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Chapter 21

The King helped his mate into the carriage and Abby saw Alpha James bowing

along with all the pack members to Micah and herself as their carriage started moving.

She remained silent even when she saw them keep bowing until she couldn't see

them at all. Micah didn't talk either, letting her dive deeper into her own thoughts.

"Beautiful, isn't it?" Micah suddenly said,

mountain the least with huge clouds almost touching the top of e highest mountain there.

range. It was breathtaking to sing Abby, whose attention was captured by a Abby, who was in awe, turned to Micah with a small smile on her lips and the King felt his heart thud rapidly.

This was the first time for Abby to smile, albeit a small one, since they met. "Yes," Abby answered genuinely and Micah spent all their journey showing and

explaining the scenic beauty of the way from her former pack to the capital city.

Abby was literally glued to her window the whole time as this was the first time for her to go out of her pack.

Micah had already sent a letter to the capital, announcing that he found his destined mate and he

would be returning to the capital city with their future queen. And so, several people, high ranked and commoners alike, gathered in front of the palace gates

as they looked forward to seeing their king's mate.

The King had been searching for her for so long, they were all really curious about her.

And this was what greeted Abby the moment Micah offered his hand for her to take and get down from the carriage.

As soon as her feet touched the ground, she saw everyone bowing to her, and she felt so self conscious of herself she couldn't help but cover herself with the outer robe Micah put around her shoulders.

Micah, who noticed that she was uncomfortable, swiftly escorted her to his own

bedroom after dismissing everyone.

"Are you okay?" Micah checked on Abby right after closing the door behind him.

"Hmm," Abby just made a sound of affirmation as the tension slowly started to leave her body when Micah started to rub soothing circles on the backs of her hands.

Only when she felt calm enough did Abby slowly register the room they were in.

"My former room." Micah told her in a soft voice. And when Abby looked confused

as to why he brought her to this room, Micah simply whispered, "It's our room now."

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Apparently. Abby had to stay with him in the same room as they were destined

mates. It was a rule. And it was clear that the King intentionally kept this from her.

"Our room?" Abby asked, shocked. She roamed her eyes around the room once

again before looking back at Micah, her heart thudding rapidly.

Abby felt the sudden shift in the air as Micah ran the back of his right hand up her

left one before the longing look in his eyes registered in her chaotic mind.

Gooseflesh erupted all over her skin when he gently cupped her cheek before rubbing her lower lip with his thumb.

Abby didn't even realize when the man leaned so close she could feel his breath

on her own lips. The intensity in his eyes captivated her instantly as she stood rooted to the ground.

Micah had been holding back the urge to kiss her from the moment they met. Even his beast was restless that they hadn't claimed their mate yet. The need to

become one with her was so overwhelming Micah couldn't think straight. Only he

knew that he was on the verge of losing his sanity over the mere thought of tasting her essence.

Only the thought of Abby being scared away from him was stopping him from

closing those few last inches between their lips.

"I should probably stop," Micah almost backed away from her when Abby did something really unexpected. The girl actually darted her tongue out as she innocently licked Micah's thumb that was about to leave her lips.

Micah groaned at that single touch so loud, he himself feared he would go feral if

he didn't kiss her at that very instant. And kissing her was what he did. Meanwhile, Abby didn't know what came over her to actually do something so obscene, but she couldn't care about it anymore when the King chased her escaping tongue into her mouth and intertwined his own with it, pushing them both into a frenzy of lust and need.

Micah felt his world tilt from its axis at the sweetness he tasted in her mouth while

her body responded to his touches as she tried to keep up with the kiss. Her not

resisting him and immediately submitting to him was just another delicious treat.

And her almost inaudible whimpers and moans were to die for. He wanted to hear more. He wanted to fucking make her scream his name. A kiss was simply

not enough.

All gentleness and thoughtfulness were thrown out of the window when the King

almost ripped her dress, wanting to kiss all over her body. Only Abby stiffened so

fast he thought he hurt her. He immediately released her lips and searched her

face frantically.

"Did I hurt you?" He asked her when he couldn't understand what had happened.

Abby shook her head, panting hard. The girl's face was so red while her lips were

all swollen. In his haste to taste her, he seemed to have forgotten to be gentle and nipped and bit her lips a bit too hard. And she looked even more enticing now.

Their first kiss ended too early. Micah wanted to dive in for seconds when Abby

averted her face. The King groaned in frustration when he couldn't taste more of

her sweetness.

But the haze of lust disappeared when he realized that Abby had started to

close

herself off again.

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Damn it! He lost control.

Only he didn't know him losing control had nothing to do with Abby feeling uncomfortable. Even though she still couldn't see any obvious signs one would

feel finding their mates looking at Micah, she didn't actually hate him touching her.

If she had to be honest, she actually quite liked the way he touched her like she

was something so precious to him. Only the thought of exposing herself to him overruled every other feeling as she couldn't help but be self conscious about her

scars when he wanted to undress her.

"I'm sorry, little one, I was too impatient just now," Micah said, hugging her before

pressing her head to his chest. They both had to calm down.

"I am okay." Abby said hurriedly, not knowing how to clear the misunderstanding.

Only Micah brushed her quick reply off as one of her automated responses. However, it didn't mean he could give her space like he did last night and sleep in

a different room. As such, Micah pulled her to the bed and hugged her to sleep,

not giving her a chance to do otherwise.

The next day Abby woke up to an empty bed, but Micah's scent was rubbed onto

herself so much, she couldn't tell when he left her here alone in the bed. Having a confirmation or not, both his presence and scent were so calming, Abby

couldn't help filling her nostrils with more of his scent greedily. She couldn't help

recalling the way Micah kissed her last night and her cheeks flushed red in no time.

Only she was woken up from her day dream when someone suddenly opened the door and stepped in were two women.

Judging by their attire, Abby associated them with the maids she saw the day before in the palace. And she was proven right when they introduced themselves.

"Good morning, my lady," one of the maids, named Alyssa, greeted a

confused

Abby.

"We are your personal maids, the other one called Reyna followed her fellow sister's cue.

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Personal maids?" Abby didn't like the

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idea at all. "I don't need..." she was

about to refuse them. when Alyssa

beat her to it and brought the King

up. The content is on

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chapter there!

"We are here under King Micah's order, Lady Abby," Alyssa informed her. She was polite but to the point

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And when Abby tried to refuse their

help a second time, it was Reyna who

insisted they wanted to serve her.

Abby could only swallow her protests

in the face of their polite working

attitude. The content is on

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chapter there!

"Lady Abby, it's time for you to take a bath." Reyna almost dragged Abby into the

connecting bathroom when the girl hemmed and hawed for too long.

However, not even ten minutes had passed after Abby gave in and followed them

into the

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bathroom, twin screams erupted from the room startling the King who just returned from a meeting with the Council of Elders.

