Irresistible 251

Chapter 251 Go Berserk In Public

Maya's POV:

Soon, a group of soldiers rushed over and surrounded Prince Rufus, pointing all their weapons at him.

This had obviously alarmed Prince Rufus. He threw the man to the ground fiercely, and his cold eyes swept across the soldiers around.

"Are you going to stay and wait to die here?" Someone behind me rudely pulled my clothes as if trying to pull me away. Perhaps because I stood too close to Prince Rufus, which was very dangerous in others' eyes.

But I just ignored it. Instead, I plucked up the courage and took a big step forward.

"Prince Rufus..." I called out tentatively.

At this moment, Prince Rufus' eyes were bloodshot, and wolf claws started to show up on his hands. Sharp teeth were faintly visible through his lips, and his body was emitting a beastlike aura. But he seemed to respond to my call. His ears flickered slightly, and his eyes turned in my direction.

Thank goodness he was at least still a little sober. He hadn't totally lost his mind. With this realization, I felt ecstatic and had the urge to continue to move forward. But two guards suddenly stood in front of me, blocking my way. They obviously didn't want me to get close to Prince Rufus.

"Let me go. I'm Prince Rufus' maid, and I can help him calm down," I said anxiously.

But one of the guards replied sternly, "No. For your own safety, we can't allow you to get close to him."

"You can't stop me!" What were these people doing? I clenched my fists, wanting to rush over. Prince Rufus had led them to win many battles and guarded the safety of so many werewolves. How could everyone treat him as an enemy now?

Suddenly, a bright sword flashed. It turned out that one soldier raised his sword and was about to stab Prince Rufus, even if there was no order.

I was so scared that I immediately shouted, "Watch out!"

I saw Prince Rufus raise his arm to block the sword. The blade cut through his arm, causing it to bleed. The smell of blood seemed to make him more manic. The killing intent in his eyes burned even fiercely. My legs started shaking involuntarily. I saw Prince Rufus had gone berserk a long time ago, but I still panicked when I experienced it again now. Such a panic came from my body's self-protection consciousness. At the moment, Prince Rufus was too dangerous.

Before anyone could react, he slapped the soldier who attacked him, and the soldier fell to the floor, motionless. I didn't know if he was dead or alive.

The other soldiers got so scared that they were about to attack Prince Rufus with their weapons together.

I didn't have time to think too much. While the guards were still in a daze, I broke away from them and rushed into the encirclement of the soldiers.

There was only one thing in my mind. That was to protect Prince Rufus.

The soldiers didn't seem to expect that someone would dare to rush in, so they were all caught off guard and failed to stop me.

"Hey, are you out of your mind?" shouted one of the soldiers in disbelief. "Don't go there!"

I didn't listen to him and slowly walked toward Prince Rufus. So what if he killed someone? For me, he was always the heroic and brave prince with a heart of gold.

It was not that he wanted to be cursed or go berserk today. Everything that happened was not his own intention.

So no one had the right to stand on moral high ground judge or blame him, let alone hurt him with weapons.

The crowd burst into screams and cries as if they were afraid that I would be killed on the spot.

But I didn't care at all. I stood in front of Prince Rufus carefully and devoutly said in a trembling voice, "Prince Rufus, I'm Maya..."

Chapter 252 A Ferocious Attack

Maya's POV:

I tried my best to be courageous, but I still couldn't control my instinctive fear. My legs kept shaking.

I was about to say something when Prince Rufus suddenly grabbed my neck with his sharp claws.

His face clouded over, and his eyes were bloodshot. Then a low roar with dangerous killing intent came out of his throat.

"Prince Rufus, please hold on for a while. Miss Todd will be here soon." I didn't dare to struggle so as not to irritate him. I said with difficulty, "Miss Todd will definitely be heartbroken when she sees you like this. Please calm down."

This time, Prince Rufus seemed to recognize me. He didn't continue strangling me, and his grip on my neck loosened.

I was surprised, but I couldn't help heaving a sigh of relief. I knew that he was still rational. He was not crazy. He might regain his reasoning, and he would return to normal when Sylvia arrived.

Right! Sylvia was the only person who could calm Prince Rufus down. When I mentioned her name, I saw a trace of hesitation in his ferocious eyes, and the cruelty his body exuded dispelled a little.

