

# The Dragon King

Chapter 21 ~ At All Cost

## Aurora's POV ~

Here we are.. back at the capitol building. I sit with Connie and Albert, both, this time. Draco brought twenty warriors with us, as well. He said he wasn't taking any chances.

Johnston walked in.. without Michaelson.. and I think he will make a grand entrance, if he shows, at all. Once again, I gave an opening statement.. and then Johnston stood to begin his introductory speech.

"Gentlemen, we are here today on rumors, speculation and conjecture. The witnesses' testimonials are simply fabrications made by disgruntled pack members.. trying to bring down an Alpha who has done nothing but provide and care for his people. This trial is a travesty of justice, and as such, I move all charges against my client be dismissed."

The trial went on for several hours.. my victims testified.. Johnston cross examined them. I entered photographs and the sworn depositions into evidence.

In closing arguments, Johnston brought pressure to bear that I had failed to prove my case by failing to provide actual eyewitness accounts of what was done to the victims.. that while they had sustained severe injuries.. there was still no one that could corroborate that Michaelson had indeed been the one to either order the punishment or conduct it himself.

When the council delivered their decision, it was Thompson who stood to tell us "In light of the lack of actual eyewitness testimony to Alpha Michaelson being the actual perpetrator of these crimes, the council's decision is to not indict at this time. Charges are dismissed, without prejudice, at this time.. pending further investigation."

The bastard smirked.. he literally smirked at me! Knowing I will file an appeal.. and knowing full well the testimony of a victim far outweighs testimony of an eyewitness.. they Lived it! They don't need the testimony of someone who watched it happen.

Draco stepped forward and said “I will be heard! Johnston, you will be taken into custody as soon as you leave this courtroom. As you never renounced your pack bond, you are still a member of Draconium.. you are accused of treason.. against the pack, and against the monarchy! Thompson.. I know you had this rigged from the beginning. Your computers and files are being siezed, as we speak! If I find you are complicit.. if I find you have accepted bribes of monetary gain, your position on the council will be rescinded. If it is found that you betrayed the Draconium Kingdom, you will be tried by our laws. Michaelson is guilty of crimes against humanity! You know it.. and more importantly you know I know it! Therefore, when Michaelson is located.. and I will find him.. make no mistake.. he will be tried in the Dragon Kingdom of the Realm! Gentlemen, you fucked up today.. as you are well aware! I pray none of the rest of you are complicit!”

We walked out to a bevy of reporters, all firing questions at Draco.. accusing him of abusing his privilege of rank.. trying to get a comment. The warriors surrounded us and pushed through the throng.

Once we were on the plane, I smiled “You were awesome! In a kick ass, take names kind of way. Right now, though, we have to get ahead of this media frenzy. There’s nothing like a juicy scandal to have humans circling the water like a school of sharks!

He grinned “I love the way you talk! All prim and proper English.. with profanity on the side. My Lady Freak. It’s fantastic! Tell you what! We will air a statement to the masses, as soon as we land. I will have Adrian set it up! I may be able to piss Michaelson off enough to have him come to me!”

I laughed at him “You really are my bad boy King! I adore how you fight for our people.. for the pain they endured. You fight the physical fight, my love.. I will fight on paper. Unless it does get physical.. then, I’m not opposed to fighting by your side!”

Deplaning, we saw Adrian had a podium set up, with the media waiting for Draco.. as soon as they saw us, cameras were flashing.. questions were fired in as rapid a staccato as a machine gun. He never said a word.. just walked directly to the podium, stopping in front of the microphone.

He spoke precisely “Allow me to speak.. I will take questions, afterwards.” He waited for the cacophony to die down, patiently. He reached for my hand.. and I stepped directly to his side.

“I am sure you are all wondering why I removed authority from the Council of Species. It’s quite simple in reality. I had warned them, at a previous hearing. The charges against Alpha Michaelson were dismissed, out of hand. The council sided with opposing council, citing a lack of eyewitnesses. My council provided a multitude of eyewitness accounts, in the form of the victims, themselves. Now, I ask you! Who better to recount the events in question than the victims? Are they not the ones to tell the details of what happened? How can they not be considered an eyewitness to their own torture and abuse? Therefore, I did not abuse my position of power.. my rank.. by deciding to try this case in my own Kingdom. By my personal council and advisors... These are charges against a Dragon Alpha.. against both the human counterpart and the dragon shifter. The charges will be amended to crimes against dragon shifters.. making them perfectly legal in both human and species courts. Any questions?”