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Micah immediately dashed into the bathroom, only to find mirrored horrified expressions on the maids faces while Abby was trembling from head to toe. Visit to read full content.

Micah immediately understood what

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happened. He couldn't help blaming himself for forgetting to warn them

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about his mate's special condition.

Now she was embarrassed in front

of her future subjects. The content is

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chapter there!

He should have been careful when he knew how Abby felt about her scars. "We are sorry, Lady Abby," both Alyssa and Reyna were apologizing to Abby profusely when they saw the King enter the room and their hearts dropped. They didn't mean to react so strongly after seeing the scars on her back, it was

so sudden their reaction was completely involuntary.

"This... My King..." Alyssa couldn't find her voice when Micah dismissed them both harshly.

"You both get out," Micah gritted out before slowly walking to the still shaking Abby.

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Chapter 22

Shifters were born with remarkable healing abilities, it was almost impossible for

them to bear marks left by wounds, let alone scars. While the scars on Abby's body actually extended from the left side of her neck to her left shoulder, further

spanning to her back, covering a large amount of skin on her back.

Any shifter who saw it could only imagine the severity of her wounds until it left

such a huge mark.

Abby's scars had always been a sour spot for her. That was also why she didn't

want the maids sent by Micah to serve her on a personal level. Only they wouldn't listen to her no matter what she said and here she was, trembling out of

embarrassment at their reactions seeing her scars...

"We are really sorry, we were just startled for a sec...." Alyssa started right after a

terrified scream left her lips.

Reyna recovered almost immediately as well... But the damage was already done.

Abby couldn't help but recall all those times people saw her as a freak, a monster, for bearing these scars. Their words, their faces, some filled with horror

while others with disgust, all hit her so hard. the girl started shaking. Her head started to hurt really badly while the two maids continued to apologize

to her profusely.

However, not even two minutes later, she heard them stutter before one of them

addressed the

King.

Abby immediately stiffened. Tension rolled off her body as tears streamed down

her face when Micah finally approached her and rearranged her clothes. "It's okay, little one," Micah said in an apologetic tone. He was genuinely concerned about her.

However, Abby could only hear his sympathy for her and her heart broke even more as she sobbed softly. She wasn't ready for him to see her like this. She knew she couldn't hide it forever, but she wanted to, at least, mentally prepare herself first...

"You saw everything?" Abby couldn't stop the question, knowing fully well it was a

stupid one.

Of course, he saw her. In broad daylight.

And the way she asked the question was so heart wrenching, Micah immediately

felt rage bubbling inside his chest. Only it was directed at himself, as he had been too careless.

"Little one..." Micah started when he saw her crying hard as she shook in his arms.

She was sobbing so much he feared she would start hiccuping after choking on

her own tears. She was beyond inconsolable and Micah felt his heart squeeze at

the sight.

"I'm sorry, I didn't think this through first," Micah said, pressing his lips to her forehead before bending down to carry her out of the bathroom. Abby

immediately hugged his neck and snuggled closer to him as she buried her face

in his shoulder.

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The girl couldn't help remembering the fact how her life had been turned upside

down in just twenty four hours until she found herself in this strange place, far away from her pack, the only place she had ever known in her life. Now, she was

all alone here, surrounded by strangers.

Micah carried her to the bed and gently laid her down before joining her, trying to

console her by hugging her tightly.

Meanwhile, Abby couldn't stop crying for a long time, until she ended up crying

herself to sleep in

Micah's arms.

All that time, Micah patiently patted her back while whispering how he didn't find

her scars bothering at all. But it was impossible to replace a decade long pain with a few words of reassurance. Micah knew that too, thus he decided to prove

it to her through his actions.

By the time Abby woke up with a splitting headache, it was already late in the evening. She couldn't find Micah anywhere in their room, but was greeted with two new maids who were standing just beside the door holding a tray each. "Good evening, Lady Abby," both of them said in unison before one of them continued to talk further.

"We brought food and drinks," the woman said before falling completely silent to

wait for Abby's

answer.

Meanwhile, Abby, who was still disoriented from sleep, took a really long time to

process their

words.

But then, where were Alyssa and Reyna?

Abby once again waited for Micah to return, forcing herself to stay awake. But the

King had to deal with so many things, he could only return really well into the

night.

"You are still awake?" Micah asked her, frowning. The girl was tired but wouldn't

rest on time. He didn't like this at all. She might worsen her health.

Abby, who was struggling not to doze off, immediately stood upright seeing him

enter this room. Their room.

"I am waiting for you," Abby answered in a voice so soft, Micah doubted if she was even fully awake.

However, a moment later, when Abby's answer finally registered in his mind, Micah couldn't help but smile. Having someone to wait for yourself to come back

was an all consuming feeling after all.

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He walked over to her and grabbed

her hand to pull her to the bed. "You) 5

don't have to wait for me to come. I would prefer you to sleep more. You

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look tired," Micah told her, gently pushing her to the bed until she sat on the side of the bed. The content is on! Read the latest chapter there!

"I wanted to," Abby blurted out as the King settled beside her on the bed.

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And the girl was rewarded with a beautiful smile from the King, only it dropped a tad too fast. Abby felt

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disappointed she didn't look more clearly just now. The content is on

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chapter there!

"I have something to say to you," Micah said, seemingly remembering something

in the next

second.

"Okay, Abby immediately perked up her ears to listen to him carefully.

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But what the King said in the next

moment left her so shocked she

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didn't even dare breathe too loudly.

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"They decided it was best for us to have our mating ceremony as soon as possible," Micah said.

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Chapter 23

"I wanted to." Abby's simple admission made the King smile and he couldn't help

but tousle her hair.

But before the King could say something, Abby beat him to it with a confused expression on her

face.

"Where are Alyssa and Reyna?" Abby waited all evening, but the two were nowhere to be seen.

At the mention of their names, Micah's almost smiling face fell so fast, Abby regretted saying something and ruining the moment. But then she saw his face

harden and realized something was really wrong.

"What happened?" Abby couldn't help asking when Micah didn't say anything for

a really long.

moment.

Under her probing gaze, the King let her know that they were sent away. "I sent

them to the laundry.

room.

Laundry room?

It was a hard place to work at. Especially for maids like them.

"Why?" Abby asked immediately but all she got was a narrowed look from the King.

Abby realized she didn't need to ask anymore. They were sent away because of

the incident in the morning.

She immediately felt bad as she could tell they were being punished for something that they did unintentionally. She didn't hesitate to ask them to be released, saying she wanted them back.

"But," Micah started, but Abby cut him off saying they were just caught off guard

and the King couldn't refuse her when she asserted her stance on this matter. "Alright," he agreed to her request so fast Abby couldn't believe it.

However, her happiness was short-lived as the King had something important to

say to her.

"A mating ceremony?" Abby couldn't help but stiffen.