But at this time, a bad egg suddenly hit Prince Rufus in the face. The smelly, sticky liquid slid down his chin and dripped on his dark suit.

Everyone fell into silence.

I slowly turned my head and looked in the direction where the egg came from. It turned out to be the innocent little boy who presented the bouquet of flowers at the ceremony. While eating the candy in his hand, his other hand pointed at Prince Rufus and cursed in a childish voice, "Monster!"

Upon hearing this, the soldiers around suddenly became nervous. They all raised their weapons and aimed at Prince Rufus. I felt like a fierce fight was about to break out.

"Run, kid! He's a monster!" shouted someone in the crowd.

The little boy burst into tears. I wasn't sure if he was frightened by the sudden shout or by the word "monster."

His cry seemed to stir up the crowd. Everyone began to panic again. Some of them even followed what the boy did. They started throwing whatever was in their hands at Prince Rufus.

I was so anxious that I immediately stood in front of Prince Rufus to shield him. Then I shouted. "Everyone, please calm down! Prince Rufus is not crazy. Don't attack him."

"You're telling us that he's not crazy after him hurting so many people? You must be kidding!"

"Look at his eyes. They're bloodshot! He must be a monster!"

"Oh my God! The future heir to the throne is actually a terrifying monster."

"This is the guidance from the Moon Goddess. We finally know that he is a monster. He doesn't deserve to be our prince."

Everyone was discussing and cursing Prince Rufus with the most vicious words.

I was so angry that I was going crazy. "Shut up! Have you all forgotten who led the werewolf army to win countless battles? Who stood up to protect all of us when we were in danger? If you have forgotten, then you are nothing but a bunch of ungrateful bastards! You're the real monsters here!"

There was a moment of silence in the crowd. It was as if they were shocked by my words. I could see the trace of indecision and shame on their faces.

I breathed a sigh of relief. Then I continued to persuade them in a soft tone, "Prince Rufus must have been framed up, so he becomes like this. Please, don't..."

"Don't listen to her! She connives with Prince Rufus." Someone in the crowd interrupted me. Then one of the soldiers suddenly shouted, "Protect the civilians! Let's take Prince Rufus down!"

This sentence was like a bomb that instantly broke the short tranquility.

Almost at the same time, all the soldiers raised their weapons and attacked Prince Rufus aggressively.

Chapter 253 Too Late

Sylvia's POV:

The second I found out their exact location, I rushed to that place without daring to stop.

But I was too late. I arrived at the scene and it was already chaotic. All the soldiers were writhing on the ground and wailing in agony. The giant statue that had stood proudly for over hundreds of years had fallen down. The guardrails that were supposed to maintain order were bent out of shape and deformed. To my horror, the grass was covered in pools of blood.

Seeing this chaos, my heart skipped a beat. I ran to the crowd to inquire about the situation. Fortunately, we didn't suffer any casualties. However, it wasn't just soldiers that got injured from the stampede. Many civilians were trampled on as well.

But from what I could see, there was no damage or injury that was irreparable.

I breathed a sigh of relief and proceeded to look for Rufus. However, no matter how hard I looked, I couldn't find him—not even Maya.

"Was Rufus arrested? If he gets caught, he's doomed. Richard won't let this opportunity to torture Rufus slide!" Yana voiced out her anxieties in my head, pacing back in forth restlessly.

"I don't think he was captured. Rufus is strong; I doubt ordinary soldiers would be able to defeat him. Besides, look at all those people on the ground. I think Rufus took advantage of the chaos and got away."

"But he's outnumbered! What if they all worked together to hurt him badly?"

"Don't say that. I know he's going to be fine. Yana, you have to calm down or else I won't be able to think straight. I'm already scared enough as it is."

Yana sighed but didn't say anything more. She seemed to realize that I was in a bad mood, so she just quietly accompanied me in my search for Rufus.

In a fit of panic, I helped up a soldier who still seemed to be aware of the situation. "What happened? Where is Prince Rufus?"

To my horror, the soldier's arm was broken. He cradled his injured arm, wincing in pain, and said in a frightened tone, "Prince Rufus attacked us all of a sudden. It was terrible!"

"Where is he now?" I asked again, feeling more and more uneasy as the seconds ticked by.