There was a series of Q & A fired back and forth.. to which Draco responded to with graceful aplomb. He smiled the entire time, exhibiting patience and poise. We walked away to a very satisfied media.

We arrived home right at dinner time and the entire pack greeted their Alpha with applause and cheers. My heart swelled with pride to see the love and appreciation they felt for him. The confidence they all had in him to always fight the good fight! To protect and defend them, at all costs!

Chapter 22 ~ So Be It!

### **Somewhere, High Atop Denali**

Ernest Michaelson was pacing around the fire inside the cave. He turned to, Jerry, his Beta “Has there been any word from Johnston?” Jerry sighed “None, Ernie. Nothing yesterday.. or this morning.. and no word five minutes ago, when you asked! I expect Alvin and Dirk back anytime. I sent them out last night to track him. We will know something, soon.”

Michaelson roared “It’s Draco! I know it is! The time is coming to end him! Like my father before me... ending his father. He’s becoming a nuisance!”

A shadow passed the cave opening, alerting them to the arrival of the two men earlier discussed. Alvin immediately approached “Alpha, Johnston has been arrested for treason against the crowned pack, and the King. It was determined he was the source of information, in regard to the previous summons to appear for you.”

Michaelson cursed loudly “Fuck! That ignorant old fool! I told him not to desert the pack! We needed the information he was providing! Do we still have anyone inside the pack we can tap to provide it?”

Jerry said “The omega.. Amber.. her mother is still here. We can extort information from her.. by threatening her mother’s life?” Michaelson turned to Dirk “Imprison the mother.. Beat her and hobble her dragon..then get word to Amber.. send pictures. Let her know I’m not playing! I need to know what’s going on. Johnston is a lost cause. He’s going to be executed .. there is no doubt. Draco doesn’t play.”

Jerry said “We need a plan.. you have to let her know what information you need from her. Last I had heard she was just a scullery maid.. unless she’s moved up in rank.”

Michaelson said “I don’t give a fuck if they’re using her for a breeder! All I want is to know his defenses.. his border patrol schedules.. the size of his militia. I want to know what weapons he uses.. how many dragons he has in his arsenal. I don’t give a fuck how many wolves he has.. they’re no match for a dragon! I know Draco.. and I know he will defend an aerial attack against all odds. Being the King, he knows full well how to drop us from the sky!”

Jerry said “Our only hope will be the element of surprise. What if we abduct his Queen? I am sure that would bring him to his knees!”

Michaelson roared “Are you that ignorant? He has waited a long time for his mate. Taking her will ignite a firestorm we couldn’t possibly counteract. It wouldn’t weaken him. It would fill him with a terrible resolve! Get in contact with our seven allied Weyr’s. See who is willing to fight with us.”

Alvin said “I have a man ready to make contact with Amber, as soon as the pictures are ready.. maybe force the mother to write her daughter a letter.. begging her to save her. A little added insurance?”

Michaelson nodded “Good idea. That may be just the ticket needed to assure the girl does as she’s told. She won’t do it voluntarily, I have no doubt. I think I will be the one to do the convincing.. what’s the mother’s name?”

Jerry responded “Gloria, Alpha. She’s not a strong dragon. Was used as a breeder back in the day. Amber is one of the five who escaped.. she is also slated to testify against you. She has a very real animosity and drive for revenge against us.”

Michaelson shrugged “I don’t give a shit about that! When we attack, she dies for betraying me. It’s that simple! Her testimony is a moot point now!”

Gloria was brought to the cave landing, and Michaelson commanded her to shift, calling her dragon forth. She was small, with dull brownish red scales. A sign of an omega.

Michaelson brought forth the whip, each of the nine strands, dipped in silver, with treble hooks tied to the ends. He lashed her wings.. ten times. She passed out from the pain, and was awakened with a bucket of water, once he was satisfied with the pictures.

She was ordered back to human form, and chained at a table. He instructed her to write a letter.. begging for her life. Every time she refused.. she was punched.. or cut.. until she finally conceded and wrote a letter. He told her exactly what to say.. and how to say it.

