Getting out of the car, the triplets ran down the stairs to greet her and hugged her all tight. She hugged them back, "Now you were good for your grandparents?" she asked them, her mum's voice showing through.

"Yes." They all nodded to her.

"They were perfect angels." He heard Vera state as she hugged her daughter so very tightly to her, happy to not only have her home but safe and sound.

Turned when he heard them all yell "Suzy." Excitedly, and were off to go to her, he watched her hug them as much as Jay-la had, a good strong connection to the children herself. This was a good thing, couldn't half tell they were happy to see her, with the way they were all smiling and talking a mile a minute up at her.

He and Jay-la let Stephen show the Martinez women to their suite on the first floor, and then they were all asked to meet back down here in the foyer for dinner. It was getting on in the night. They'd not left L.A till 12pm and it was now nearly 9 at night here in New York State with the time difference. They'd all eaten lunch on the plane, so were now having a late dinner which had been set up and organised by his parents. In the private dining room downstairs.

It was a full four-course meal, served by two omegas at all times and then they said their good nights, and left the Martinez women with Stephen, but let them know to come down for a full buffet breakfast in the dining room.

Stephen would show them where it was and likely come and get them in the morning as well.

The triplets were already tucked in after their late dinner, but he watched Jay-la walk in to each of their rooms and kiss them all on their foreheads one at a time, touch all their little faces. Knew she had to be worried about them still Sophia was still out there, though from what he'd heard in Alpha Austin's hands, likely would have some contact with that man once more, to get their side of events and sort out an appropriate punishment for the she-wolf. He had no idea if she was just a few hours away or if she was locked up somewhere in the Alpha Council's grounds. Who knew where? They had many places across the country where they could hold meetings and had cells to put people for interrogation, many estates, not packs so much, but just large estates that housed like a hundred or so wolves to maintain the council grounds and keep prisoners in check.

Used those places for meetings, interrogations and trials, for whatever other things the council saw fit to use them for. Places they used to attend to Council business. Likely host some of the royal Wolfen family as well. Hed never been to one but did know there was one not that far from here, out near Niagara Falls. Could well be where Sophia was right at that minute.

He was going to have to find out. He didn't want that she-wolf anywhere near his pack, anywhere near Jay-la or their children for that matter, considering what shed told him, and what they'd heard from her Mate. Two different stories altogether. Who actually knew which one was the truth? That was likely something the Wolfen council would have to figure out themselves.

Nathan was just glad to be back inside his pack, with her where he knew she was safe and protected. Had taken the opportunity while she was getting changed to mind-link to all his warriors here inside the pack to let them know there was going to be a full security check of all borders over the next few days. That there was going to be a full overhaul of the

pack's defences and that there was going to be double-up patrols organised to make sure that their Luna was well guarded and safe within the pack.

That he would let them know when to meet in the war room for this meeting within the next 24 hours. He was just trying to give them a heads up, he was going to tighten all security, he didn't want anyone getting past the borders.

Her safety was a must now that he had seen first hand, just how easy it was for someone to take her away from him, away from the children and threaten her life.

The Defiant Luna Chapter 57

Jay-la

It was definitely good to be home back inside the pack, Nathan had gone off to attend a security meeting with his unit and the warriors. She'd seen it was also Alpha Blaine and his unit as well. Shook it off, knew new protocols were being set up because of what had happened to her. She didn't think something like that would happen here inside the pack, but could see that Nathan wasn't going to be taking any chances with her safety

She didn't have to attend training anymore, so she didn't have to get up for it. That was nice. Had definitely gotten used to sleeping in when not here in the pack. Didn't like getting up at 5am any more, was more than grumpy about it, wasn't the only one either. Not even Kora liked waking up that early, was as growly as she was about it. Nathan had learned to leave her be.

They'd been back now for three days and Maya's scholarship had been approved. The girl was excited and had gone off with her mother this morning to go up to Rochester to look at the university, to buy new books and get ready for when her classes would start, not right away in three weeks, though she wanted to get a head start on the curriculum.

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It appeared that everything with the Martinez women was falling into line. Stephen spent quite a bit of time with Suzy, all meals, and then, after her normal knock-off time, they would go and hang out. He'd had to take her to get warmer clothing as well as her sister and mother.

They'd all been introduced to his family and seen that everyone was very welcoming, Stephen's parents were actually really nice, and they were happy to meet Suzy, thought she was lovely.

The children were currently playing with Halley and Jay-la was sitting with Margaret, Rae-Rea, and Suzy. They were all having coffee and cake as the children ran about playing some made up game amongst themselves. They weren't the only children up here in the third floor coffee hub, there were half a dozen other kids their age running about with them as well.

Suzy was still amazed at how big this place was, that there was a massive dining room downstairs for anyone and everyone to eat at, that it was all free. Jay-la had reminded her that she was inside Browning Corporation Headquarters and that all employees got to eat there whenever they wanted for free.