His meeting with the Elders in the morning was actually about this, where they emphasized how the people were all very eager to see their future queen. Micah felt bad for her. He knew she needed time, but his hands were tied in this

matter when they wouldn't listen to him no matter what. And so here Micah was.

informing Abby the one thing he thought about all day, knowing fully well she wasn't ready yet.

"Yes, where you would be introduced to the people," Micah told her softly. Hearing this, Abby was even more dumbfounded... introduced... to... people..." 18-09 Wed, 6 Mar 8 D.

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Micah could hear the fear in her voice when every word she said came out as a

question.

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"As their future queen," Micah continued even though he could tell how frightened she was about this whole fiasco.

She wasn't ready at all. She didn't know what to do. "Future queen?" she repeated robotically,

And when she asked when the ceremony would be held, the King's reply was actually vague. "As soon as possible."

On the other hand, Abby realized it was no use knowing when it would be

held,

no matter when, she wouldn't be ready.

However, before Abby could let any intrusive thoughts enter her mind, Micah changed the subject.

"The royal seamstress will take your measurements in two days* time," he said,

wanting to divert her attention. "You need more clothes and also a dress for the

ceremony."

Meanwhile, Abby welcomed the topic change as she didn't want to think about the mating ceremony right now. She would think about it later, when she was much calmer and stopped feeling the urge to run to the mountains just at the thought of meeting his subjects as his mate. His future queen no less. And she really needed more clothes. Her old clothes were all passed down from

her sister, Hanna. Or to be more precise, the clothes she didn't want and threw to

her as some charity. Meaning, they

« didn't suit her at all.

"Okay," she said, not making any comments on the arrangements.

On the other hand, even though Micah was unhappy about her previous clothes,

he could pretty much guess whose handiwork it was and he couldn't let his future

queen suffer any grievances.

As such, it was decided that Abby would meet the seamstress the next day. The next day, Abby woke up to the happy chit chattering of two women and when

she opened her eyes, she saw both Alysaa and Reyna beaming at her with lights

in their eyes.

"Good morning, Lady Abby," they both chirped.

"Thank you for forgiving us," Reyna immediately said, as she avoided mentioning

the cause of their punishment.

"Yes, we are really happy you spoke up for us," Alyssa followed her cue. Abby couldn't feel any resentment whatsoever from them and felt happy for being

right about them. These two girls were really nice with no ill intentions toward herself.

On the other hand, forget about resentment, they didn't even feel unfair for being

punished for their unintentional actions. When they realized that they made her

feel uncomfortable in a place she was new to, they felt shameful in fact. They crossed a line as servants. Their master got hurt, because of them

And they couldn't believe that Abby actually forgiven them when the guards came

to the laundry

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room to fetch themselves back.

They couldn't be more grateful when they learned Abby wanted them back as her

personal maids.

The future queen was really kind and they were more than happy to serve her. "My lady, you have a long day ahead." Reyna spoke mysteriously as she ushered

Abby into the washroom with Alyssa. only they didn't follow her into the room. They would take one step at a time, they decided to wait for Abby to become comfortable with them first.

An hour later, after eating her breakfast Alyssa and Reyna prepared for her. Abby

found herself waiting to meet the royal seamstress.

After a soft knock. Ella, the seamstress, walked into the King's room.

"Good morning, my lady." Ella greeted her politely. Her expression was perfectly

schooled and Abby nodded in response.

Ella asked her own assistant to set the tools and things she needed before sending the person away.

Now it was only Abby, her two maids and Ella in the room and Abby didn't feel that tense.

Abby realized the seamstress was already aware of her scars, apparently Micah

had informed her about it.

Yes, Micah told Ella everything and also the things she needed to pay attention to

while she worked on her dresses.

"My lady, do you have any particular requests for your dresses?" Ella asked, still

sounding polite.

She meant the style and such and when Abby said she didn't mind her opinions,

Ella told her what. dresses she planned to make for her.

"Then, please step out of your dress when you are ready. I'm ready to take your

measurements." Ella informed Abby after they finalized the styles and colors Abby wanted her dresses in.

Even though she could tell that the seamstress was warned of her situation, Abby

couldn't help. feeling self conscious to open her dress.

She only came around after Alyssa and Reyna kept giving her reassuring glances and finally opened her dress.

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And Ella finished measuring her in no

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time. Even though she didn't do

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anything that warranted Abby's now frowning face as she watched her leave with her things and maids, she felt something was amiss. Only she

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couldn't point out what it was, The

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Ella was too polite and worked mechanically, there was not even some small talk

save for the greeting she offered Abby the moment she entered her room. On the other hand, Ella stepped out of the King's bedroom to leave for her own

tower with no expression whatsoever on her face.

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However, the disapproved look in her eyes was something her close servants couldn't mistake. But it was only momentary as her eyes turned blank in the next

second.

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When the King summoned herself to

talk about the dresses Abby would .

need for the ceremony, Ella didn't expect him to list so many things she needed to take care of. Things she clearly deemed the future queen of 3:).

this kingdom shouldn't be associated

with. The content is on

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chapter there!

And when she saw the scars with her own eyes, Ella's dissatisfaction with Abby

only grew, but she wasn't stupid enough to voice those things or display her feelings.

Back in the room, after Abby wore her dress back, this time with the help of Alyssa and Reyna, she was pulled out of her room by her enthusiastic maids who

wanted to give her a personal tour.

And a few minutes later, Abby found herself walking through the back garden of

the palace, as her maids took it upon themselves to give her a brief tour around

the palace.

It was a beautiful garden filled with yellow flowers and Abby immediately fell in love with the place.

One place at a time, they showed her the important places until they ended up at

the training ground and Abby couldn't help but feel awed by the number of warriors going through training

there.

Some were fighting in human form and the others circled each other in their beast form. Even young warriors were so invested in training, Abby couldn't help

but admire their tenacity.

And when the warriors saw Abby, they greeted her politely. But when they saw

how timid she was they couldn't help wondering if she could become a good queen for them.

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Moreover, Abby was wearing a plain

dress without any accessories,

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looking oh so simple, they couldn't imagine herself as the Queen. If not for the news about herself being

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Micah's mate hadn't been spread

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already, they wouldn't even associate

her with the King. The content is on

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chapter there!

Meanwhile, feeling their curious gazes on her, Abby felt even more self conscious. "Do you know where the King is?" She finally asked Alyssa when she

couldn't take it anymore.

"Since it's afternoon, he should be in a meeting with the elders." It was Reyna who answered her.

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Chapter 24

he should be in a meeting with the elders."

With the elders? Then he must be talking about the ceremony as well along with

all other things.

As this thought flashed in Abby's mind, she saw Alyssa smiling at her mischievously. Abby. immediately felt this servant of hers was planning something.

And sure enough, Alyssa didn't disappoint her. "How about you pay him a surprise visit?" Alyssa almost wiggled her eyebrows as Reyna's face lit up. "You should definitely do it." The girl nearly jumped as she persuaded Abby together with Alyssa.