She did as he said.. but what he didn’t know.. was she and her daughter had played a game Amber’s entire life. They had made up an entire code of carefully worded phrases and terms, that only they knew and understood.

Michaelson read the blood smeared letter.. satisfied that she wrote enough to convince her daughter to aid in betraying Draco, at the cost of her mother’s life, should she fail. He ordered Gloria locked away, until such a time as he had the assurance of Amber’s help.

The letter.. once decoded.. said nothing of the sort. Gloria didn’t ask her daughter to sacrifice her honor, to save her mother’s life. It was quite the opposite. Gloria smiled as they dragged her away. Safe in the knowledge her daughter would do the right thing. And if she died because of it, it would be the Goddess’s will.

So be it!

Chapter 23 ~ Want To Chase Fireflies?

### **Draco’s POV ~**

I ordered the trial of Johnston to be held immediately. It was strictly for appearances.. to make an example of him. By law, I could have simply listed his crimes in tribunal and executed him. But, since the shifters went public.. human eyes are always watching.

I am watching my beautiful mate sparring with Culver. I am always amazed by her fighting style. She is lethal.. deadly, even.. but she's so graceful it appears she's dancing.

I glanced to my left, noticing one of our housemaids approaching. She looks sullen and afraid. I dislike that. Then I realized she is one of our new members.. a victim of Michaelson's heinous attack.

She moved closer to me, keeping distance.. and asked softly "Alpha, would it be possible to meet with you and Luna today? It is imperative I speak with you." I checked my watch.. seeing it is nearly lunchtime. I tell her "Come to my office today, at three. I have an appointment at one, and I am not sure how long it will run." She nodded and turned to walk away.. I asked "Amber? Whatever it is, we will figure it out. I appreciate you coming to me." Again, she nodded and left.

Aurora bounced over to me and asked what that was about and I shrugged. She grinned and said "I'm gonna grab a shower.. are you too busy?" It took a second.. circled around my head a few times before registering. Busy? For shower time with my mate? Not a chance.. I would ghost a hundred meals or meetings for that opportunity.. and took off chasing her.. watching her cute ass as she ran away, giggling.

The four of us are in my office.. discussing the execution of Johnston this evening.. when a knock sounded. Adrian opened the door to Amber and I offered her a seat. Aurora took her hand and sat down beside her.. offering comfort. My perfect Luna... always aware of the needs of our people.

She spoke quietly, soothingly to Amber.. allowing her time to relax.. then Amber spoke "I have to report something that happened to me this morning. Cook had sent me and another housemaid to town to pick up a delivery of meat from the butcher's. His truck had broken down, and cook was worried the buffalo meat wouldn't keep. The housemaid I was with had an errand at the post office to send the documents for Luna for Sacred Moon and I waited by the truck."

She paused and Aurora poured her some water. I noticed her hands were shaking, and she held a packet of some sort in her lap. Taking a deep breath she said "I was approached by a man.. a dragon shifter. He handed me this packet.. telling me I had better do as I am told.. and that he will be in touch. In this packet, are photos of my mother. She has been tortured.. brutalized.. she

looks barely alive.” She began to cry.. while Aurora hugged her tightly whispering softly.

She coughed slightly and continued “There is also a letter. In my mother’s handwriting.. instructing me to procure patrol schedules.. itemized directions in relation to our defenses.. as well as the extent of our military. I am to list our weaponry, arsenal and methodology in warfare.”

I asked to see the letter. She nodded and handed it to me. I read it and said “I see” but she was shaking her head.. “No, Alpha. You don’t. What you see is what they forced her to write. What you don’t see is that the letter is written in such a way, only I would comprehend. Since I was a little girl, my mother and I played a game.. we created a code as a way of extending my vocabulary. If you will allow me, I will read what she actually wrote.”

Ingenious, actually! I am impressed. I handed the letter back and she began to read the code.