It was one of the perks of being here, as was free healthcare. Shed seen the pack hospital already, Maya had slipped down the front stairs of the packhouse on some ice and sprained her ankle, had been taken to the pack hospital for treatment.

Suzy had worried it was going to put a further strain on her mother's finances. But been informed that no one here paid for medical treatment. It was all covered by the corporation as a way of showing that the boss cared about his employee's health and wellbeing. That was why they had their very own hospital here on the company grounds.

Maya had not been able to walk there that day. Stephen had picked her up to carry her and found Suzy not so happy about it, more than jealous from what she'd heard.

Maya had smiled up at Stephen all sweetly and batted her lashes at him, and even he didn't like it, thought himself that she was trying to flirt with him.

Ethan had come along and taken her from Stephen very quickly, but Suzy had been quiet for a full day after that.

Stephen had tried to reassure her he was not at all interested in her younger sister. That he honestly only had eyes for her. It didn't seem that Suzy believed him. Clearly, something was going on between the sisters that no one knew about.

She herself had seen the way Maya had looked Stephen over when they had first arrived in L.A.. Although he had dismissed it himself, Suzy was concerned about it, that much was clear. She had absolutely nothing to worry about, but she was now different around Stephen, if Maya was there, standoffish and quiet. Perhaps she thought he would choose Maya over her.

Jay-la had tried to speak with her over it but been shut out.

It was a sore point, it seemed. Something had definitely happened between the two sisters and likely over a man at that. Had yet to talk to her about it. Jay-la didn't even know if Suzy would talk to her about it, and'hoped she would.

Was going to try and do it today. She knew that Halley's nanny Lidia was off this morning, but back at work this afternoon, and though Suzy was working, Jay-la was going to slip away to her office with her under the pretence of a meeting to try and see what was going on there.

She could see that, since Maya's sprained ankle, Suzy was different; Stephen could too. Shed said it was nothing, but the quiet and the way she looked at her little sister sometimes spoke volumes and not just to Stephen. He knew she was upset about it, couldn't use that Gamma Charm on her to get her to talk to him. It would only likely tick her off. So, he'd not tried at all. Was actually making a conscious effort not to be around Maya at any point in time. Though Jay-la felt this was also being noticed by Suzy, it did not help the situation either.

The three women were often together outside of her regular working hours, and that meant that Maya was often around Stephen as well. It was putting a strain on them, it appeared. Not something they had seen back in L.A., Stephen had only spent time with Suzy, on dates with her, not much with her family, but now that Maya was always around him, it was very noticeable and to all.

Walked into her office with Suzy a little while later, and asked her to sit down, she sat "Suzy, are you worried about Stephen being attracted to your sister?" she asked her outright. It was not really her place as her employer, but it was her place as the woman's future Luna

Saw Suzy look at her questioningly. "I've noticed your getting all quiet around Stephen, so has he actually, though you told him it was nothing. He is concerned you think hell like your sister more than you."

"It wouldn't be the first time." Suzy sighed after a moment of quiet, likely trying to decide if she wanted to talk about it.

"Stephen is not going to do that to you, Suzy. I've known him all my life. The man is a one woman type of man."

"I'm not his woman." She stated flatly.

"Yes, you are." Jay-la chuckled "I've never seen him look at anyone the way he looks at you. He might be taking it slow, Suzy, but that is because this is new, he's not going to rush you or himself, for that matter, will want you to get to know him properly."

Suzy just stared at her for a long time, didn't really say anything at all.

Jay-la sighed and sank down next to her, "What is it, Suzy?

I'm your friend, you know, not just your employer. Let me in.

Perhaps I can help on some level."

"She's educated and I'm not, is getting her university degree and I'm just a nanny. Why would he want me, when she's younger and prettier, getting an education, is clearly smarter as well."

Jay-la stared right at her a little surprised by her statement

"Has Maya ever stolen a boyfriend from you before?"

"Yes, more than one." She nodded, "Is out to get Stephen, I can see it." she murmured softly.

"Stephen is not interested in Maya, Suzy. He is loyal, fiercely so."

"You say that," she sighed. "But that doesn't mean anything. They all say they are loyal and trustworthy. In the end, she gets them...don't get me wrong, I love my sister, but sometimes I just wish she would never lay eyes on anyone I'm interested in."

Jay-la frowned "Your last boyfriend?"

"Yes, she was the one I found him with. I thought Stephen would be different, but now they are actively avoiding each other. That's the first thing I've always seen before I find maya with one of them or one of my friends with one of them. I'm not so smart Jay-la. I barely finished high school with a passing mark. Maya, on the other hand, is beautiful and smart, like really smart, can have anyone she wants.

"Right, I see. Stephen came to me, Suzy, he has concerns about you, not Maya. Perhaps you should tell him this, your fears or the past history you have with Maya. So, he himself can clarify to you what he wants. He is only avoiding Maya to try and make you more comfortable, not because they are sneaking around together."

"You say that, but she disappears at times, wanders off for hours to who knows where."

