Irresistible 361

Chapter 361 Caught In The Ac

Sylvia's POV:

Squatting next to Rufus, I slapped my palm against my forehead in chagrin.

I had been fatally poisoned before because I had accidentally witnessed Lucy's affair here. How could I be so stupid to come here again?

I was an idiot! I shook my head, disappointed with myself.

Rufus grabbed my hand and said in a low voice, "Calm down. We can wait this out."

I pursed my lips in frustration. "I shouldn't have brought you here."

Rufus chuckled and teased, "It's a... novel experience."

Just then, the sounds became louder and louder. I could clearly hear skin slapping against skin, mixed with intermittent moans and gasps, like an undulating symphony. Whoever was having sex here seemed to not give a damn. Their loud moans echoed through the trees, even scaring the egrets away.

The hair on the back of my head stood out and I found it a bit difficult to breathe.

Rufus reached out and covered my ears, but I could still hear the sounds of lust.

I raised my head sheepishly, wanting to say something to Rufus to ease the embarrassment.

But when I saw how red his ears were, I stopped myself.

It turned out that Rufus was even more embarrassed than me, which made me calm down. We were inadvertently stuck in a small forest with werewolves having sex—and this wasn't my first time.

Holding back my giggles, I leaned over and whispered, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do?"

"Stop it!" Rufus pulled a long face and turned away, but his ragged breath revealed his true emotions.

Smiling mischievously, I raised his chin with my fingers. "Hey, mister! You're so handsome. Do you have a girlfriend? If not, would you be interested in me?"

Rufus went stiff under my touch. He looked at me quietly, as if something was stirring inside him.

Unsatisfied, I continued to make fun of him. "Don't think. Just seize this opportunity and enjoy the romantic atmosphere."

"No. Let's wait until we get back," Rufus said in a low and hoarse voice. His eyes were unfathomable, even darker than the night.

I was a little unhappy with his indifference, so I drew circles on his chest with my fingers. "But I don't plan on going back to the palace with you tonight..."

All of a sudden, Rufus grabbed my hand and pressed me against the ground. "Do you really want it?"

His deep eyes were burning with desire, and his sudden movement made me feel a jolt of electricity through my body.

I immediately panicked and pulled away. "J-just kidding!" I stammered.

Rufus, on the contrary, was being serious. Once, we had sex in the cave to alleviate the aphrodisiac in my body. At the time, however, no one was around us. But now, we weren't the only ones in the woods. I knew he wouldn't actually consider having sex with me here.

Which was why I had the guts to make fun of Rufus in the first place. I wanted to see him embarrassed.

I didn't expect he'd take my joke seriously!

As he kissed me forcibly, I couldn't help but regret my actions.

Was he really going to fuck me here? Oh, God! Help!

I shook my head as he tried to reach under my shirt.

"Calm down, Rufus. I was just joking." I tried to put some distance between us.

"'Joking'? Huh?"

"I was wrong. I shouldn't have—"

I shouldn't have tempted him.

But before I could finish my sentence, Rufus pressed his lips against mine fiercely, shutting me up.

But as we kissed passionately, a beam of light suddenly landed on us.

"Who's there?" The gruff voice of a man barked at us. It was the patrol team!

I was so scared that I shoved Rufus away instinctively.

Damn it!

After Lucy's love affair was exposed, the school had set up a patrol team to catch couples in the act. They had caught a lot of couples having sex in the woods, circulating notices of criticisms in the school.

I couldn't imagine what would happen if Rufus and I ended up in the headlines like this.

I quickly ripped my coat off and wrapped it around Rufus' head. Then I grabbed his hand and ran out of the woods desperately.

Chapter 362 A Sweet Couple

Sylvia's POV:

Fortunately, we had the cover of the night and no one saw us clearly.

I hurriedly took Rufus to a quiet place.

There was no one around. The street light in the area flickered and was dim. My eyes darted around wildly, and when I saw that the coast was clear, I finally heaved a sigh of relief.

When I turned around, I found that Rufus was grinning at me like a naughty little boy.

After looking at each other for a few seconds, we both burst into uncontrollable laughter.

It was so ridiculous! This was probably the first time that Rufus had been so panicked in his life.

"I doubt I'll be able to show you what my mother gave me," I said when my laughter died down.

Rufus nodded and took my hand. "It's okay. You can show me some other time. No need to rush. By the way, you don't have to go to school from tomorrow onwards."

I looked at him in disbelief. "Huh? So suddenly?"

Rufus nodded. "Yes. You not only have a formal military rank, but also have won the first place in the selection competition and are the leader of the elite team. So now, you can officially join the army."

"Have the other members of the elite team been confirmed?" I asked, squinting at him curiously.

Things weren't the same after we entered the forbidden forest. Warren was seriously injured and unconscious in a hospital. Did that mean there'd be less than six members?

Rufus pursed his lips and winked at me, deliberately keeping me in suspense. "You'll find out when you go to the army."

Despite his cryptic answer, I smiled. I was happy because I'd get to see Rufus more often now. The future looked promising indeed.

"Tomorrow, I'll have someone help you pack your things," Rufus added.

"Oh, it's okay. I can do it myself." I waved my hand dismissively.

I didn't want things to change just because my relationship with Rufus had been made public. Besides, a trivial task like packing was something I could handle easily. With regards to Maya, I just let her help me sometimes.

