

The Alpha's Hated Breeder Chapter 17-19

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As far as I knew, Zade stayed away from Anna much to my relief. Was I really going to act out if he touched her? I wasn't sure and I was glad that I didn't need to find out. Him not touching her didn't mean I didn't go unpunished though. Zade found creative ways of making my life miserable, one of which involved me having to scrub down all the training equipment. It was tasking and exhausting but I did it anyway.

It wasn't until high noon before I was done with all my chores and I wanted nothing more than to lie in bed and sleep but Zade had other plans for me because he barged into my room and started throwing clothes at me. I stared at him in confusion wondering what was happening but he paid me no heed. Once he was done tossing clothes my way, he turned and leaned against the wall.

"Get up, we don't have all the time in the world," his voice was dripping with disdain but I refused to move. "Are you deaf as well as stupid?"

"I'm not leaving until I know exactly where we are going and I don't want to wear the clothes you picked out. I have my own."

Over the past few days, I had promptly refused to wear any clothes that Zade had bought. It was my own little way of regaining freedom. If my suspicions were correct and he wanted to take me out of the palace then it made sense that he didn't want me wearing my clothes because they were practically rags.

Zade was pissed by my response. The vein at his temple bulged and for a second, I feared it would burst. He pushed off the wall and bent down until he was at eye level with me. "You can either wear what I asked or you can go around naked. The choice is yours."

"I choose the latter."

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I could tell my answer shocked him because he took a step back. He was expecting me to cower but I was done doing that. I was not going to let Zade walk all over me. I knew I couldn't stand up to him in every way but on the subject of what I wore on my body, I was not willing to budge and I made that perfectly clear when I looked him dead in the eye and crossed my arms over my chest.

"Get dressed, NOW!"

"No," I snapped back and he let out a small growl before grabbing me by my upper arm and pulling me straight out of bed. I was still in the clothes I wore around the house—loose sweats and a tank top.

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That seemed to be good enough for him because he started to drag me away. I saw Kaya begin to rise but I shook

my

head at her. The last thing we needed was to give him any ammunition against me. I allowed him lead me

out until he got to his car and he practically threw me into the passenger side. I had a

feeling he would have done worse if I was not pregnant with his child.

"Where are we going?" I asked but he ignored me and started driving.

I contemplated pitching myself out of the moving car. I would have done it too if he didn't turn to me with dark eyes. "If you touch the handle, I will strap you into a straitjacket. Am I clear?"

I rolled my eyes but didn't respond.

The drive was t

hirty minutes long and we ended up in front of a large hospital. It was easily twice the size of the one in Ryan's pack. People were walking in and out and Zade came to my side of the door to open it for me. I was shocked by the change in attitude because the Zade I had come to know was anything but a gentleman.

"You will behave while we are here," he warned and I raised a brow.

"Is it so that your pack members don't realize how much of an abusive asshole you are?" I asked and his jaw ticked. He held out his hand to me but I ignored it. "I'm not playing your stupid game. You can either treat me well inside and out or you let everyone know the kind of man that you truly are."

I could tell he wanted to say a lot but he held himself back. He walked ahead of me and all I could do was try to keep up

with his large strides. People were staring at us and I wondered if it was a rare occurrence to see him walking around with a woman. He ignored the looks and led us towards a room at the back. It was large and I knew without asking that it was a private room. There was a kind looking woman standing there and she gave me a warm smile when she saw me..

Instead of returning her smile, I was trying my best to calm the anger in me. If we were alone, I would have snapped at Zade but as much as he was an asshole, I wasn't going to disrespect him in front of his pack members so I carefully climbed onto the bed and raised my top.

Everything happened in a sort of daze. My mind was anywhere but the hospital until I heard the heartbeat. It was a whooshing sound and it felt like everything stopped. I had tried to remove myself from the pregnancy as much as possible but in that moment, it just hit me that I was having a child. I risked a glance at the ultrasound on the screen and I felt something twist in my heart. If it were under different circumstances, I would have held Zade's hand, he would have kissed my hair and we would have been happy. "If it were Landon, you would be happy," a voice nagged and I blinked rapidly to get that thought out of my head.

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Landon was a friend and nothing more. I was determined to keep it that way.

The doctor stepped out to print a copy of the ultrasound and when she handed it to me, Zade snatched it before. I could even touch it. She looked between the both of us with suspicion until Zade thanked her and she was forced to walk away.

I stayed silent until we had gotten back to the car then I turned to Zade and dropped my voice to a whisper. "You could have just told me you were taking me for an ultrasound."