"Not with Stephen, I can assure you of that. Stephen actually holds a strong position here, and when he's not with you he is either with me or Nathan, or out doing work He is a busy man, but if you said to him at any given time, day or night, you wanted to see him, he would drop everything and come right to you."

"Any given time?"

"Yes." Jay-la nodded, "why don't you try it?"

"You'll tell him too now"

"No, I won't. He doesn't even know I'm with you. Supposed to be with Darla and my mother planning my wedding, but to be honest with you Suzy, its all crazy and stressful and being here with you, lets me get away from it all. Do not tell them that, I'll get many lectures and Nathan will be in here wanting to know what is wrong as well." Shook her head "Clingy he is."

"Don't you want to get married?"

"It's not that Suzy. I, as you know, have lived in L.A. for a long time, on my own. Now I am here and never alone, that door there," she pointed to the connecting door to Nathan's office "goes right to Nathan's office. My mother and his mother." She shook her head "are insane about the planning, I just need a minute or two to myself sometimes.

They don't really get it. I might belong here, but I'm not at all used to the constant attention of everyone."

"Oh, kind of feel smothered. Like my mother does to me, huh?"

"Yes." Jay-la nodded, it didn't help that wherever she went now, she saw two roaming guards patrolling along with her, at a distance. She didn't think Nathan knew she knew about them, but she was not so dumb, round the clock protection since shed gotten home The man was paranoid, even here inside their pack, that someone was going to come and take her away from him.

"Why don't you call him, or text him and see what happens.

I know he's in a security meeting downstairs right this minute." She did their war room was in the basement of the packhouse, away from prying eyes, away from humans who came to visit, preventing them from ever finding it

Watched her think about it, "Perhaps I should wait on that till Maya comes back."

"Alright. I'll not say anything to him, give you my word on that."

"Thanks, I guess I have trust issues."

"I didn't really trust Nathan either when I got here, it took weeks to do that, but now I know he loves me, just sometimes it takes time. Stephen, I know, will give you all the time in the world. But if you wanted to pick up the pace yourself, he'd let you. It's on your terms, Suzy, not his."

"What?"

"He won't make a move on you until you ask him too, or at least that is my impression. It's a bit weird but he wants you to be comfortable. This is his home and he is comfortable here. If you want to kick it up a notch, you might want to let him know. He's likely happy to just sit and hold hands till you make the next move."

"Oh, I thought he just..."

"No, it's all on you. If you want to move to the next step,

just tell him. Holding hands is fun," Jay-la chuckled, "but so is kissing." She smiled right at Suzy, knew Stephen had kissed the hell out of her back in L.A., "he's a bit old fashioned, from what I can tell."

"Seems it." Suzy nodded,

"So this meeting we're supposed

to be having?"

"No meeting, just us hanging out and having a chat, because I could see you weren't comfortable."

"Oh,"

"You want to go watch a movie, we'll both ditch everyone."

She chuckled

"Sure I'm not doing anything else."

Jay-la grinned right at her, "You and I, Suzy, were going to cause some mischief around here."

"I'm not really the mischief type. Brought up too strict for that."

"Ah, you'll learn it's fun. Come on." Jay-la stood up. "We have to ditch my guard detail."

"You're what?"

Jay-la chuckled "My guard detail, I've had one ever since we got back, Nathan is over protective at that moment." She headed to the window in her office and popped it open,

"Come on." She chuckled "Let's cause some mischief." She knew he was busy in the war room, like his whole unit was, and with her having a guard detail, he wasn't likely to be actively tracking her with that pack tether either.

Smiled to herself as she encouraged Suzy to climb out the window, it was only a few feet down to the ground. Made sure to close the window before they made their escape They walked all the way along the outside of the packhouse and slipped inside via the mud room. She mind-linked both Rae Rae and Margaret with the plan and got giggles from both of them. They were in, it seemed. and the four of them met up at the movie theatre.

The Defiant Luna Chapter 58

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"Not with Stephen, I can assure you of that. Stephen actually holds a strong position here, and when he's not with you he is either with me or Nathan, or out doing work He is a busy man, but if you said to him at any given time, day or night, you wanted to see him, he would drop everything and come right to you."

"Any given time?"

"Yes." Jay-la nodded, "why don't you try it?"

"You'll tell him too now"

"No, I won't. He doesn't even know I'm with you. Supposed to be with Darla and my mother planning my wedding, but to be honest with you Suzy, its all crazy and stressful and being here with you, lets me get away from it all. Do not tell them that, I'll get many

lectures and Nathan will be in here wanting to know what is wrong as well." Shook her head "Clingy he is."

"Don't you want to get married?"

"It's not that Suzy. I, as you know, have lived in L.A. for a long time, on my own. Now I am here and never alone, that door there," she pointed to the connecting door to Nathan's office "goes right to Nathan's office. My mother and his mother." She shook her head "are insane about the planning, I just need a minute or two to myself sometimes.

They don't really get it. I might belong here, but I'm not at all used to the constant attention of everyone."

"Oh, kind of feel smothered. Like my mother does to me, huh?"