*“Dear Daughter*

*Regardless of what you read here, decipher the true meaning. I am being held hostage by Alpha Michaelson. He hopes to blackmail you into betraying our King. Under no circumstances, do you entertain that notion. Go immediately to King Draco.. tell him Michaelson is planning a coup. We have three hundred active warrior dragons.. Michaelson is contacting his seven allies for more troops. As of this moment, our pack is holed up in a cave on Denali of the Alaskan Range. I have been injured.. but I refuse to allow this man do what his father did. If I die, then it is the will of our Goddess.. and know that I will be at peace, in the arms of my mate, once more. I love you, Amber.. we always fight the good fight!*

I am blown away! This brave woman risked her life to warn us! I looked at Amber and told her “Here is what we are going to do. You will relay information to this dragon. It will just be false information. Adrian, print out the old border patrol schedules from three years ago. We have increased our patrols by two hundred since then. Give her a copy of our munitions equipment from five years back, when we had geared up for the Demon Campaigns. The militia rosters we had when the Dark Elves attacked. That should be a show of good faith.. and enough to keep her mother alive, while we prepare for war.”

Aurora thanked Amber for her dedication and loyalty.. telling her we will do everything possible to save her mother. After she left, Aurora grabbed her tablet.. typing in a few words, I watched... and asked "Anything I can help with?" She muttered "I'll let you know."

Adrian left to get the paperwork together for Amber.. while I finished the paperwork I had started earlier in the day. Culver went back to the training field.. Everyone had a task.

An hour later, Aurora looked up from the tablet "Alright! I ordered dried Mistletoe and crushed Blue Oleander. I need one more ingredient." I was so confused.. "What are you doing?"

She grinned, devilishly "Making bombs you have to figure out how to launch! It's capable of putting a dragon to sleep.. which means our people will need to ingest the antidote before the battle. I'm missing one ingredient, however. No one seems to stock it!"

I shuddered "How do you know this?" She grinned again "Oh ye of little faith! I read.. A LOT! But... about that last ingredient.. I'm missing Photinis Sp. Want to chase fireflies?"

Chapter 24 ~ It's a Boy!

### **Aurora's POV ~**

I have enlisted the help of Culver and Adrian to chase fireflies with us. I made all three wear gloves though.. the toxicity of these little insects could knock Donnaugh and Culver's dragon, Pete, (yes.. his dragon is Pete the dragon... I laugh every time I say it) out for several hours. Adrian and I are immune. Wolves don't care!

Culver says "It's chilly! How long do we have to stay out here?" I groaned "Damn it Culver! You asked that ten minutes ago! I need at least two hundred of these friendly little guys.. Your flavor of the week can wait a couple hours for your particular brand of entertainment!"

Adrian laughed and asked "What's her name, Culver?" He shrugged.. thinking.. "Umm.. Bethany? No.. that's not it.. Brittany?.. hmm.. Tiffany.. that's it! Tiffany!" Draco laughed "How the fuck did you get a B name from Tiffany!?"



Hanging his head, he said, sheepishly “The B girl was on Saturday.” I shook my head “Goddess! Your libido is off the rails! Dragons are horny devils!”

It took several hours last night, but I feel we have enough. This morning, Caleb called with an update on Amelia.. it seems she has tried to ditch her guards, but Naomi caught her. He said it seems like she isn’t even trying to atone for the shit she pulled at the academy. Anderson has locked her in her room.. and now the threat of being rejected and banished is a very real thing. He told her she is on her third strike.

Draco said “I am actually beginning to think that’s what she wants. One more thing she will find a way to blame you for?” I laughed “I couldn’t care less. If she’s blaming me, she’s leaving somebody else alone. I only wish I understood her. It’s a shame.. “

Adrian came in to join us “Draco.. the mortar tubes you ordered arrived this afternoon.. I’d like to test them out.. but I don’t want to use live rounds..”

I said “Potatoes” and Culver said “Cats” Draco looked at both of us like we’d lost our minds! I laughed “Culver Danvers! You are not launching cats out a mortar tube!” He said “What? No! I thought we were playing word association.. You said potatoes! The first thing that popped into my head was cats! Duh!” I asked him “What is living in your brain? I say potatoes and your mind jumps to Cats? The fuck is wrong with you?”

Adrian said “The two of you are weird as fuck!” I laughed again “Culver’s lunacy notwithstanding, I was talking about launching potatoes. No big boom! Harmless.. unlike cats! Dude!!”

Draco hadn’t stopped laughing. He pulled me into his lap and said “Never a dull moment! I love you! Let’s go launch some potatoes!”

At dinner, Culver was still groaning.. Adrian told him “Suck it up, buttercup! How was I supposed to know it would hurt that bad?” Culver whined “What would even make you think launching a potato at me? That shit hurt! Couldn’t breathe for ten minutes, bro!”