And fifteen minutes later, Abby found herself walking toward the great hall where

the King was discussing the affairs of his kingdom with the Council of Elders. She didn't know how to refuse someone at all.

Micah was about to say something to his royal beta when he caught his mate's

scent, which made. him change what he was about to say to ordering Alan to

finish the meeting in his stead.

"Royal Beta Alan will take over from here," Micah pushed Alan to the elders, not

even hesitating for a second.

He dashed to the door and immediately saw his mate timidly following her two maids all confused. and adorable looking. And the way her eyes widened when

she saw himself walking toward her made his own eyes soften.

"Touring around the palace?" He asked, taking her hand as she nodded like a kid

caught stealing sugary goodies.

On the side, the two culprits, who pushed Abby into this situation, were grinning

like two naughty. kids. Their faces gave away that this was their idea and the King didn't mind it one bit.

"Had lunch?" Micah asked her and saw how the faces of her maids paled in the

next second.

Heavens! They completely forgot about it. They actually dragged Abby around the palace with an empty stomach.

Would they be reprimanded again?

Abby felt Micah's grip on her hand tighten at their reaction. "I think it just slipped

their minds," she involuntarily defended them. "Moreover, I'm not hungry yet." She whispered to him, grabbing his hand that was holding hers with both hands

while looking at him in all seriousness.

Micah, who was about to lash at them, softened when she heard her.

"Don't repeat it," he said while the two girls bowed their heads, nodding profusely.

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"This will be the last time." They swore as Abby relaxed on Micah's side. Only he said something in the next moment, catching Abby completely off guard.

"You can leave

now.

Abby's heart nearly dropped when she realized Micah was actually looking at Alyssa and Reyna. She thought he was dismissing her. But that didn't seem to be

the case. However, in the next second, she couldn't help but dread what the King

had in mind.

"I wil."

Abby was about to say she too wanted to leave when she saw the culprits of her

predicament running away like someone chasing them.

How could they not run when they just dodged a bullet? Abby couldn't possibly

blame them when she herself was also thinking about running away from him just

a few seconds ago.

"Have lunch with me?" Micah said, as he saw her giving in to him. He could understand her fears, that was why he would be the one to dislodge them all. Slowly but surely.

Abby, as usual, couldn't refuse the man and let him pull her toward the back of the palace, from where they walked toward the rows of trees lining the back garden.

"This..." Abby started, noticing what was awaiting her behind the densely packed

trees. "My king. this place is beautiful."

Micah smiled when he saw the pleasant surprise in her eyes. He knew she would

like it.

He brought her to the lake behind the palace where he already arranged for someone to set a table under the biggest tree there. He mindlinked his warriors

the moment he dismissed Alyssa and Reyna.

When Abby saw the table with two chairs by the lakeside with no one around, she immediately relaxed. He was really thoughtful and prepared. She couldn't help but feel grateful.

"Let's eat," Micah said, pushing her to sit on one chair before settling on the other.

Abby was presented with a three course meal enriched with a few meat dishes.

"Thank you for the meal," Abby said innocently, which made him smile at her cuteness.

The sun wasn't really harsh this particular afternoon, as the girl started enjoying a

pleasant meal under the shadow, feeling the occasional afternoon breeze caressing her face.

This place was both beautiful and peaceful..

"So, how did your appointment with Ella go?" Micah asked as he proceeded to pour a bit more soup into her bowl as she seemed to like it more than the rest of

the dishes. "Did you finalize your dress for the ceremony?"

When Abby was about to answer him, she saw someone approaching them from

the corner of her

eyes.

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It was a young woman looking

elegant and poised in her navy blue

ankle length dress that accentuated

her curves. At one glance, Abby could

tell she was someone with high

status. The content is on

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chapter there!

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"My king," the woman called Micah, her voice dripping with familiarity as she flowed to the table with her maids trailing behind her.

Her name was Ruby. She was the daughter of the former royal beta. She had been friends with Micah since they were kids as they basically grew up together.

"Ruby." Micah acknowledged her presence, which prompted her to walk nearer to

the table.

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Only her movements looked well practiced when she stopped on his left side, just short of touching him, 2

and Abby couldn't help wondering who she was and what his relationship with her was. The content is on! Read the latest chapter there!
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Ruby exchanged pleasantries with

Micah before her eyes landed on

Abby, who was subtly observing their

interaction while chewing her food.

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Oh, this is?" The content is on

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chapter there!

Abby lifted her head when the girl mentioned herself, and saw Ruby throwing a

business smile at

her.

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Chapter 25

"She is my mate." Micah answered Ruby's question politely.

Even though she wouldn't stop trying to step even closer to the King by each second that passed, Micah only talked to her when necessary, always keeping

his responses short and direct.

"She is?" Ruby said, trying to sound polite. She then turned around to face Abby

completely before giving her a onceover.

When she walked over to Micah earlier, Ruby noticed Abby, but she didn't think

much of her. The girl was so plain she didn't catch her eye at all. Her clothes, accessories or even the air around her was so simple.

So, the moment Micah said she was his mate, her eyes immediately widened as

her face was filled. with surprise.

Apparently, the rumors she heard were true. Micah, her childhood friend, did find

his mate. And it was this timid woman in front of her.

Abby frowned when she heard her response. She couldn't tell what she meant by

that, coupled with her appalled face.

Only Ruby recovered too quickly as she smiled broadly. "So you really found her

at last."

She sounded too casual talking to the King of this kingdom. Apart from calling his

name, she didn't try to refrain from following any other custom. "Hi, I'm Ruby. it's

nice meeting you."

She sounded extra cheerful too, while her words came out too forceful.

Abby could only nod in the face of her greeting. For some reason, she didn't like

this Ruby girl at all.

"We would make great friends." Ruby said, not bothering with the way Abby tried

to refuse her when she skipped over to herself and tried holding her hand. Definitely don't like her.

Abby thought as she looked at her evil claws with her discomfort clearly written

all over face.

"I think you should go about your day first. Seeing that Abby was uncomfortable

around Ruby, Micah stepped in to save the situation.

"Why my king, I haven't had lunch yet either. And it's been a long time since we

met. We could catch up now," Ruby said with enthusiasm, not bothering to register how uncomfortable Abby was feeling for being touched by her.

"We can find time later," Micah said dismissively. It was clear that that time would

never come from

his tone.

However, Ruby acted as if she couldn't take the hint at all as she continued,

"Well, Abby might be busy then. Since we decided to become friends, wouldn't it

be better if we start being the same

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Chapter 25

today?"

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Meanwhile, Abby couldn't believe the audacity of this woman. She never agreed

to be friends with this girl.

"But there are only two chairs here," Micah couldn't help but point it out, trying to

save the hypocritical woman's face, only she wasn't easy to get rid of.