"Yes." Jay-la nodded, it didn't help that wherever she went now, she saw two roaming guards patrolling along with her, at a distance. She didn't think Nathan knew she knew about them, but she was not so dumb, round the clock protection since shed gotten home The man was paranoid, even here inside their pack, that someone was going to come and take her away from him.

"Why don't you call him, or text him and see what happens.

I know he's in a security meeting downstairs right this minute." She did their war room was in the basement of the packhouse, away from prying eyes, away from humans who came to visit, preventing them from ever finding it

Watched her think about it, "Perhaps I should wait on that till Maya comes back."

"Alright. I'll not say anything to him, give you my word on that."

"Thanks, I guess I have trust issues."

"I didn't really trust Nathan either when I got here, it took weeks to do that, but now I know he loves me, just sometimes it takes time. Stephen, I know, will give you all the time in the world. But if you wanted to pick up the pace yourself, he'd let you. It's on your terms, Suzy, not his."

"What?"

"He won't make a move on you until you ask him too, or at least that is my impression. It's a bit weird but he wants you to be comfortable. This is his home and he is comfortable here. If you want to kick it up a notch, you might want to let him know. He's likely happy to just sit and hold hands till you make the next move."

"Oh, I thought he just..."

"No, it's all on you. If you want to move to the next step,

just tell him. Holding hands is fun," Jay-la chuckled, "but so is kissing." She smiled right at Suzy, knew Stephen had kissed the hell out of her back in L.A., "he's a bit old fashioned, from what I can tell."

"Seems it." Suzy nodded,

"So this meeting we're supposed

to be having?"

"No meeting, just us hanging out and having a chat, because I could see you weren't comfortable."

"Oh,"

"You want to go watch a movie, we'll both ditch everyone."

She chuckled

"Sure I'm not doing anything else."

Jay-la grinned right at her, "You and I, Suzy, were going to cause some mischief around here."

"I'm not really the mischief type. Brought up too strict for that."

"Ah, you'll learn it's fun. Come on." Jay-la stood up. "We have to ditch my guard detail."

"You're what?"

Jay-la chuckled "My guard detail, I've had one ever since we got back, Nathan is over protective at that moment." She headed to the window in her office and popped it open,

"Come on." She chuckled "Let's cause some mischief." She knew he was busy in the war room, like his whole unit was, and with her having a guard detail, he wasn't likely to be actively tracking her with that pack tether either.

Smiled to herself as she encouraged Suzy to climb out the window, it was only a few feet down to the ground. Made sure to close the window before they made their escape They walked all the way along the outside of the packhouse and slipped inside via the mud room. She mind-linked both Rae Rae and Margaret with the plan and got giggles from both of them. They were in, it seemed. and the four of them met up at the movie theatre.

The Defiant Luna Chapter 59

Jay-la POV

Jay-la sat in Nathan's office, he'd called her to come down to his of Ci as Alpha Austin was on the phone and wanted to talk to the both of them. It had been just over a week now since they'd gotten back and apparently the Council, who'd been given reports from everyone involved in her retrieval

The accounts of what had happened, from herself and Stephen, not that she had wanted to relive it. But she'd had to, so had sat down as requested and written out the report, her statement of accounts from her perspective. Not something she had done previously. Her first real Luna's report and it was on herself at that.

Though with her affliction, some of it was not recorded, she couldn't really recall anything with great detail after her fight mode had been set off, not the fight she knew she'd had with the three men in her cell. Not the fight shed had with the Alpha above ground once getting out of her cell.

Though that had been witnessed by Nathan and Jackson, themselves before Havoc had stepped in.

Nathan had regd it over himself. She knew how to write up a report, being a lawyer, not that hard to do a statement of facts. But along with that report had been a list of questions from the council themselves for her to answer,

those for her had been harder to answer. As her affliction had been activated, shed done her best to answer them though.

Jay-la understood that Nathan just wanted to read what she had written to see how she felt during the ordeal, and she hadiethim read it. They'd already spoken about it, and she had hot only answered any questions he'd had, but he had also returned the favour and answered all of her own for him.

Everyone involved had a list of questions to be filled out for the council. Jay-la knew that Nathan and Jackson's had been different from hers and Stephens. That Ethan, her father and brother's questions were also different from everyone else's. The list of questions was more about how they felt about things, than what had actually happened and the tactics used to resolve the situation.

It was curious to not only her but Nathan himself. He wondered aloud if it was all put down to their Mate Bond and Alpha Austin still trying to ascertain if Jay-la was happy here, had she settled in and was she happy to be with him. He'd said he could see that she would be in the future. Nathan wondered if the man was still tracking her about this. He'd

said he was going to be checking in periodically on her from time to time. Perhaps this was just another way of doing that.

That had all been sent on over a few days after they had gotten back to the pack and things had gone back to normal, or as normal as they could after her and Stephen's

f******g. She had no intention of leaving the pack anytime soon. Especially with being pregnant, she was not going to risk that at all. It had been too easy for not just her, but Stephen, to be taken as well.