"I don't have to tell you anything."

“Newsflash, I am carrying this child. That means I am entitled to a certain level of information especially when it concerns me. I am not your surrogate or a placeholder womb for you. If I am going to do this then you have to make an effort too.”

“If?” he asked with a humorless laugh. “You don’t have a choice.”

I stared at him incredulously. “It is my body, of course I have a choice. If I didn’t want this baby, you wouldn’t be having it. Besides, what was the deal with the ultrasound anyway? I would like to have a copy of my child.”

“My child!” his voice was harsh and unforgiving. “It is MY child.”

I scoffed. “Stop the car.”

“You have got to be f u cking with me.”

“Stop it or I will jump out.”

He must have heard the sincerity in my voice because he pulled up to the side of the road and turned off the engine. As soon as it was safe, I got out of the car. “What the hell are you doing, Megan? I don’t have time for this bulls hit.”

“Neither do I,” I all but yelled. “Until you are carrying a baby in your belly then it is my child too. I refuse to stay in that car with you.”

“Are you going to walk back to the palace?” he asked but I ignored him and kept walking. My lack of an answer pissed him off because I heard him start the car. “I’m not dealing with this. Sort yourself out.”

To my utter shock, he drove past me and I watched as his car disappeared down the road. It hit me in that

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moment that I had no idea where I was going and I was alone. It also hit me that if I planned to run away then this was probably the only chance I was going to get. I started my journey on foot hoping I would find my way to a busy road. I didn’t have any money but I was sure I could hitch a ride out of the pack.

I walked for what felt like hours before I found a shop. The lady in there was not helpful at all. She glared at me. like I had come to steal from her and I could tell she was five seconds away from calling the guards so I left. I was hungry and tired but I was determined to find my way out. I couldn’t help but wonder if Zade had gone back to search for me but I knew what the answer was- he didn’t care and even if he did, it was because of the baby.

I didn’t know how long had passed but I felt like I was going to pass out because I hadn’t eaten all day and my legs hurt from walking. I found a fountain and took a seat in front of it. Although I knew it wasn’t healthy, I drank from it too. I had just rested my head against it when I heard a voice.

“You can’t sleep there,” it was familiar but I was too tired to analyze it. It wasn’t until the person got closer and called my name that I recognized them. “Are you alright?” I nodded but Landon didn’t believe me. He helped me to my feet but I almost fell back.

“What happened?”

He lifted me bridal style as I explained how I had gotten out of the car and Zade left me there. “I was hoping! Could find a way out of the pack.”

He shook his head and muttered a curse under his breath. "It would take you days to walk to the border and even then, you wouldn't have been allowed to leave. Have you eaten?" I shook my head and he cursed under my breath. "Stay here while I get you something."

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It wasn't like I had any energy to move anyways. I just lay in his car until he came back with some greasy smelling food and my stomach rumbled. I wasted no time in digging in. I could feel his eyes on me but I didn't care.

"Please don't take me back," I begged and he sighed.

"I have to, but I will be having some words with Zade first."

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As soon as

as I drove away, I wanted to go back but my pride wouldn't let me. I forced myself to drive away from her knowing fully well that she had no idea where she was or where she was going. A part of me also knew that she could have decided to run away and although that bothered me, I didn't seem to care as much as I should have. considering she was carrying my child.

I got to the palace in under ten minutes and I already wanted to turn around and get her but I couldn't have her thinking that she could throw tantrums and I would be at her beck and call. I forced myself to get out of the car and called on one of my trusted guards- Simon. I would have tasked Landon with it but I knew it would come with an earful and I feared Landon had conflicting interests when it came to her.

I led Simon over to a quiet part of the palace. "Go to the forest road that leads to the hospital and find Megan. Bring her back to the palace and do not let her know that I was the one who sent you."

He was shocked by my request but he knew better than to question it. My word was law in this palace and that was what I loved most about it. I wanted to stay out and make sure I was there when she returned but I couldn't because it would have bred the misconception that I cared about her which I didn't. She was here to carry my child and that was all there was to it- at least that was what I told myself.

I forced myself back inside to get some work done. It was hard to concentrate and I convinced myself that it was because I was worried about my child and not her. Every other second, I found myself thinking about where she could be. Forty-five minutes passed before I got a call from Simon and I picked up on the second ring.

"Where is she?" I asked as a way of greeting and he hesitated. "I don't appreciate silence when I have asked a question, Simon."

"I don't know," he said finally and I had to clean out my ears to be sure I had heard right.