Draco laughed and told him “After dinner, you can launch one at him, if that will shut you up!” Culver’s face was filled with a little too much glee, while it was Adrian’s turn to whine “Dude! Why would you tell him that!?” Draco only laughed again, saying “Suck it up, buttercup!”

Lying in bed beside Draco, I whispered "I think I may be pregnant. I'm not sure.. maybe I should take a test, in the morning?" He rolled over and looked at me.. "Baby! We might be pregnant? Oh Goddess! I could be a dad? A real dad? How soon can we find out? Have you been feeling alright? Are you nauseous? I can get you some crackers.. or ginger ale! Chicken noodle soup! I will get you some soup!"

I laughed and said "My sweet love, I said maybe.. my breasts are tender.. and my tummy has a bulge.. I may just be getting fat." He grinned "You aren't even close to fat! Stop that!" He laid his ear against my stomach.. and then his face lit up in a huge smile.

He whispered "I hear it. A fast little heartbeat! It's there! We're parents, baby! A little you and me! We test first thing in the morning.. We will go straight to the clinic! I am so happy.. You have completed my life.. and now you are adding to it!"

Draco was up with the dawn.. nudging me awake.. "Come.. shower with me! I want to be at the clinic when Doc arrives." I giggle and ask "What? No coffee? How will I function.. I need coffee, before anything else!" Pulling me to my feet, I realize okay.. we're doing this now!

While I dressed, Draco disappeared.. returning just as I tied my shoes.. Coffee in hand, he said "Hurry.. drink it on the way" Making me giggle again. This man of mine is something else!

Doc looked up from his desk "Alpha! Luna! Is everything alright? It's awfully early.. are you sick?" I shook my head asking "Would it be possible to give me a pregnancy test, doctor? I told him I might be.. and he's quite eager to find out."

She smiled "Of course. Here.. pee in this cup and bring it back to me. I will take some blood and we will figure this out!" I went to do as she asked.. and when I returned.. she and Draco were in an examination room.

She drew some blood and asked us to wait. Draco said "Your scent is changing.. more noticeable, this morning, than yesterday." I laughed and said "Or wishful thinking.. and your brain has run wild?" He grins "Oh.. Hush, you!"

Doc walks back in a half hour later "Well.. congratulations are in order! You are indeed pregnant! Let's get an ultrasound done so we can see how far along.. and what's going on."

Draco looked at me, glassy eyed and whispered “Thank you, my Moon! I love you so much!” I held him tightly and the doctor cleared her throat. “Lay back, Luna.. and let’s have our first look at this little bean!”

When the wand rolled over my stomach, she stopped and took a picture every so often.. after several pictures, she said “There! You see that.. there’s his heart.. spine.. arms and here.. legs. The head is measuring around fourteen weeks. You actually only have two and half months or so before you are parents! Have you not had any symptoms before now, Luna?” I shook my head no.. she then said “Do you want to know the gender?” Draco nodded right away.

She grinned and said “Congratulations! It’s a boy!”

Chapter 25 ~ The Most Beautiful Sound

### **Draco’s POV ~**

Aurora fashioned her bombs with all the ingredients she needed.. mixed with a little gunpowder. The antidotes had been given to all our dragons for the past two weeks, every day.

Amber had been feeding false information to Michaelson’s men for the past two months. We know the attack will happen anytime within the next two days, and my beautiful mate agreed to remain in our underground bunkers with the other noncombatants. Much to my relief! Evander is due in ten days.. but Doc said due to his size, he could come any time. Apparently, I make big babies. Who knew!?

Aurora walked.. sort of.. into the office and crawled into my lap. I asked “Not feeling it today, baby?” She shook her head and said “My back aches, and Evander is doing jumping jacks on my bladder!” I laughed and rubbed her back for her. She isn’t hugely pregnant.. and Doc said she’s carrying well. She has maintained a strict regimen of exercise and eating healthy foods. We were blessed in as much as she’d never had morning sickness.

Adrian walked through the door and told us “Dragons in the air.. hundreds.. blocking out the sun and headed this way.” I asked “How long?” To which he responded “Four hours, at most. Maybe less.”

Aurora stood to her feet.. sending out a packwide mind link for all noncombatants to get to the bunkers immediately. She kissed me, long and

hard “I have this! You get in position. And Draco? Come back to us!” I grinned and told her “I guarantee it!”