Now she sat with him in his office and listened to Alpha Austin state that the council had investigated the matter.

Heard Sophia's side of things as well, and got snarled at by Nathan for that remark. Shed put a hand on him, to try and sette kim, but said nothing herself. She herself didn't like that they would take into account her life prior to what had happened. Should have just been based on her actions at the time.

But then again, she and Stephen had heard that woman stated what they could only presume her life was like. Also, now knew that Sophia had never actually wanted Nathan back, had just wanted him there so her own Alpha could kill him for her, a little pay back for whatever reason, was in her brain, that she needed it for.

The woman herself was in a cell, albeit a comfortable one, inside one of the alpha council estates. He did not mention which one. Though he did state it was because she had recently given birth and apparently had two other children back in her pack, though she had no idea whose they were.

Her life had been harsh after Nathan and Sophia's bond had been broken, she had gone home to her father, and he'd been more than disappointed with her, that Nathan's pack had severed ties with theirs. Due to her behaviour which had been laid out for him, plainly and matter of factly, for him to understand and make certain he knew she had been the unfaithful party.

He had sent her off to another pack unable to deal with her current attitude, and there she had been given to a warrior\$84 to be mated off to pretty much the day she had arrived.

Only to have the Alpha and his unit take to her at will, pretty much the entire time she was there. Apparently liked the thought of having a previously Luna ranked she-wolf to play with.

Her father had not come to her aid, not come to collect her, had told her she had made her bed now she had to lay in it.

That this was the result of one's unfaithfulness and disrespect of the Goddess herself. That she was now being punished by the Goddess and she must deal with it, for as long as the Goddess herself saw fit.

For years she had been abused by that Alpha and his Unit and had three children now, to who she did not know. None of them claimed to the children, either. The children had been retrieved and were now with her. Two were Beta blooded and the one she had just birthed was Delta blooded, the council had picked that up just by smelling them.

The question was now what to do with her? She had led a traumatic life since Nathan had rejected her, and she stated she was remorseful but had not been able to see any other way out of the life she was in. Told them she didn't really mean harm to anyone, just was desperate to find a way out of her situation and when she saw the battle between Nathan and Jay-la.

Her mate, not someone she had wanted to be mated off to, but he did seem to care about her, had proposed a plan to get her away from their Alpha and his unit. Shed just gone along with it in the hope that she could escape her life, and what it had become.

she was currently under lock and key, and they did not want to separate her from her children. All of them were small and under 4 and they had no idea what was going on. Loved their mother and it did appear she loved all of them. They had been watching her interaction with her children, red a mothers bond to them

Observed even that first interaction, when the children had been retrieved and brought to her, she had requested it.

They had all run over to her and hugged her, and she had hugged them back and cried about missing them.

Introduced them to their new sibling and kept them with her the whole time. She was a loving mother, from what they could tell.

Now the problem was due to her life and the children. What were they to do with her? They could, of course, put her in a prison, but that would separate her from not only the two little ones but her newborn child as well.

She could feel that Nathan was getting agitated about this, he believed she should be punished for her crimes, wanted her sent to prison for what she had done. Muttered even with Alpha Austin on the line, "I should have let Havoc rip her head off."

Jay-la herself had sat quietly for most of the phone call.

She knew why he was so upset, why he wanted the woman punished. But had she already suffered enough, at the hands of her Alpha and his unit, but was it all the truth?

She had no idea, shed seen Sophia herself, heard her tone of voice. Believed she wanted Nathan dead, her children dead, to have Jay-la herself punished. Everything she was telling the council, could well be all a charade. Acting this way, lying to get a lesser sentence.

"Alpha Austin, may I enquire about the questioning of Sophia?" she asked.

"In what manner?"

"Did she speak when spoken to or was she ordered by the council to tell the truth?"

"She volunteered the information without issue."

"How do you know she spoke the truth about everything?

I'm not questioning her life within her pack or how she was treated. I got the impression, as did my Gamma, that her life was very unpleasant. But the outcome she wanted. She led me to believe one thing, but Nathan was told by her mate another thing altogether. How do you know she isn't leading you to think something else as well?"

There was silence for a short period of time, "I think, the she-wolf is traumatised, was brutalised and really did just want out. Would use anyone or anyway, to get out of that situation."

"I understand that. But what if she is telling you what she wants you to hear, so she won't be punished? That Alpha she said she was going to give me to. He did not" updated by jobnib.com"come down to the cells, he waited up there on the surface for Nathan to arrive. I believe this is because she was going to have that man kill him. Which means she lied to Nathan, lied to me even about what her intentions were with Nathan himself."

"What is it you want, Jay-la?"

"Well, you're asking what Nathan and I want, right? I think one of us should come there, let her see us, see how she responds. Or you need to Alpha Order the truth out of her.

She's no longer with child, so it won't hurt the baby. You said she was remorseful. I doubt that from what I saw and heard, her tone and implications. Putting her in a room with one of us or seeing one of us, would let you know if she actually was, would it not?"