“Excuse me?” my voice was deathly cold. “How hard is it to find a young woman? How hard is it to find my mate on an otherwise deserted strip of land? Can you not do anything right?”

I knew he wasn't the real object of my rage but that didn't stop me from lashing out at him. How could he not find her? Where could she have gone? She was pregnant and clueless; it should have been a walk in the park.

“I have driven down the road twice, Alpha,” Simon spoke in a soft voice as if terrified of offending me. “Either

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someone else picked her up or she found her own way out but she isn't here,”

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“You're f ucking useless,” I spat. “Get your best guards and find her. Do not return to this palace unless she is within your

grasp. So help me, if you do not call me back in two hours to say that you have found her then do

bother returning

Thung up before he could respond and threw my phone against the wall where it shattered. I knew Simon deserve that, he wasn't responsible for losing her. It was her fault for refring to shut up. If she had just k quiet then I wouldn't have stopped the car like she asked. I ran my hands through my hair suddenly feeling claustrophobic in my office.

I walked out and began to pace in the hallway when I saw Kaya, She bowed but made a point of ignoring me in favor of looking around, Lassumed she was looking for Megan. It was still a shock to me that my pack members were taking her side over mine. It irritated me because it wasn't just one person. It was Gladys and Landon, it was kaya and guards who had never spoken to her before. They claimed she was kind but I was adamant that they just didn't see what I saw.

After a few seconds of looking around to no avail, Kaya turned to me. “My apologies, Alpha, but have you seen Megan? She isn't in the room?”

“Am I supposed to track her movements?” I spat trying to shove down the guilt I felt for losing her. “It was your job to keep an eye on her, not mine.”

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She smiled coldly. “The last time I when she was out with you and the guards said that she didn't return with you. I just wanted to know if you took her somewhere or-”

“Leave, Kaya,” the harshness in my voice had her jumping back slightly but she quickly recovered herself and

bowed.

“I just hope she comes back soon,” she spoke in a voice so soft that I wasn't even sure if I was supposed to hear her. “Goddess knows that if I were here, I would grip my freedom with two hands and hightail it out of here.”

On another day, I would have punished her for her insubordination but the truth was that I had already thought about it too. What if she found her way into the woods? What if she was leaving? I wouldn't exactly blame her for it but that didn't mean I had to be

happy about it. I ran my hands down my face in frustration. Emilia never gave me this much trouble. She loved the palace life and she loved me.

I heard a gasp followed by a squeal and I was about to berate Kaya for being loud when I saw the reason for her noise-Landon had walked in with Megan by his side. He was practically holding her up and she looked like she had been hit.

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Kaya pulled her into a hug and I saw them whispering to each other. Megan acted like she didn't see me and walked away without another word. I couldn't pull my eyes away from her retreating figure until Landon came to stand in front of me.

"We need to talk," his tone didn't leave any room for explanation and I could have pulled rank to make him leave but that wasn't something I did very often with Landon. Before he was my Beta, he was my friend and I had to respect that.

"You need to tell Simon that he can return first."

"I already did. I saw the men in his squadron leaving and I told them he could return.

Now, do you want to have this out here in the hallway or inside your office?"

Instead of responding, I just walked back into the office. I had barely shut the door when Landon turned on me. "Are you fucking with me right now, Zade? What the hell were you thinking when you left her out there all alone?"

"It was her request for me to leave her. I did as she asked."

"Since when did you start listening to her?" he shot back but I stayed silent. "Look, I don't know what is going on with you lately but even if you don't respect her as your mate then respect her as the woman carrying your child. What if something had happened to her?"

"Nothing would have happened. I had men looking for her."

"She was about to pass out when I found her," he yelled and I felt something foreign rise up in my chest. It was a replica of what I heard creeping into Landon's voice as he spoke- fear. "She hadn't eaten all day and she was weak. What if she passed out and someone hurt her? What if she lost the baby?"

I flinched at the words and as soon as I said my next words, I regretted them. "We would have tried for another one."

I couldn't take them back once they were out but I had to own up to them. Landon was staring at me as if I were a stranger. He opened his mouth to speak but the words wouldn't come out. If I were a better man, I would have apologized but I couldn't bring myself to.

"I don't even recognize you anymore," he sounded disappointed. "Ever since Emilia died you have turned yourself into this monster. This is your chance to redeem yourself. This is your chance to right your wrongs and you are throwing it all in the trash."

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"I don't need a lecture from you, Landon. The only reason I am entertaining this

conversation is because you are
for

my friend. I have never said anything about your feelin or before now make no mistake
about it- I am not
blind.”