"Oh that's not a problem at all." Ruby said to Micah before turning around to face

her servants. "Fetch me a chair," she ordered and turned around to talk with Abby

again.

"Abby, don't worry. Let's go to town tomorrow. I will introduce all my friends to you. You will be well acquainted by the end of this week," Ruby went ahead and

made plans with Abby, without even looking at Micah now.

She was being unusually enthusiastic that Abby felt a whiplash with every sentence that left her lips.

"That won't be necessary. She is not in a rush. Micah refused her again, unable

to keep his cool

anymore.

Since he already refused the idea of having lunch with her, her servants didn't dare to follow her order and fetch a chair. Even then, Ruby wouldn't stop.

"How could she not be?" Ruby actually dared to sound disapproving of Micah's

words. "She has no support here, my king, making new friends and connections

with important people is necessary."

Micah's expression hardened even more hearing what she was trying to imply. He looked at Abby and sure enough, her face fell. The frown on her face from earlier was replaced with a distraught expression.

On the other hand, Ruby still seemed to have something to tell.

And when Micah looked down coldly, not saying anything, Ruby took it as himself

thinking over her words. "You know that too. Her background is weak and if she

wants to survive in the palace, she could resort to this method."

Weak is a mild word to describe Abby's situation. She was basically an orphan with her namesake father being exiled from this kingdom.

The unease Abby felt only intensified as Ruby kept implying how she would be

seen as an unsuitable candidate for the position of the Queen of this kingdom. "Ruby," Micah sounded so harsh, even Abby felt her heart drop for a second. "You should leave right at this instant."

Hearing him speak so sternly to herself, Ruby finally realized she had crossed a

line.

"I only mean well..." Ruby trailed off when the King cut her a death glare.

"Now," Micah spoke. His voice was filled with so much authority, Ruby couldn't stay there anymore. Micah might use his superior alpha dominance on her if she

agitated him further and Ruby knew it wouldn't be pretty anymore.

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Chapter 25

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He was genuinely angry and pushing

him only meant wishing for early

death. Huffing a bit, Ruby turned

around and left with her small The

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group

"Are you okay?" Micah asked Abby as soon as that annoying fly left his view.

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Abby only shook her head in

response. They finished their meal in

silence as each succumbed to their

own trains of thoughts. The content

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After that, micah sent her to their bedroom before going out to go on about his meetings.

"Here you are." Abby turned around when she felt like she heard this voice somewhere before.

And the person she saw was the last person she wanted to see any day.

"Miss Ruby," Abby nodded her head in a greeting.

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« : P

Abby, you didn't forget our

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appointment, did you?" Ruby asked,

her eyes filled with strange light.. The

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"But I didn't agree to it," Abby couldn't help but blurt out.

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Chapter 26

"What do you want to have for lunch later, my lady?" Reyna asked Abby as they

strolled around the garden with yellow flowers Abby found pleasing the day before.

However, before Abby could answer her, they heard someone talking and when

they turned around to see who it was, they saw Ruby walking toward them. Abby immediately felt like escaping to the safety of her bedroom when she mentioned the plans they made yesterday.

"What appointment?" Abby asked, frowning a little.

"Oh come on. How could you be so forgetful? Didn't I say I would take you to the

town to meet my friends?" Ruby smiled effortlessly. "Remember now?" She asked, searching Abby's face.

"You did..." Abby started, but Ruby cut her off mid sentence as she proceeded to

hug Abby's arm like the day before.

"Perfect, let's go now," Ruby chirped.

Only Abby didn't give her a chance to molest her arm again as she stepped back

a little. "But I didn't agree to it," Abby blurted out.

Ruby's smile faltered a little when she felt the resistance from Abby. This was not

how she expected this exchange to play out.

"But you didn't reject me either," Ruby tried to sound composed, only her eyes wouldn't stop. narrowing in annoyance.

Abby didn't know what to say to her comment. She didn't get a chance to reject

her then at all. "I'm saying that I don't want to go with you now," Abby couldn't help but say in the face of her insistent persuading.

She didn't want to go with this woman anywhere. Even Micah said it was fine for

her not to go if she didn't want to. That was why Abby could assert her stance a

little and reject her readily.

"Oh come on, I have already informed them that I would bring you to meet them

today," Ruby didn't back down as she came up with all kinds of excuses. "If you

don't follow me to the town, they will all think I'm lying to them."

Abby wanted to say that it was her problem to deal with, but she refrained herself

when she remembered it was Micah's childhood friend she was talking with. Even though the King hadn't acted close with her the day before, he didn't deny

that they knew each other for years either.

Moreover, she couldn't possibly embarrass Ruby by being so defensive with her

when the woman had been nothing but polite toward her.

"But... Abby almost started squirming with discomfort, not knowing how to refuse

this woman's goodwill.

Seeing that Abby was being pressured indirectly until she started to struggle to

find the words to

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Chapter 26

reject Ruby, Alyssa jumped in to talk on her master's behalf.

"Miss Ruby, Lady Abby has places to go." Alyssa made up a random excuse as

she couldn't see Abby struggle.

"Yes, miss, Lady Abby..." Reyna started, wanting to back up Alyssa's claims. However, Ruby was having none of it. She came here with a purpose, she was

going to see to the end of it.

"I'm talking to my new friend and your master," Ruby narrowed her eyes at the two women who came to their master's rescue, effectively shutting them both up

by making them remember their status. "Know your place and keep your behavior in check.™

On the other hand, Ruby's words sounded very rude in Abby's ears. She wanted

to defend them when Ruby beat her to it.

"You really don't have to make a scene out of this. Now, even your se rvants are

trying to dismiss me," Ruby sounded offended, as she changed her tactics. "They just wanted to help me. Don't misunderstand their interference." Abby frowned as she couldn't think of a way to get out of this mess.

"I don't have to misunderstand anyone if you didn't change your mind about going out with me," Ruby said.

"I didn't change my mind..." Abby tried to defend herself but was cut off by Ruby again.

"So you don't have a problem with going out with me?" Ruby looked so excited

yet commanding at the same time, Abby didn't know how to respond to her at all.

"This..." Abby could't refuse her at last.

Ruby smiled happily when she saw the defeated look on Abby's face. "Don't worry, it's going to be fun. Just trust me on this," Ruby reassured her as she grabbed Abby's hand to pull her with her.

Abby could only follow her silently after exchanging a helpless look with her maids.

"Why are you both coming?" Ruby suddenly stopped and turned around to face

Alyssa and Reyna.

"We are following Lady Abby," Alyssa said, frowning.

"Just one is enough," Ruby said, pinning Abby with a look.

"Why can't they both follow?" Abby asked Ruby.

"It's nothing serious actually. Everyone else will only bring one maid with them,"

Ruby said in a dismissive tone.