"Jay-la,

den't want you anywhere near her." Nathan stated

flatly.

"Neither do I, to be honest. But if she truly hates me and you, having one of us there will likely set her off. Show her true colours, so to speak, especially now." Jay-la touched her stomach. She was not yet showing but telling Sophia she was with child, would likely set her off.

Again, there was silence for a long minute, "I and the council do not want you near her. Not in your current state.

We agree with your Alpha, that is not a good idea. I'll Alpha Order her myself and get back to you. This will be the. quickest and most effective way of getting to the truth, seeing as you have doubts about our investigation." He clicked the line closed, seemed a little annoyed by her lack of faith in them.

"Should have just done it in the first place." Nathan muttered.

She looked at him, he was clearly annoyed by the fact that the council haan't done so already. Most likely he would have just done it, most Alpha's would in fact just order the truth out of their pack members if they thought they were lying.

"I agree." She sighed, had just heard Alpha Austin stated it would be quick and effective, yet they were just letting her say whatever she wanted and taking her word for it. That she wolf could say anything at all, at that rate, and get out of any and all punishment. Wondered what kind of justice that was. Did this happen often, or were they just lax in this case?

Perhaps they thought her life had already been traumatic enough,Inst she no longer needed to suffer anything else.

Either that or because she had freely and willingly answered all their questions as hed stated she had, they saw no need to order anything out of her.

Jay-la didn't particularly want the woman to suffer anymore, like she already had, but she couldn't just go free either. If she was lying about everything? Then she could just turn up in a year or two and bring trouble right back to her and the children once more. To Nathan himself, to this pack.

No, despite that she was a mother of three, she had to be dealt with. Part of her was of the same opinion as Nathan was, he should have just let Havoc rip her head off, but then that mother in her, disagreed with it. Those children had no idea what was going on, would suffer the loss of a mother and for nothing they knew about. Would become orphans and have to be raised in an orphanage or by some stranger.

That wasn't fair to the children she had, looked over to Nathan, he was too quiet, looked pissed off to her, she sat herself down in his lap and leaned into him, hugged him and then just rested her head on his shoulder. "I don't like it any more than you do." She

sighed "but those children? If she is a good mother, they deserve to have that. Perhaps he could find her a new pack, somewhere safe for her and the children to go."

"Jay-la?"

"I know, and I understand the worry of her coming at us again. But three children all under 4, they are innocent.

Perhaps she could go to another country, maybe in Europe, find a better way of life, in a Council approved pack."

"That does not guarantee your safety over the years."

"I know." She looked up at him, "Doesn't the father in you think about those children at all?"

Saw him sigh heavily "I'm not trying to look at her like that, from that point of view. She has done nothing but cause trouble for this pack, me and you. I don't want her anywhere near us. The pack, or our children ever."

"I understand, but."

"No. Buts." He muttered. "She made her choice, Jay-la, now has to deal with the consequences."

She was not going to be able to sway him, and didn't try to either. She did understand, she had read those answers to the council he had written. As he had done hers.

Understood that he had not wanted to say what he had said because he feared how she would react to hearing him say things like that.

That he would Yose her, she would hate him and never trust him ever again, that even if he got her back, she would just reject him and leave him. That had been his biggest fear.

Even if he saved her, he would still lose her.

They were back to waiting for the council to question her again and then find out the whole truth, and get back to them. Jay-la did want the woman punished, but at the same time, she didn't want her separated from her children either. Wondered if there was a way to do that, a wolfen prison that allowed the children to go with their parent?

Might have to ask that very question when Alpha Austin called ther back. Though who knew when that would be?

It could be later on today or it could be tomorrow or it could be in a week. Sighed softly and just sat there on Nathan's lap, his arms were around her and he didn't seem to mind

her being there at all. Didn't seem to want to talk anymore than she did. Just being close to each other was all either of them wanted right that very minute.

The Defiant Luna Chapter 60

Nathan POV

He was not at all happy with Alpha Austin and the council, they shauld have punished that she-wolf to the full extent of their authority already, not call and ask what they thought was appropriate. Death was appropriate as far as he was concerned. He had half a mind to call that man back and demand to see Sophia himself.

Let Havoc order the answers from her himself, to get to the bottom of her plotting and planning. He could well imagine that she had to be afraid of Havoc. They'd not ended on good terms, and hed wanted to kill her in the mountains even though she was pregnant, only hadn't because Nathan had stayed him.

If he walked into that place and came face to face with her, let Havoc out, she was bound to feel real fear, and for the life of her children as well, wondered if he could request it?

Wondered if she'd beg to be put behind bars, with her children, if he stalked on in there, and told her the moment she was out, he was going to be coming for her. That nothing on this Goddess given earth was going to stop him from taking her head from her body.

He believed Jay-la was right about the woman's motives.