“I don’t know what you’re talking about,” he couldn’t even meet my eye when he lied.
“This conversation is not
about me.”

“Isn’t it?” I challenged. “How did you manage to find her? Were you following us? Did
you hope you could get her alone?”

He took a step back and the look of pure betrayal on his face hit me square in my chest
and I knew I had gone too far. I opened my mouth to apologize but he held up a hand
to stop me.

“I don’t even want to hear it,” he cut me off. “I would never do that to you and the fact
that you would even think that is astounding. I was in the market buying some things
when I saw her. I only brought her back for you.

“That does not change the fact that you may have feelings for her.”

He looked exasperated. “That doesn’t matter. Stop trying to change the subject in a
twisted attempt to put guilt on anyone else but yourself. I wasn’t the one who left her→
you were.”

He was right and my guilt was eating me up and like the bastard that I was, instead of
apologizing, I turned away from him and crossed my hands over my chest. “This
conversation is over.””

He looked like he wanted to protest but at the last minute, he changed his mind and
stood up straighter. “At least I know one thing.”

“What is that?”

“You cared enough to send people searching for her. Let’s find out if you can care
enough to actually treat her like your mate,” he turned on his heels and made his way to
the door. He froze at the door knob and spoke over his shoulder. “She has faith in you,
that is the only reason she is still here. You better man up soon or you will lose her and I
promise you that it will sting more than when you lost Emillia.”

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MEGAN’S P.O.V

Kaya fussed over me as she led me back to the room. I was sure that if she could carry
me then she would have. I always knew she cared about me in her own way but this
just showed that she loved me and I felt pathetic at how much I lapped it up. I was so
starved of attention that I could feel myself going fuzzy at the first sight of it.

She pestered me for questions on what happened but I couldn’t bring myself to answer
any of them. The food that Landon gave me was enough to abate my hunger for a while
but I was still starving and I was exhausted. As soon as we got into the room, I
collapsed on the bed.

Kaya rushed over to me in a panic. “Is there anything you need?”

“Unless you can find a way for me to get out of here,” I mumbled and she gasped and

took a step back. "I was joking." Not really.

"You can't say stuff like that. If anyone hears you then we will both be in trouble. That is treason," she warned. but I was too exhausted to pay her any heed. "Is there anything practical that I can help you with?" At that moment my stomach rumbled. "I'll get you something to eat."

She disappeared from the room and I closed my eyes and imagined that I was anywhere else. I was terrified when I was alone but the prospect of dying didn't seem as bad compared to the life I was living here. I tried to Imagine a better life, one where I was wanted and cherished by Zade instead of treated like a thorn in his side. One where I didn't have to live in the shadows of the first woman that he loved.

Kaya returned too quickly and I had to bring myself back to the reality that I wasn't loved by my mate- he didn't want me. I hated how much that hurt me. I felt weak and helpless and I disguised it by stuffing my face with food while Kaya watched me as if I were a second away from exploding into a fit of tears. I loved her concern but at times like this, I wished I didn't have it. It would be easier for me to wallow in a pit of self pity if I didn't have people concerned about me.

While I was eating, there was a knock on my door and Kaya opened it to reveal Landon. He looked annoyed but he tried to hide it with a smile. If I were in a better place, I would have pushed to figure out what was wrong but I couldn't bring myself to muster up the energy needed.

"I wanted to make sure that you were okay," he said softly and I managed a smile. "I am really sorry about what happened."

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I waved him off. "It wasn't your fault. Thank you for the food and the drive back even though I would have preferred to be dropped outside the border."

"Megan," he began but I cut him off.

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"I asked to be let out of the car. I should have known that the a ss hole would leave me there," Landon grimaced

slightly and I knew. "You spoke to him, didn't you? What did he say?"

This time, he gave me a smile that didn't quite reach his eyes. "Nothing worth repeating. You should rest, Megan. Everything will get better. Zade is just going through some sh it."

"Don't defend him," I couldn't keep the bitterness out of my tone. "I don't care how he treats me and I know that it is wrong but don't dismiss it by saying he is going through s hit. He knows what he is doing and he is doing it on purpose. He didn't have to claim me as his mate, he didn't have to bring me back. It was his choice, don't dismiss it."

"You're right, I'm sorry."

"Thank you for your help, Landon, but you can leave now. I have had a long day and I need to rest."

He looked like he wanted to say more but at the last minute, he sighed and walked out of the room. It wasn't until he left that I allowed myself to release the ragged breath I

was holding and the first tear dripped down my face. Kaya reached out for me but I shook my head. I didn't want to be touched, I wanted to be alone and if she risked touching me then I was going to break down.