"Is that so?" Abby felt this so-called meeting new friends was so complicated with

all kinds of weird. rules and immediately regretted agreeing to go with Ruby. This started to sound like a recipe for disaster. But, she couldn't back away anymore.

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In the end, she chose Reyna to go with her. "Alyssa, go back and rest."

Reyna and Alyssa, who almost prepared to have an altercation with Ruby for stopping themselves from following Abby, could only heed their master's order.

They felt Ruby was being uncharacteristically excited.

With that being said, Ruby pulled Abby with her while her own maid and Reyna

followed them closely.

Alyssa exchanged a look with Reyna as she bade goodbye to Abby.

[This whole thing seems fishy, I'll go and report this to the King.] She mindlinked

Reyna as she turned around to leave the garden.

However, the moment she couldn't see Abby and Reyna anymore, she found herself being stopped by Ruby's maids.

"Not so fast," a girl said as she blocked her path while the others backed her up.

"What is the meaning of this?" Alyssa almost screamed in their faces.

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Chapter 27

Ruby pulled Abby to the main gates of the palace, where Abby could see two carriages waiting for them.

One was luxurious while the other was ordinary.

"You guys are finally here." A female voice came from their right as soon as they

stepped out of the palace gates.

Abby turned around and saw a group of three women. The three were donned in

long party dresses, clearly daughters of influential families of this capital city. Apparently, these were the friends Ruby wanted to introduce to her.

"What took you so long?" Another girl asked, clearly sounding impatient.

"Oh, stop sulking. We are here now, aren't we?" Ruby gave her a look and the woman immediately shut up.

Ruby then turned to face Abby and introduced her. "Here, these are my good friends. Leila, Gissele and Tia. And this is Abby, our king's mate."

Tia, who was just about to ask her where the infamous girl was, immediately bit

her tongue. Even Leila and Gissele looked like they couldn't believe their ears. They all exchanged a look, while Abby felt even more uncomfortable.

The three women genuinely didn't pay attention to her until then. To be honest,

they were all expecting someone completely different. Both in temperament and aura.

This Abby girl didn't look the part at all.

"She..." Leila, who talked first earlier, was cut off when Ruby interrupted her. "Since we are all here, let's not waste time anymore. We have to reach the restaurant in time for our appointment. I reserved a private room for us." Ruby pinned each of them with a look and all their questions were pushed to the backs

of their minds immediately. The three silently got into the carriage.

"Come on, Abby," Ruby nudged her arm when the girl wouldn't budge from her

place, while staring at Reyna.

"She will follow us on the other one," Ruby said as she pulled her into the carriage.

Abby could only get into the carriage. She sat by the window, beside Ruby, while

the other three settled on the other side.

"So, Abby? Which pack did you hail from?" Leila asked Abby who was staring out of the window.

"I'm from the Silver Moon/pack," Abby answered her.

"Your father is?" Gissele, who was busy talking with Tia, turned to look at Abby, prompting

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everyone else to look at her.

"He is the Beta of the pack." Abby's answer was once again short.

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"You dress so simply for a daughter of the Beta of a pack." Leila said, her eves

quickly scanning Abby's attire.

"Oh! She must be so down to earth." Tia observed, referring to her choice of clothes and the way she didn't use a single piece of jewellery on her.

Both their gazes and words were polite, so even though Abby felt something was

amiss, she couldn't point out what was wrong.

So Abby only smiled, striking it off as girl-talk.

For a trip to the town, Abby was actually considered underdressed. But she couldn't be blamed for this as she didn't plan to follow Ruby and her high maintenance friends to the town today at all.

She just came out to the garden after having her breakfast for a walk and fell into

Ruby's hands.

"Tell me about your pack," Tia asked her when she didn't comment on her own dressing style.

But Abby didn't feel like entertaining them anymore as she just nodded or shook

her head whenever they asked something after saying she had an older sister.

These three girls were so gossipy they talked about all kinds of things. Occasionally, they would even praise Ruby saying she came from the former royal beta's family and such.

"Ruby, no one can match your elegance in this capital city," Gissele said as they gushed over their friend.

"No, there is actually one who can rival it," Leila said with a knowing smile. She

sounded so mysterious until all of them couldn't help but give her their full attention. Only Tia seemed to understand her line of thought as she smiled at her

friend.

"Who?" Gissele asked, feeling curious when both Leila and Tia shared a smile

Meanwhile, Abby had long tuned out all their gossiping as she resumed watching

out of the window. She couldn't follow half of the things they were talking about

as they talked about various things that happened in this capital city.

She couldn't contribute to a conversation she could not understand, so she chose to enjoy the view of the town. Only Tia's answer grabbed her attention

again as the conversation from there turned really awkward for her to eavesdrop

on.

"Of course, it's King Micah," Tia supplied from the side.

"Right?" Leila said while Ruby brushed them off simply,

"Don't compare me with him. His charms are incomparable," Ruby said, smiling a

little. She sounded as if she couldn't bother about such silly comparisons when

she wouldn't stop smiling.

Abby looked at Ruby and saw a hint of red on her cheeks. Her words and her reaction didn't match

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Chapter 27

atall.

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Seeing this, Abby felt her discomfort from earlier resurface with double force. 66%*

"Speaking of charms, I saw him earlier, apparently going to the morning court. He

looked so fine," Gissele gushed, not even bothering to control the hearts in her eyes.

"He is of noble birth and it is visible in everything he does," said Tia from the side.

Abby couldn't help but frown as they went on and on about how the King could make a perfect. mate. And how he was an ideal mate for almost every girl in this capital.

They went as far as pointing out how mateless women always tried to catch his

eye whenever he went somewhe

On the other side, with every word that left their lips, Abby only felt much smaller

and smaller as she felt extremely uncomfortable. However, she didn't feel comfortable expressing her displeasure either.

Meanwhile, apart from her earlier comment, Ruby made no attempts whatsoever to stop them again.

As such, Abby could only swallow her displeasure until the carriage reached their

destination, which was apparently a fancy restaurant. Please bookmark site to read lastest content. If you want to read please visit to read fastest content.

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Chapter 28

It wasn't too long before the carriages arrived at the restaurant, but Abby couldn't

help but feel like it was several hours before she could escape that small box of

gossip called luxurious carriage.

Abby even considered stopping the carriage in the middle, and leaving with Reyna. To hell with this lunch date with Ruby and her friends. If meeting new friends was this troublesome, she didn't need it.

Even traveling in the ordinary carriage with the maid ser vants would be a hundred times better than this.

"We have arrived," the coachmen announced and Abby couldn't feel happier.

As soon as they got down, Reyna rushed to her and checked on her. "Laby Abby,

are you alright?"

Abby only shook her head in response as she followed the rest into the private room, hoping to get. done with this lunch as soon as possible.

And just like what Ruby said, they were soon ushered into a private room, where

they settled down around a large table, which could easily accommodate ten people.

"Abby, I'll let you choose our food today," Ruby said, as she handed over the menu to Abby, who just sat down on her chair at this humongous table.