They didn't add up, not really. She had wanted to see Jay-la broken and dejected, but then she also wanted him to be attacked and killed by an Alpha. Not that he'd known that, she kept that to herself. She was not just out to hurt them both, she wanted them both dead, he suspected

Likely had wanted them both there to see one of them feel it as well. She had not changed one bit since leaving this pack, orio' in a good way. Likely her attitude and behaviour had only gotten worse, this was all he could see anyway. Her mean, vindictive side, it had gotten way worse, and she had reached a new level of cruelty, it seemed

With both he and Jay-la gone from the picture, if shed gotten what she wanted, her plan had succeeded. The triplets, he was certain would have been her next target.

Thankfully, Jay-la had left them in the safety of the pack.

He would hate to think of what would have happened to them. If she had decided to take them with her and Sophia had gotten her sick twisted hands on them.

Nathan also didn't like waiting around on that return phone call, surely it would only take a matter of a few hours. But it had been more than a day now, and the phone had not rung for anything that wasn't pack business. He had to be patient, though that was not his strong suit he was learning to be.

Jay-la often just stared at him like she expected him to stay put or to wait, and hed learned if he didn't she got annoyed with him. Smiled to himself at just the thought of her, she was upstairs in the Luna suite of all places, had all the girls up there, they were having a day of pampering up there.

The packs masseuses from the day spa, and the girls that all worked there, were also all up in the Luna suite. They were, from what he could tell, having all the treatments that they could down in the day spa itself, though privately in the Luna Suite.

Pedicures, manicures, facials, body wraps and massages for Jay l. Rae-Rae, Margaret and Suzy. While Maya and her mother had been invited, they were off up to Rochester to look at a store with an apartment above it. Elena had actually found a building that would suit her flower store needs and had to her delight, had a small apartment directly above it. She found it completely on her own with no one else's help.

Had gotten an appointment today for them to look at it.

Elena's block of land had miraculously sold in a heartbeat of it being on the market. Smiled to himself, he'd purchased it at the asking price and it was currently just going to sit there for now. He had no need of small piece of land in L.A. would likely just hang onto it for a few months and then put it on the market himself. If it didn't sell, he would build a house on it and try again, wasn't all that worried about it. Worst come to worse, he rented it out until it sold.

Today's activities for the girls, that had been Jackson's doing, he had organised it himself first thing after breakfast. He'd been all smiles coming down stairs this morning with Margaret, who'd been attached to his hip, was all lit up as well. They'd announced at breakfast she was having their first pup. She was pregnant and very happy about it. All smiles and super excited, she barely stopped talking about all the things she was going to need for their suite.

Jackson had just sat smiling at her, he would deny her nothing. Margaret was talking about changing the Beta suite as well, wanted to start on the nursery. She had latched onto Jay-la's arm and talking a mile a minute about going shopping together for the two nurseries. One for each of them, that they could do everything together.

He'd waisted Jay-la smile at not just Margaret but at Jackson as well, was more than happy to go shopping with Margaret, but thought it might be a better idea for the moment to shop on-line, shed huffed only a little but then nodded.

Ethan had actually hugged his sister and told her he was happy for her, even congratulated Jackson on the next Beta generation. Actually meant it, chuckled and murmured

"She'll always want to be pregnant you know." Snorted fully amused before leaning back in his chair to talk to Maya before she'd gone off with her mother into

Rochester.

Who it appeared, had given up all designs on Stephen finally, hadn't once looked at him this morning at all other than a passing greeting. Which had settled Suzy right into the pack. She had her own room up on the Alpha floor now, so she could be closer to the triplets and her job. Also got her and Stephen away from Maya, who had been causing internal issues for Suzy.

Jay-la had told him about what was going on, what Maya was like around Suzy's boyfriends, that Suzy felt unworthy most of the time because her younger sister was getting a proper education, and she was just a nanny, attributed it to that she had barely passed her senior year at high school.

Stephen didn't care about that at all, she was his Mate and he wouldn't care if she was completely illiterate. Would only likely give him more reason to spend time with her, sit with her and help her learn to read and what not.

He knew Jay-la had reassured her, and they had been spending alot of time with Margret and Rae-Rae, even the triplets and Halley hung out with them a fair bit. Stephen had offered to show her to an apartment of her own, for when she was there by herself, she now had a one room suite not that far from his.

Jay-la had encouraged her to move into it, had been up there now on her own, for two days. Maya wasn't allowed up on the top floor, without an escort, so it kept her wandering eyes off of Stephen.

Currently, Ethan was preoccupying the girl, had not even denied that they were sleeping together, when all three of them had been waiting on him last night to return to his suite. It had been late and they'd all been sitting around on chairs on the Alpha floor, not something that was normally there.

But Jay-a and the girls like to sit after dinner and just chat, she herself had chairs and a coffee table brought up from the coffee hub, till the set that she had ordered got here.

Apparently, shed done some shopping, her pack card had arrived finally and she was not at all shy about using it, was all settled back into her life here, it seemed

It actually made him happy to see her just shop when she wanted something, didn't ask him, just bought it, didn't even tell him she had, it had only come up in conversation when he'd found the four chairs and the coffee table in the Alpha hallway

He and the boys had known that Ethan wasn't using

Maya's room, Elena would likely have a fit, he'd also not brought her up here to his room, likely would never take anyone to his Suite, it was for he and his Mate, when he found another or chose another. Ethan had just shrugged and said there are plenty of empty rooms on the first floor.