"Goodnight, Kaya," I muttered through my tears and it was a clear dismissal. She didn't agree, that much was certain but she pursed her lips and walked away.

By the next morning, I was relatively better. I was more pissed than sad because it occurred to me during the night that Zade didn't just put me in danger, he put the child. I knew he didn't care about me but if he desperately wanted this child then he should have shown more concern for its wellbeing. Leaving me on the side of the road wasn't a wise choice.

I went for my chores trying to clamp down on my anger. Almost everyone noticed I was in a shitty mood and stayed away from me but Anna didn't get the memo. She made it her life's mission to frustrate me. I wasn't sure if it was anger from Zade shutting her down or if it was because she was just a terrible person but I didn't want to find out. I tried ignoring her at first but it only seemed to egg her on. Fifteen minutes into doing chores, I wanted to throw her out of the window just to make her shut up.

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"You could at least put more effort in how you dressed," she sneered in her annoying nasal tone. "We know you're practically a maid but you are the Alpha's breeder and you should at least look like that. Right now, there is no difference between you and a gutter rat."

"At least a gutter rat has more personality than you," I muttered under my breath and I heard her sharp intake of breath.

I had not meant to say that out loud but I was fed up of her. I was dressed in my old clothes and yes, I knew they were old but I was doing chores. Was I meant to dress up like I was going for a fashion show?

"What did you say to me?" she crossed her arms over her chest and turned to me but I ignored her. "If you had the balls to say it behind my back then you should at least be able to say it to my face?"

"I didn't say it behind your back and I don't care about you enough to repeat it. I don't have the energy for a cat fight, Anna, look for another victim. You are the least of my worries."

"How dare you? Do you even know who I am? I would have-" she trailed off because we heard the same thing-footsteps.

I knew they belonged to Zade. I had come to recognize a pattern in how he walked. He took calculated steps that were sometimes too quiet for the average person to hear. In a few seconds, he was standing in the doorway of his room and when he took one look at me, his eyes narrowed. I knew he was upset about the clothes but I couldn't bring myself to care so I turned back to my work.

"Out, now!" he ordered and Anna rushed out as if someone lit a fire up her ass. Once we were alone, he whirled on me. "When I get you clothes, I expect you to wear them. I thought we had this conversation yesterday. I do not like to repeat myself."

"We didn't have a conversation, you spoke but I didn't agree," I didn't look up at him as I spoke because I knew it would annoy him.

"Change, now!"

I turned to him and crossed my arms over my chest. "I don't think I will. You have no right to boss me around like that."

He was furious. His chest rose and fell with each ragged breath and I expected that he would drag me and force me to change but to my shock, he just walked out of the room. I knew he was planning something so I rushed out after him. When I saw him heading in the direction of my room, I knew that he was going to do something

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insane. He got there before me and I watched in horror as he grabbed all my old clothes.

"What are you doing?" I rushed forward to stop him but he turned to Kaya.

"Hold her back."

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It was a clear order and Kaya had to oblige. She held me back while whispering apologies in my ears the entire time but I couldn't focus on her. I was forced to watch as he picked everything up and made his way out. She released me when he was out and I managed to catch up with him just in time to see him throw everything into the incinerator.

"Let's see you wear rags this time," he said and I just stood there with my eyes wide unable to speak. The sick pride in his eyes almost made me throw up.

"I would rather walk naked than wear those things," I spat. They were exactly like the clothes his first mate owned and I was not going to be anyone's replacement.

"I would like to see you try," he laughed humorlessly. "You couldn't even do that if you wanted."

"You either replace my clothes or watch me."

"Do v

you know what I like about you, Megan?" he asked as he closed the gap between us.

"You talk a big game but you can never back it up. There are clothes in your closet, use them. Goddess knows that it would help make you a little more appealing to the eyes."

The rage burning in my chest wouldn't let me respond. Instead, I lifted my hand and slapped him across the cheek. The action stunned him because for a second, he was frozen then it was replaced with anger. He growled and took a step forward but stopped himself at the last moment.

"The only reason I am not doing anything is because you are carrying my child."

"Ask me if I give a s hit."

A low rumble came from his chest and I saw the vein in his forehead bulge. "You will respect me, Megan."

"Respect is earned and you haven't earned mine. Especially not after what you did yesterday."

He scoffed and walked past me. I didn't even look at him as he moved, I just stayed staring at my entire life burning away in the flames.