"But, I don't know what is good here," Abby deflected in a soft voice.

"Oh, right, how could I forget? I'm sorry, Abby. It slipped my mind that this is all

new to you," Ruby said, looking apologetic. Meanwhile, Abby couldn't help but feel like she was implying something else entirely.

However, before she could delve deeper into that thought, Ruby quickly ordered

a table full of food, comprising several meat dishes and desserts. They all looked

expensive and came in even larger portions.

Abby could understand that the shifters had huge appetites but this was simply a

waste of food, while the maids who came with them were sitting at a smaller table in the same private room and ordered food separately.

Abby couldn't stomach the food as the girls resumed gushing over the King. Initially, her mood was not good, now it plummeted again as these girls couldn't

find another topic other than Micah, and it became unbearable for Abby.

She couldn't join their gossiping/marathon either.

"...oh, right. Ruby, how long have you known the King for?" Tia asked Ruby suddenly, as they talked. about several things before circling back to Micah once again.

And before Ruby could answer her, Leila beat her to it. "She knew him all her life.

They basically grew up together. Just like (wo peas in a pod." The girl punctuated

her words with a smile.

"Oh, come on, Leila. It's not that exaggerated." Ruby immediately denied her words, blushing a

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Chapter 28

little.

"I'm not exaggerating anything. Did you guys not grow up together? Or did you guys not train together?" Leila quickly asked her back, flashing her a knowing smile.

"Everyone in the capital knows how close you two are," Tia added, going as far

as wiggling her eyebrows at her.

"Exactly. You are the former royal beta"s daughter, while he is the previous king's

son. You two have so much in common as well." Gissele noted you loud.

"Yeah, they were taught together since they both were really young. You guys are

really the true definition of childhood sweethearts," Tia said, and Abby almost choked on her food.

But the other three women were so engrossed in this conversation, they didn't notice how she grew uncomfortable by each second that passed.

Or they simply chose to ignore her completely, Abby couldn't help but realize this

nagging feeling at the back of her mind.

On the other hand, Ruby blushed even more as she denied their words again.

am not denying that we were friends from our childhood. But childhood sweethearts is a very big word, Tia."

"Oh come on, can you say that even your parents never had that thought? Or nothing ever happened between you two?" Leila asked and Ruby fell silent.

"A small kiss on cheek when we were little couldn't be counted guys," Ruby said a moment later.

If Abby wasn't sure before, she was now. These three were intentionally trying to

make her feel uncomfortable. Only she couldn't understand what they could get

by doing so.

"But what about your parents? I heard that they actually hoped for you two to get

together after you grow up. Especially our previous king." Gissele said.

Abby couldn't tell if everything they said was true or not, but she couldn't help feeling that they were all trying to imply something really important.

"Not just getting together, they even thought these two would end up as each other's destined mates at one point of time," Tia sounded too carried away, as her voice came out beyond excited. "Too bad, it was not the case."

"Now, she can't even get the man by becoming his chosen mate anymore," Gissele said, sounding apologetic for Ruby.

Meanwhile, Ruby had this nostalgic expression on her face as if she was being

forced to do something she didn't want to.

"Don't talk like that," Ruby started, as she wrenched her hands. But before she could continue, they all heard an audible clang from Abby's direction.

The table fell utterly silent as they all turned around to look at Abby, who had long

turned speechless. They had invited her to this lunch and now they were all acting as if they had completely forgotten about her until that moment.

Chapter 28

Abby was genuinely shocked hearing their endless nonsense. These three girls

made it sound like she came in between the real couple that was the King and this Ruby girl And Abby couldn't help but remember the fact that she couldn't feel

anything mates related toward the King again.

Seeing that Abby was really uncomfortable, Reyna walked over to their table and

tried to make an excuse so that Abby could leave this place

"Miss Ruby, Lady Abby seems unwell. I want to take her back to the palace." Reyna boweil talking

"Don't you know how inappropriate it is for maids to interrupt their masters?"

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Chapter 29

"Don't you know how inappropriate it is for maids to interrupt their masters?" Leila

beat Ruby to scold Abby's maid, Reyna, who couldn't say anything anymore after

that.

When Ruby showed her displeasure earlier when Reyna and Alysa tried to refuse

herself on Abby's behalf, she was both soft and subtle. But that was not the case

with Leila as she went full to full master mode on Reyna.

Leila even narrowed her eyes at Reyna, showing how angry she was on Ruby's

behalf. While the girl in question stayed silent herself.

Abby widened her eyes, seeing this girl going mad at her own maid while she didn't know how to defend Reyna.

This group of girls were haughty in their own nature.

"Easy, Leila. She was just looking out for her master," Ruby said, trying to calm down Leila.

The girl then turned around to Abby and checked on her. "What is it, Abby? You

really want to leave so early?"

Faced with Ruby's question, Abby couldn't help but nod her head in denial. "It's

alright. I'm fine." Abby told Reyna and her maid could only resign herself and go

back to the other maid ser vants.

After that, Abby completely tuned them out as she waited for this lunch date to be

over.

"Want to explore this place?" Tia suggested to Abby, as the others stood beside

her with harmless smiles etched on their faces.

And half an hour later, Abby found herself roaming around this place as her new

friends walked her in the streets.

Ruby ordered their maids to wait at the carriage itself saying it would be too inconvenient to move in large groups.

After all, walking in a group of five was already attention grabbing. Abby couldn't

imagine walking in a group of ten, let alone bringing any warriors along for protection.

Like Micah went everywhere. A king would be protected all the time and Abby thought how attention gripping it would be. However, soon her thoughts were consumed by the various sights of this place.

"We five can manage this small walk, right?" Ruby sounded a bit cheerful and Abby couldn't help agreeing. There were five of them, so nothing would go wrong. Right?

Abby, who had never been allowed to step out of their own pack, was fascinated

by the rowdiness in the street markets.

She saw people selling this and that and felt awed by the ingenuity of the sellers.

An hour into this whole exploring the town thing, they saw some commotion and

Ruby

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Chapter 29

immediately said, "Right, today is the Fire festival. Come, Abby, this is going to be fun."

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Ruby didn't sound like she just remembered it at all. But Abby couldn't catch that

slip on her part when an activity caught her attention.

"How did he do that?" She blurted out when someone literally spewed fire from

his mouth.

She could clearly see that he was a shifter, so how could he do that? She never

saw someone doing that.

"He is presenting the act of fire breathing." Ruby then patiently explained to Abby

how it worked.

The person doing the act would hold a bit of any kind of fuel in his mouth and bring a bit of fire to his mouth and when he blew the fuel around the fire, flames

would erupt. Based on the fuel used, the flames could be produced in different colors, too.

The more she listened, the more fascinated Abby felt

"Oh, this is the first time you watched the act of fire breathing?" Tia sounded surprised from the side.