"He's a monster! An absolute monster possessed by the devil himself! You... You can't imagine how horrible he was! He killed so many people!" The soldier ignored my question and just babbled away, too stunned and shell-shocked to think straight.

My heart sank to the bottom of my stomach. Rufus had been cursed and suffered for years. He had kept this a secret from the world and carried the burden by himself. In the end, he was drugged and lost control of himself, exposing his ugly side to the people he loved the most. Richard's ploy was truly vicious.

"Just tell me where Prince Rufus is! At the very least, can you tell me if he's okay?" I lost my patience and tried to knock some sense into him.

All the color had drained from the soldier's face and he shook his head like a madman. "I don't know. I don't know! He ran away. We couldn't stop him..."

Hearing that Rufus was fine, I felt a little relieved. When I asked which direction Rufus went, the soldier didn't answer me anymore. He stared blankly into space, begging the skies for mercy.

Seeing that I wouldn't be able to get anything more out of him, I left him alone and continued looking for Maya. Maybe she knew where Rufus was.

I ran past the chaotic road and crossed over to the main square. Just then, the church bells started to ring loudly, jolting the white doves in the square. Amidst the flurry of feathers, I finally found the person I was looking for.

But the sight in front of me broke my heart.

Maya, who had always been elegant and well-dressed, was now crawling on the ground with disheveled hair and dirt on her face.

Her red and swollen fingers clawed at the ground as she used every ounce of her strength to crawl. Her nails had been torn, bleeding and staining the ground with her blood. The shoes on her feet were nowhere to be found. Her originally slender and beautiful right leg had been twisted badly, barely supporting her body. She seemed to be crawling aimlessly like a madwoman.

Chapter 254 Heartbroken

Sylvia's POV:

I rushed over to Maya and hugged her, but she didn't seem to recognize me. She struggled violently, mumbling something in a very hoarse voice.

"Maya, I'm Sylvia. Look at me!" I tried everything I could to calm her down.

But Maya just ignored me. She still struggled desperately. She wanted to get away from me and continue crawling forward.

My heart ached so bad seeing her like this. I held her tightly in my arms and said, "I'm sorry, Maya. I'm late. I'm so sorry."

Then I felt that Maya had stopped struggling. It seemed that she had regained her sanity. "Miss Todd?"

"Yes, it's me. Maya, sorry that I'm late," I said guiltily. I couldn't help blaming myself. I should have run a little faster.

Maya suddenly burst into tears. She clutched my sleeve tightly and said, "I'm sorry, Miss Todd. I lost Prince Rufus. I let him out of my sight. I failed you. Many people wanted to hurt him. They all pointed their swords at him. I tried my best to stop them, but it didn't work. I was alone, and there was nothing I could do. No one was willing to help him. No one stood up for him. He was in so much pain."

"It's okay, Maya. Stop blaming yourself. You've done a great job. At least you stood up for him and spoke for him in front of everyone." I coaxed Maya softly, trying my best to hold back my tears. I gently

brushed away the hair covering her face. Her cheekbones were bruised, and she looked rather pitiful.

Maya shook her head with tears streaming down her face. "No! They are all murderers. Everyone is a murderer. Prince Rufus is not crazy. He is not a monster. It's them who drove him crazy. They all forced him!"

"I know. I know..." This time, I couldn't hold back my tears any longer. They streamed down my face profusely. At that time, Rufus must have been lonely and helpless. He was such a powerful and arrogant man, but he was pushed to the opposite side of the world. All his bloody wounds were shown in front of everyone, and no one sympathized with him. They pinned him hard into a corner and even attacked him ruthlessly until he was severely hurt.

I hated Richard so much and even myself. If I had arrived a little earlier, Rufus wouldn't have suffered so much.

"Miss Todd, please go. Prince Rufus is waiting for you." As she spoke, Maya wiped her tears. She seemed to have regained her composure.

"Which direction did he go?" I asked anxiously.

Maya raised her hand weakly and pointed to where she was crawling just now. "Prince Rufus turned into a wolf and went in that direction. I was too powerless to catch up with him. Miss Todd, please find Prince Rufus and bring him back."

"Thank you, Maya. You've done enough. Leave the rest to me. I will definitely bring Rufus back. Even if I have to sacrifice my life, I will protect him." I held Maya's hand, trying to give her strength.