He was not wrong, it was where all the visiting Alphas and their units would stay during Mating Balls along with their pack members.

All three of them had been there when Nathan had asked him if she was his human Mate, he'd shrugged and said, "Not that I know of, but I guess the full moon will tell." Hadn't seemed overly concerned with it. But he wasn't as ensconced in any research. Had not been buried in work helping Franklin either, had kept himself free over the past week, since hed started hanging out with Maya.

She might not be his Mate, but it wasn't like Ethan to just go and sleep with anyone. There had been no one since his Mate had died. As far as any of them were aware, Margaret agreed with them.

They were all betting on that she was going to be, they weren't the only ones either. Apparently, Ethan's parents were also hoping for it, something to make their son happy once more, bring back the real spark of life to him, bring his nose out of the library and any book he could read.

Ethan also being Mated to Maya would be good for Suzy, she would get to have her sister here all the time, their damaged relationship could be mended properly. If Maya was to be Mated to a wolf, it would stop those wandering eyes of hers. Once that bond kicked in, she would look at no other ever, including her sisters Mate.

Nathan had questioned Ethan as to if he'd brought it up with her, why she thought staring at Suzy's boyfriend, was okay? O making eyes at him, flirting with him for that matter? Ethan had just shaken his head, 'no. Though it was pretty clear to them all, that from when he'd started sleeping with Maya, she didn't look at Stephen anymore.

Stephen had murmured "She's likely too exhausted by Ethan to even think about it" in the beginning, every time she had done it, Ethan had texted the girl and then shed wandered off as had Ethan a few minutes later. Likely it had started out as a way to distract her, but they didn't think that was it anymore. Ethan was always looking at his watch, he knew where she was or when she was free to see him.

They would all find out on the full moon. It was due to set just after 6pm, and Jay-la's Luna ceremony was going to be on that day, though not until 8pm. Ethan would need to be here for that and with Maya and Elena both inside the pack for it, some rearranging had been done.

The Luna Ceremony had now turned into more like a wedding, she would wear a wedding dress of her choosing and be walked down the isle to him by Jodi. They would say simple vows and he was going to kiss her in front of the entire pack, not that he didn't do that now, but everyone would be there for it.

It was going to be outside just off the ballroom, a raised platform was being erected, the same one that they used for him taking over the pack as the Alpha, they were all watching the weather hoping there would be no snow storm, so far so good, but mother nature was fickle sometimes.

He would use a pack wide mind-link to welcome her and thank the moon goddess herself, couldn't very well do it with humans in the pack, so a little non traditional it would be. He was hoping she'd still wear that dress he bought for her. She had told him she liked it, and he honestly did think she would look stunning in it.

Had apologised to her for being presumptuous and getting her a Luna Ceremony dress, had told her he'd just wanted her to know he wanted that, and is why he bought the dress, told her she did not have to wear it if she didn't want to. To buy whatever she wanted shed just smiled at him and shaken her head, said she'd wear it for him.

Though she was worried that with it being a fitted mermaid style dress it might not fit on the day, when he'd raised an eyebrow at her, she'd slid her hand to her stomach and murmured I might have a baby bump before then.

That had made him smile, he did like the idea of that, and being an Alpha pup, she was carrying, he knew it would grow quickly, could well be here in just three and half months. Havoc was still certain it was his, not Nathans.

Liked to remind him about that, 'my pup, not yours.' Havoc chortled at him some days when they were thinking about

Havoc had told both Jay-la and Kora that himself. Jay-la had shaken her head, seemed amused and Kora had purred all loud for him. Perhaps their wolves knew something they did not. Who knew, it could well have been conceived when Havoc and Kora were in control of their human bodies during her heat.

Nathan didn't mind and neither did Jay-la from what he could tel, the triplets had stared at them when they'd been told, gone quiet for a long minute and then just nodded all at the same time. He saw them do it all the time, showed their deep connection to each other, but sometimes it still shocked him when they were all in perfect sync with each other. Three sets of eyes turned directly on him, with the same expression in them as well

as on their faces. Hed only had one time that had made him shiver all over. It had been when Jay-la and the triplets had all turned to look right at him, all frowning at him.

He'd brought up the triplets starting school, stated he thought it was a good idea that they start in the morning Clearly not one of them, not even Jay-la had liked it.

Though it had been just after they had gotten back from

L.A., she clearly wasn't ready to be fully separated from them for a whole day at the time.

All four of them had looked at him at the exact same time, four sets of green eyes on him and his whole body had shivered involuntarily. He'd known they were connected to their mothers emotions on some level, and hed gotten to see just how connected in that one moment. It had kind of freaked him out a little, and he'd been rendered completely speechless, for almost a minute, before being able to shake it off.