Hearing her question, Abby felt a little self-conscious. When she didn't say anything for a long time, Ruby jumped in to save the situation.

"Don't talk like that. You are making her feel uncomfortable," Ruby chided Tia softly.

After that, Abby went silent as she observed the remaining festivities.

It was really crowded around there, probably because of the fire festival.

"Look, the fight is going to start soon," Leila said, pointing to what seemed to be a group of people gathered around some fighting ring.

When Abby looked confused as to why they were going to fight in a festival, Gissele took it upon herself to explain it to her.

"It's not a serious fight, silly. They will fight like professionals, only much crude and brutal."

"Crude and brutal?" Abby repeated, feeling alarmed.

"They will not kill each other," Leila supplied.

"At least, try not to kill each other," Tia said, smiling a bit.

And true to their words, the fighters fought like there was no tomorrow.

"It's fun, right?" Ruby nudged a speechless Abby, as she pulled her to watch the

next act of

entertainment.

However, the deeper they walked, toward the center of the festival activities, the more crowded the place seemed.

Abby had never been to a festival, so all her attention was on the various acts that were happening

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Chapter 29

along the path they took.

In no time, the sky turned darker as the fire acts took an even more thrilling turn.

There was even a lamp show, where they let loose some kind of flying lamps into

the air. And against the dark night sky, these lamps looked like stars.

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Abby was so fascinated by the beauty of that sight, she didn't notice herself getting separated from

her new friends...

One second, her hand was in Ruby's as she glanced up to admire the flying lamps, and in the next second, she looked down only to find herself alone but surrounded by complete strangers.

She looked around to try and search for Ruby and the others, but to no avail. Abby felt so scared, as she couldn't remember the back to the palace.

at they took to get here. Let alone the way

Reyna was pacing in front of the carriage, waiting for Abby to return. With every

second that passed, she couldn't help but feel this bad feeling creeping into her

heart.

She felt like she shouldn't have stayed back, she should have followed her master.

And her heart nearly dropped when Ruby returned with the others with no Abby

in sight, saying, "We lost Abby in the crowd, we need to go back immediately

and report this to the King." 3/3 ſί SEND GIFT Visit to read full content. The content is on! Read the latest chapter there! Visit to read full content. The content is on! Read the latest chapter there! Visit to read full content. The content is on! Read the latest chapter there! Chapter 30 1:66% By the time Alyssa could get rid of Ruby's maids, it was well past the afternoon tea time. As soon as she gor rid of them, she immediately relayed the information to a warrior so that he could inform Micah, since her rank wouldn't allow her to go to the King directly. Please bookmark site to read lastest content. If you want to read please visit to read fastest content. Micah was about to go to his own study after dismissing some high ranked pack

members in the evening when a warrior came to relay a piece of news about Abby.

"My King, Lady Abby has been invited to a lunch date with Miss Ruby and her friends. She left right before lunch in the afternoon," the warrior said after bowing to the king.

When Micah received this news, he didn't think much of it. He already told Abby

that she could do whatever she wanted. He too thought Abby could make some

friends if she wanted to. He would respect her wishes even if she didn't like Ruby

and her lot whatsoever.

He just wanted her to feel comfortable staying here, while he could be away almost all day and most of the night. And if making new friends could help her adjust to her life here quickly, it would turn out to be a good thing.

"Okay, you can leave now," Micah dismissed the warrior, thinking up to this point.

But he didn't forget to send two warriors to check on the situation when he remembered about the Fire festival.

Micah didn't think of summoning her back to the palace when he recalled Abby

would enjoy the festivities as she never had the chance to go to one. The girl had

been kept from all kinds of good things for a decade because of her father's lapse of judgement.

And since Abby was with several of Ruby's friends from what he heard from the

warrior, he thought of letting her enjoy a nice evening.

It would be refreshing to explore the town on her own as well. She would be surrounded by an ample number of warriors anyway since she went with Ruby and her friends who were the precious daughters from the influential families of

the capital city. They could manage this on their own.

However, just one hour into reading the reports he received from his warriors in

the study, he saw another warrior rushing into the study and realized how wrong

a simple thing could go.

My King, they say Lady Abby got lost in the crowd during the festival," the warrior

was half panting and half speaking until Micah couldn't understand what he was

saying. But he heard the words lost and Abby and he felt his blood run cold. Apparently, the warrior seemed to have come running back to the palace all the

way from the festival, until he was panting. But Micah didn't have the patience to

let him catch his breath first.

"What did you just say?" He was literally shaking, thinking how careless he had been.

And a moment later, the warrior repeated what he said earlier, albeit panting again, but Micah paid close attention to his words and his eyes turned sharper by

each word he heard. How furious he got after he got the gist of this piece of news

was inexplicable.

"How the hell did it happen?" He fumed as he stormed out of the room.

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Chapter 30

Once outside, he saw Alan and barked an order at him. "Alan, follow me."

bb%

Alan, who had just returned from some mission to report to the King, was dumbfounded by the look on Micah's face. But he followed him anyway when he

knew it would not end well for himself if he stopped Micah right then just to satisfy

his curiosity.

"And you, what got your tongue? Speak now!" The King demanded as he midlinked almost all the warriors from the palace to gather in the front yard...

The warrior, who reported Abby's missing news, felt weak in the knees but he could only swallow it as he didn't want Micah to direct his anger at himself.

"They said it was too crowded," the warrior couldn't finish the rest of his sentence

when the king almost stopped walking and made everyone behind him, trip over

their own feet.

Micah was really furious that the warrior didn't have the courage to continue what

he was saying

anymore.

"They didn't bring any guards with them?"

It was Alan, who asked the warrior, who couldn't form any words, being scared to

death by Micah's death glare.

"They did...." the other warrior, who was sent along with the first warrior to check

on Abby, wanted to answer for his fellow warrior when the latter looked like he was about to faint from fear.

"Then why did it turn out like this?" Micah almost roared and the second warrior

was also scared. out of his wits. How could anyone lose a grown person with their heightened abilities and everything else? Alan could understand Micah's feelings. Abby was completely new here and knew nothing about this place. He simply couldn't imagine how she was now. Let

alone how she was feeling now.

Micah could swear on his life and say Abby would be scared to hell and back now. He felt rage so potent he was scared he would combust on the spot. However, before either of the two warriors could muster their non-existent courage, they reached the front yard, where they saw Ruby and her friends waiting together.

As soon as one of the four girls saw Micah, they alerted Ruby and the girl immediately ran toward Micah, followed by her minions.

Apparently, to report about the situation, they were waiting for the King to show up.

Only before she could say anything, they all watched on with widened eyes and slacked jaws, as hundreds of warriors filled the front yard.

"My King." Ruby's words stuck in her throat as she saw all those warriors falling

in order in a disciplined manner before waiting for the King's order.

Ruby couldn't believe her own eyes.

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