I saw the relieved expression on her face. She smiled at me and closed her eyes.

I was startled at once. "Maya, what's wrong with you?"

Maya's eyes were tightly shut, and she didn't respond anymore. She seemed completely unconscious.

I put my finger before her nose. And I heaved a sigh of relief when I felt that her breathing was stable.

At this time, a group of soldiers and doctors arrived. They were probably here to rescue.

I waved at them. "Here! I need help here! Someone has fainted. Please help us!"

A doctor immediately approached us. He put Maya on the floor and checked her up. "She's fine. She just passed out. But her leg is seriously injured. We need to take her to the hospital for treatment."

"Okay, doctor. Thank you." I hurriedly stood up. "I'll leave her to you."

"Wait! What's the patient's name?"

"Her name is Maya."

After saying this, I turned around and immediately ran in the direction Maya pointed to me.

Chapter 255 Ruthlessness

Richard's POV:

Diego, my subordinate, reported the turmoil in the city to me. I was so elated when I heard everything he said. My plan had worked.

Before that little boy presented the bouquet to Rufus, I paid his father in advance to put some drugs on the flowers. Rufus was very sensitive and vigilant. This was the only way I could think that he wouldn't get suspicious.

But actually, I wasn't sure at first if it would work. I didn't expect it to be successful. For the first time, I succeeded in setting Rufus up. It was very likely that this time, he would never be able to turn the tables.

"Go give the father of that boy a reward. Tell him to keep his mouth shut or I'll shut him up," I ordered Diego. "Then find an opportunity to get rid of him after this matter is over."

Only the dead could shut up forever. The father of that boy had to bring my secret to his grave.

"But according to our men there, there were no major casualties in that turmoil," Diego said.

I frowned. I was not satisfied with this news. Only when there were casualties could this matter be escalated. Then Rufus would be completely overthrown. Fortunately, I was prepared for this situation.

I took a drag on my cigar. I was in a good mood when I asked about Lucy.

"Lady Lucy has been given a muscle relaxant shot as planned," Diego answered truthfully.

I frowned again. "Why do you still call her 'Lady Lucy'? She is now a mere dying prisoner."

"I understand. I'm sorry, Prince Richard," Diego answered timidly.

I didn't make a fuss about it anymore. I put down my cigar, stood up, and walked to the parrot's cage. While playing with the bird, I asked, "Is Lucy in the manor in the suburb?" "Yes, everything has been arranged. And the moon grass that can attract werewolves has been planted along the road to the manor. When the drug takes effect, Prince Rufus will go crazy. His animal instinct will definitely lead him to the manor to kill Lucy ruthlessly," Diego answered.

I couldn't help but chuckle. "Well done."

Lucy and that bastard in her belly would be my sacrifices to bring Rufus down.

I deliberately used muscle relaxants on Lucy instead of ether because I wanted to take revenge on her. I wanted her to be torn apart by Rufus when she was still in a good state of mind. By then, she would be too powerless to resist no matter how much she tried to struggle. I swore to make her life a living hell.

Lucy was currently pregnant with "my child". If Rufus killed her, I was pretty sure that he would be sentenced to death this time. Even if he was the eldest prince, the throne would still be mine in the end.

After being oppressed by him for so many years, I could finally fight back. I had never been this happy before.

I was so excited that I unconsciously tightened my grip on the parrot. It let out a cry, flapped its wings, and flew up.

"Fuck you! Fuck you!" it said.

"Shut up!" I snapped back. I shook the cage vigorously, trying to calm it down.

"Bastard! Bastard!" the parrot cried again.

This time, Diego couldn't hold it any longer. He burst into laughter.

I pulled a long face and put down the wooden stick. This damn little parrot had obviously learned how I usually cursed Rufus.

I turned and glared at Diego. "What's so funny?"

Diego shivered. "Nothing. I'm sorry, nothing's funny."

I snorted coldly. When Rufus really went to jail, I would send this damn parrot to accompany him. Since I can't scold him in person, I'll let this parrot do it for me. I would do everything to piss him off.

"What if Prince Rufus sobers up?" Diego suddenly asked worriedly.

I squinted at him and said disapprovingly, "Do you seriously think I didn't think of that? Unless there is an antidote, the drug's effect will stay in his body for twelve hours."