Adrian and I headed to the battlefield.. The ten mortar tubes were lined up.. and I ordered them prepared.. we would fire them at intervals.. five would fire.. then the alternating five would follow behind in ten seconds. Aurora had over two hundred bombs.. and we tested the sleeping drug on Culver, so we knew the effects lasted roughly six hours. He groused about being our guinea pig for three days.. but Pete got a good nap out of it.

The thunder of the dragon’s wings could be heard a hundred miles out.. and I couldn’t help but wonder what this fool was even thinking! Where’s the stealth? Had the maniac thought it through?

At first sight of their initial line of defense, I ordered my men to hold. I alerted my archers to ready their bows.. arrowheads dipped in Aurora’s poison. They stood at the ready and I watched Michaelson’s dragons approach.

His strategy confused me.. the first line of defense were his fire breathers.. Ignorant asshole! He is sacrificing his strongest by sending them in first! I alerted my men.. “As soon as they fall, engage! Hand to hand until the last man! Wolves! Ready your beasts!”

Adrian asked “Today’s a good day to die?” I growled “A great day to die! Archers! Choose your targets and FIRE!”

I turned to my armored division “Ready the mortars! Heading set at 8.2 x 4.7. And fire fire fire!” We had hundreds of naked men falling from the sky, as their dragons went to sleep. It gave a whole new meaning to that song the ladies like! It was definitely raining men!

Within minutes, we were in the thick of it. Adrian hadn’t shifted.. nor had I. He was standing, facing five men trying to make contact. His left hand held his sword, in his right swinging a mace. He looked like a medieval warrior and acted accordingly.

I waded through every combatant I came across.. snapping necks.. or ripping throats out. I was on the hunt. I wanted Michaelson! He would die by my hand, this day!


I saw about twenty men break our ranks and run towards the pack house.. I yelled “Culver, pull your unit! Insurgents headed to the house! Protect the

Queen!” He ran like the hounds of hell were at his heels.. all ten of his elite guard keeping pace.

I finally spotted Michaelson. Hiding behind Jerry.. while he let his Beta take every hit aimed at himself! Coward! I stopped where I knew he could hear me “Michaelson, tell your men to lay down their weapons! They don’t have to die today. You! Only you deserve death for the pain and anguish you’ve caused your own people!”

He laughed.. and ordered them to attack. I linked my pack to incapacitate if they could.. spare as many as possible. I stormed toward Michaelson.. knocking out anyone who tried to stop me.. within minutes, I reached him.. punching Jerry in the temple, he dropped like a stone. I grabbed Michaelson by the throat and snapped his neck.. then severed his head. Holding it high enough to be seen across the battlefield, I roared **“STAND DOWN! YOUR LEADER IS DEAD! IT IS OVER!”**

Everyone of his men dropped to their knees. They were easy to spot! Naked as the day they were born. A few hundred laid dead or dying and I linked to my people “Sound Off!” We hadn’t lost one man! I ordered the clean up.. and Adrian started piling bodies to burn.

Culver timidly came through the mind link  *Alpha, we need you at the bunker, immediately* and I took off running, fighting my panic. Reaching the front of the bunker.. the door had been destroyed.. several of my pack were milling around, bloodied.. holding broken limbs.. I looked around and spotted my mate..

She stood with a broadsword in hand.. surrounded by a dozen dead men. They had attacked the bunker doors and rushed the people inside. She fought them back out the door, protecting our people. She looked like an avenging angel.. her hair wild around her face.. clothes bloodied.. a smear across her cheek.

I walked towards her and softly said “Baby?” She looked up at me and smiled so sweetly, my breath caught in my chest.. and told me “My water broke.”

I rushed to her and lifted her, but she said she needed a shower and Doc needed to treat the injured. Her contractions were still spaced far enough apart that she believed we had time. So that’s what I did.. I took her to our room, and showered with her.. even when a pain would hit and she squeezed whatever part of my anatomy she could grab. I made sure to turn my body to

one side or another, just in case she decided to relieve me of the weapon responsible for her pain...

Once I had slipped a long nightgown over her head, I carried her to the infirmary. Doc had five more people to see and bandage.. so she pointed us to a room to get situated.

Evander Caleb Arconium came kicking and screaming into the world three hours later.. and it truly was the most beautiful sound I had ever heard.