"It seems that your plan will definitely succeed this time," Diego said and gave me a flattering smile.

I tried my best to hold back the complacency in my heart, but the corners of my mouth couldn't help rising. "Go and keep an eye on our subordinates. Make sure that the moon grass along the way will be cleared as soon as Rufus enters the manor. Whether our plan succeeds or not, remember to destroy the evidence first. Also, send someone to delay the soldiers in the palace. If they arrest Rufus before he can do something to Lucy, our plan will be ruined."

After explaining everything to Diego, I sent him away to make the arrangements.

I was only one step away from achieving my goal now. I was already looking forward to the results. I was lucky that Blair wasn't here. Otherwise, my plans wouldn't have gone so well.

Chapter 256 Put On An Ac

Richard's POV:

It didn't take long for Diego to return and tell me that Rufus had gone to the manor.

It was time for me to put on an act, so I walked to the dressing room excitedly. "I want to wear the most gorgeous clothes to celebrate my victory."

"Why don't you wear Prince Rufus' favorite color today? You can also piss him off by doing that."

Indeed, no one knew me better than Diego. I looked at him approvingly and said, "Great idea. Bring me that red cloak here."

"Red... Red cloak?" Diego wanted to say something but stopped on second thought. Then he said hesitantly, "Price Rufus doesn't seem to like such a color."

I snorted coldly, "If I say he likes that color, he likes it, okay? Who the hell are you to tell me what to do?"

"I'm sorry, Prince Richard. I'll get it for you right now," Diego quickly said.

After getting dressed, I rushed to the council hall to look for my father.

This was where he usually gathered his ministers. At this moment, many elders were walking out of the hall. They should have just finished the meeting.

I hurried into the hall and randomly grabbed a white-bearded elder. "Where is my father?"

The elder was obviously surprised by my sudden appearance and question. He patted his chest in a bid to calm himself down before he answered, "Prince Richard, why are you in a hurry?"

"Something terrible happened. Is he on the second floor?" I said, pretending to be anxious. Although I already knew where my father was, I had to pretend I didn't know to deceive everyone.

"Yes, he's still in the meeting room," the elder said, pushing up his eyeglasses.

"Okay, thank you."

My plan went smoothly. I was sure that everyone saw the anxiety on my face.

In a while, I would also use this anxious look to persuade my father to send out troops to look for Rufus. In this way, I could lead him to the manor and let him see how Rufus tore Lucy apart.

When I arrived at the door of the meeting room, I heard my father and his confidant, Fitch, talking about Rufus. I quickly stepped back and hid behind the wall.

"The crowd has been dispersed, and the backup command post is set up. The mess is being cleaned now." I heard Fitch's solemn voice from the inside.

My father coughed a few times before he asked in a hoarse voice, "Where is Rufus?"

"Prince Rufus..." Fitch hesitated for a moment. Then he said, "He attacked the guards guarding the city and ran out. No one dared to chase after him."

This time, my father coughed even harder. Then I heard the clatter of porcelain bowls. He must be drinking some potion.

Thinking that my father was getting weaker and weaker made my heart tighten. I didn't have much time left. Whether my plan succeeded or not, I would make sure that my father would be completely disappointed in Rufus this time.

"Are you going to send someone to find Prince Rufus and take him back?" Fitch asked again.

"Let's check the situation first. If I take him back now, he will face the public's wrath. It may not be a good thing. So I'm thinking, it will be better to send someone to protect him secretly while waiting for the situation to calm down here. However, in this way, he will completely lose the right to inherit the throne." My father heaved a long sigh and said in a sad tone, "I didn't expect this day would come. Rufus' curse can't really be hidden forever."

I was surprised to hear what he said. The word "curse" piqued my curiosity, so I leaned forward to listen more clearly.

"Actually, I feel that something is strange this time. It's said that the curse only attacks during the full moon, right? It's not full moon yet, but why did he suddenly lose control today?" Fitch had been working for my father for a long time, and he had always been reliable. This time, he pointed out the key problem immediately.

"Maybe his body can no longer bear the curse." My father seemed to be in a bad mood. He said in a low voice, "For more than twenty years, he would always go crazy every full moon, every month. No matter how strong he is, he can't stand such mania that repeatedly goes beyond his physical limit. What I fear the most is that he will die because of this."

The more I listened to their conversation, the more excited I became. I didn't expect that I had used the right drug by accident. Rufus was indeed suffering from mania. God was really on my side. Now, everyone would believe that he was a monster.

Chapter 257 Eavesdrop

Richard's POV:

I could sense from my father's tone that he was very sad. And he also kept sighing. He said, "As a father, my only wish is for my children to live peacefully, healthily, and happily. Even if he is mediocre, it doesn't matter as long as he can live a comfortable life. It's all my fault. I failed to handle my relationship well back then."

"Don't be too sad. Remember, you still have Prince Richard. He's getting more and more motivated nowadays," Fitch said to comfort him.

I was very happy to hear Fitch's compliment on me.

He was my father's confidant. And being praised by him was quite useful.

But when my father spoke again, there was a hint of hesitation in his tone. "Richard? Indeed, he's been really active recently."

I didn't understand what my father meant. Was he also complimenting me?

Then he continued, "But it's good that he is motivated. He is making some progress. So although he is not as good as Rufus, I brought him back just in case. If the curse on Rufus won't be dispelled, I have no other choice. I can only pass the throne to Richard."

As I continued to hide outside the door and listened, I was so angry with my father's words that I almost wanted to explode. He obviously meant that he only took me as Rufus' substitute. So up to now, he still never gave up the idea of letting Rufus inherit the throne. No matter how well I performed and how

many things I did for him, I would never be comparable to Rufus in his eyes.

I clenched my fists tightly, feeling like my heart was extremely twisted by anger. But soon, I calmed down. No matter how powerful Rufus was, he would never have the chance to inherit the throne as long as he couldn't get rid of his curse.

"I think it's time for you to give up on that. Until now, we still haven't found any clue about that witch," Fitch said again. "For more than twenty years, you have been looking for a way to remove the curse. But you still haven't found anything. I think this is fate. Maybe Prince Rufus is destined to be like this for the rest of his life."

I couldn't agree more with Fitch. This was fate, and even God was helping me. Rufus was doomed to fail.

My father was silent for a long time.

"Maybe it's time for you to let go of the obsessions. Now that Prince Rufus' mania has been exposed to the public, the citizens can no longer accept him," Fitch added.

I couldn't help but applaud Fitch. Every word he said was what I wanted to hear, but I didn't know what my father was thinking.

"Actually, being manic doesn't matter that much in inheriting the throne," my father said slowly.

I got flustered at once. How could it not matter? If Rufus became the lycan king and went berserk every now and then, I would be the first person he'd kill.

I really wanted to rush in and wake my father up. I wanted to tell him that I was the best heir. But I couldn't do that. Once he found out that I was eavesdropping, he would definitely be angry. My father was more terrifying than the vampires when he was angry.

"You can consider declaring Prince Richard as your heir. I've been observing him these days, and I could say that he is a qualified heir except for his bad temper," Fitch advised.

Wait! I had a bad temper? And what did he mean by that? I greeted him with a big smile every day. What made him think that I was bad-tempered? When I heard that Fitch discredited me in front of my father, I couldn't help rolling my eyes.

"You've noticed that too?" My father gave a short laugh and then said in an anxious tone, "But Richard still has no descendant either, even though he has had a lot of affairs outside since he became an adult and even has a mate now. Could it be that he is also affected by the curse? After all, the witch cursed not only me but also my children. Although the witch didn't know Richard's existence when she put a

curse on me, Richard is also my child."

Fitch sighed helplessly. "Yes. If Prince Richard has a child, you can declare him as your heir."

Upon hearing this, my eyes widened. The baby in Lucy's belly suddenly came to my mind.

Chapter 258 Leading The Army In Person

Ethan's POV:

"But in my opinion, Prince Richard actually looks quite healthy. Has he been sexually active for a long time?" Fitch analyzed with a frown.

I coughed awkwardly and said, "Maybe."

Richard did like to play with she-wolves ever since he became an adult. Of course, he was always smart enough to keep a low profile whenever he would do so and would sneak out of the imperial palace.

Suddenly, I heard the sound of rustling clothes at the door and my alerts were put back on high.

"Who's there?"

No one answered.

I exchanged a glance with Fitch, stood up, and walked out.

"Who's there?"

I then caught sight of Richard, who was standing behind the wall. My heart became filled with anger.

"Richard! What are you doing here? What did you hear?"

Waving his hands, Richard looked aggrieved and said, "Father, I was wronged. I just got here and happened to hear you say that I had no child."

"Why were you walking so quietly? That is not like a valiant man at all," I scolded him.

Richard had always been a sissy since he was a child. No son of mine should act like that. I had spent a lot of time and energy just to correct him. I even sent him to the military school at an earlier age, but he learned nothing but how to curse.

"I will look into it next time." Richard lowered his head. "But I wasn't eavesdropping. Please trust me,

Father."

Seeing that his apology seemed sincere, I felt a little ashamed. Maybe I was a little too harsh just now.

"Forget it. It's not your fault. Come in." I took a look at him and then went back to the room.

Richard was wearing a dazzling red cloak. Paired with his rather feminine appearance and tall figure, he looked a bit like a disproportionate Little Red Riding Hood with big muscles.

"Father, Lucy is pregnant with my child."

As I was about to sip water from my cup, I heard Richard's words and spat it out.

Hurrying forward, Richard patted me on the back. "Are you okay, Father?"

I coughed for a while, wiping my mouth after. "What did you just say? Say it again."

"Lucy is pregnant with my child, but I haven't reported it yet," Richard repeated himself.

I felt overjoyed. "Well, why didn't you tell me such an important thing sooner?"

"The doctor just found it out. I came to tell you as soon as I knew it," Richard explained.

"Where is Lucy, then? We must bring her here to make sure she's always well rested. You and Lucy must also plan the wedding ahead of schedule." I smiled.

After many years, the royal family was finally going to have a new addition, my grandchild. This was very important to me.

"Lucy is currently resting at the royal manor in the suburbs," Richard replied.

Before I could ask anything more, Fitch chimed in, "Oh, I heard that Prince Rufus was last seen heading to the manor."

Astonished, I exclaimed, "Stop him right now! Dispatch some troops! We must protect Lucy and the baby!"

"Yes, sir!" Fitch immediately took the order.

"Wait!" I stood up. "I'll come along too, just to be safe."

Chapter 259 The Royal Manor

Sylvia's POV:

Maya pointed in the direction of the suburb.

At this time, there was almost no one along the road. And everywhere I went, there were mess and bloodstains. I followed these traces and quickly arrived at the gate of the city. The soldiers guarding the gate had disappeared.

So I was even more certain that Rufus went out of the city.

I no longer hesitated. I turned into a wolf and rushed to the suburb at the fastest speed.

Yana suddenly exclaimed excitedly, "Moon grass! Oh, I love it the most!" Yana was excited, but she didn't slow down.

"We'll come back to get you some moon grass after finding Rufus."

The forest in the suburb was vast. We passed by here when Rufus took me to see Lena last time. But now that I was here again, my mood was totally different.

Yana quickly passed through the forest, then there was a fork in the road, each leading to a different place. One of them would lead us straight out of the imperial capital.

She stopped, wanting to find some clues before making a choice.

"Choose the road with moon grass. Trust me, Yana. I have a gut feeling that's the one," I said to Yana with certainty.

"Okay, if you say so."

Yana ran directly into the road with moon grass. But as she ran, I felt that something was wrong.

"How come there is so much moon grass here?" Yana also noticed it.

She slowed down and carefully observed the row of moon grass planted on the roadside. Although moon grass was not something precious, one could rarely see it in daily life.

However, this road had inexplicably grown so much of it conspicuously. Logically speaking, this road was not a sparsely populated trail. And since werewolves liked moon grass so much, they should have uprooted the plants here.

"This is definitely not a coincidence," I said to Yana.

Everything seemed to be carefully arranged. Was it to deliberately guide Rufus in this direction?

"Sylvia, I know what you're thinking. I also think that Rufus took this path because he was attracted to the moon grass. If I lose my mind and only rely on my instinct, I might also be lured in this direction by the smell of the moon grass. After all, it's normal for werewolves to be attracted to moon grass." Yana was rarely serious. Then she changed her tone and shouted angrily, "It must be that bastard Richard who played this trick! What the hell does he want to do?"

I thought for a while and finally realized what was going on. "It's Lucy! It was written on the note that Richard wanted Rufus to kill Lucy personally. This road must lead to where Lucy is. Hurry! We need to find Rufus as soon as possible."

"Yes! We can't let that bastard succeed. Let's go!"

This time, Yana quickened her pace. And to have evidence, she picked a moon grass and brought it with her. She also used my phone to record the scene along the way until she passed through a dense forest and arrived at the gate of a magnificent manor.

I became extremely vigilant, observing the surroundings.

I remembered that Rufus mentioned to me one time that there was a manor in the suburb for the royal members as their summer retreat. He even said that he would take me there in the summer. I guessed this was the manor he was talking about.

Logically speaking, there should be guards and servants guarding and cleaning the royal manor all year round.

But at this moment, the gate was locked, and no one was around, not even a guard. This was very unusual.

Chapter 260 One More Challenge

Sylvia's POV:

A gust of strong wind blew, carrying with it a faint smell of blood mixed with the cold smell of licorice came—Rufus' scent.

This proved that Rufus was inside the manor. The situation was bad. I grew even more anxious and shook the gate hard in an attempt to get in, but the gate was securely locked from the outside. Obviously, someone wanted to make sure Rufus wouldn't get out.

"Damn it! I can tell that Omar's totally lost control of himself." Yana paced back and forth anxiously.

Finally, a fierce look of determination flashed in her eyes and she picked up a rock from the ground. In one swift motion, she smashed the rock against the lock, deforming it slightly. Unfortunately, this wasn't enough to break the lock.

"What should I do... I think Omar's been injured. I can tangibly feel that he's in pain!" Out of sheer desperation, Yana threw away the stone and thrashed at the chains with her bare claws. But it was futile. Soon her paws were red and swollen.

Yana broke down into sobs. "Sylvia, my paws hurt. We need to find another way to get in!"

"I scanned the perimeter and we can only get in through the gate," I said as calmly as possible. I couldn't make Yana more agitated than she already was. "Rufus is waiting for me. I have to get in. Yana, please stay strong!"

At last, Yana raised her head to the sky and howled, thrashing at the lock with all her strength. The chain finally fell to the ground in pieces.

"Finally!" Yana cried excitedly.

I transformed back into my human form and hurriedly pushed the gate open. But just as I was about to enter, a group of armed werewolves suddenly surrounded me.

"Get out of my way," I said in a low, bone-chillingly cold voice. If my guess was right, these were Richard's men.

Ignoring my command, they charged at me. I kicked the man in the lead away, but worry consumed my heart. I was severely outnumbered and I was running out of time.

"Sylvia, you have to find a way to get out of here. Omar is dying!" Yana cried anxiously.

I glanced at the sky. It was getting dark. I couldn't spare the time to fight all these men. The longer we delayed, the more dangerous Rufus would be.

"I'm thinking," I said through gritted teeth, dodging an incoming punch. I grabbed the weapon in that werewolf's hand and knocked him away.

"Oh, my God! Omar!" Yana suddenly shrieked in my mind. Then, all of a sudden, she fell silent.

"Yana? Tell me, what's wrong? What happened with Omar? Did something bad happen?"

I asked Yana nervously, but she didn't respond. I couldn't help but think that my worst nightmare had

become a reality.

"You can't defeat us. You're severely outnumbered. Surrender!" the man in the lead snorted viciously.

I clenched my fists, helplessly angry. Rage surged through my veins. It felt as though gas was expanding in my stomach and that I was about to explode.

Suddenly, a terrifyingly powerful force burst forth. A gust of strong wind blew and I wielded the weapon I had snatched earlier and ruthlessly slashed through everyone in my path.

"Whoever tries to stop me will die." I took deliberate steps towards the man in the lead.

He looked utterly horrified and retreated a few steps back with his companions. "Isn't she just a slave? How the hell is she so powerful? Why didn't we bring guns? The intel we received was wrong!"

"I don't know. Maybe she isn't the slave they told us about..."

At this time, a sharp whistle pierced the air. The leader immediately turned pale and said, "The army is coming. Retreat."

In the blink of an eye, the group of men vanished.

With them gone, I couldn't help but fall to my knees. My clothes were sopping wet, and my wounds were bleeding badly.

Through gritted teeth, I took a deep breath and got back on my feet. I threw away the bloody weapon in my hand and rushed into the manor.