"Alright then. Be careful." Having been refused, Rufus frowned slightly, but he didn't force me.

"Relax, Rufus. I'm not going to a battlefield or anything, I'm just going to be carrying my luggage." I punched his arm playfully, amused by his concern. "If you keep this up, you'll spoil me rotten!"

Rufus was so protective of me that he often wanted to do everything for me. He didn't even want me to carry heavy stuff.

I often felt that he spoiled me too much.

"I want you to rely on me," Rufus suddenly said seriously. Then he changed the subject suddenly. "But what's important is your happiness."

My gaze softened and I stood on tiptoe to kiss him. "Here's your reward."

Rufus wrapped his arms around my waist and looked down at me dotingly. "Oh, there's one more thing I needed to tell you. When you join the army, my father plans to hand you over to Alpha Leonard for training."

What?

I blinked in surprise. "Leonard? Why? This is so sudden!"

"Because you may be carrying a lycan bloodline," Rufus answered straightforwardly.

My eyes went as wide as saucers. The lycan bloodline? I had never noticed anything unusual about myself before, other than the fact that I sometimes got too immersed in fighting.

"Does that mean that my father's also a lycan?" I asked expectantly. If it was the case, this would narrow the search!

Rufus shook his head regretfully. "Not necessarily. The lycan bloodline is the elite bloodline of the werewolf race. That's one in a million chance. Maybe you were born with the bloodline, or maybe it was

awakened in you later."

"Oh, okay." I shrugged nonchalantly, but I couldn't help but feel a little disappointed.

"Now only my father, Alpha Leonard, me, and you are known to have this bloodline in the whole empire. Leonard is more experienced than me. He was once considered the strongest warrior in the empire, so he'll make for a better trainer than me," Rufus explained.

Chapter 363 An Exception

Sylvia's POV:

Leonard's serious face reared in my head and I couldn't help but shiver in fear.

Moreover, Leonard was Alina's father. Alina and I were not on good terms. It would be awkward if Leonard was under the impression that I had bullied his daughter.

Even though Alina and I barely talked to each other, we did have a beef with each other. Plus, our relationship got even worse because I was with Rufus now.

"Oh, I see..." I didn't want to be caught in such a sticky situation, but it seemed my path was laid out for me.

"Sylvia, I know what you're worried about." Rufus looked at me seriously. "I can assure you that Leonard is absolutely trustworthy. He's nothing like his daughter."

Rufus' reassuring words made me feel better. I finally agreed to Leonard's training.

"Oh, but can I join the army the day after tomorrow instead? I want to attend Blair's class for the last time tomorrow."

Rufus didn't say anything. He frowned and seemed to be weighing things in his mind.

"Please? I won't have many chances to see Blair in the future. I also wanted to thank him for clearing my mother's name." I stuck out my lower lip, acting like a spoiled child. "I haven't had the chance to express my gratitude to him yet. I want to invite him to dinner tomorrow to thank him properly."

Rufus finally relented. "Fine. You can postpone going to the army for one day. You can thank Blair, but you don't have to invite him to dinner. I don't trust him."

Seeing the irritated expression on Rufus's face, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. What had Blair done to piss him off this time?

"Okay, okay."

As long as Rufus agreed, I was happy.

After that was settled, Rufus escorted me back to my dormitory.

As soon as I entered the room, Flora bounded over happily and threw her arms around me. "Oh, my God! Sylvia! I have great news for you!"

"What's making you so happy?" I eyed her curiously. I hadn't seen her this happy in a long time.

Flora winked at me mysteriously and slowly took her phone out of her pocket.

"What's going on? Why are you acting so weird?" Her behavior piqued my curiosity even more. I looked at her phone screen and vaguely saw a text from the army.

Flora held out her phone with flourish and shouted, "Look! I'm joining the elite team!"

My eyes went wide with excitement and I grabbed the phone from her to read the message. "It's true! But why so sudden?"

Flora hadn't made it to the forbidden forest test. We had all already assumed that she wouldn't be able to join the elite team because of this. So this news was a wonderful surprise!

"Peter was arrested, while Tom, the bastard who hurt Warren, was seriously injured and is still in the ICU. They picked me because I entered the forbidden forest to help with the search and rescue operations. Plus, I also saved Warren's life. Since I've made substantial contributions, the army recruited me!" Flora was jumping up and down with joy. She rushed to the cabinet and took out a hair clipper. "Hurry up! Sylvia, help me shave my hair!"

"Calm down, Flora! Why on earth do you want to shave your hair?" I quickly yanked the hair clipper out of Flora's hand for fear that she might hurt herself.

"Duh! As a pledge that I want to work hard, of course. Once I shave my hair, I'll be able to defeat all my enemies!" Flora touched her smooth, long hair. She hadn't had a haircut in months and her hair came down to her shoulders now. The neat bangs on her forehead framed her round eyes, making her look younger than she actually was.

I was at a loss, not knowing whether to burst into tears or laughter. "So, it was your hair that was holding you back all this time?"

I couldn't imagine what she'd look like without her hair. Warren would probably break down at the sight of her bald head.

"Just help me, will you? My hair will grow anyway." Flora lowered her head for me. It seemed that she had already made up her mind.

After hesitating for a while, I finally turned on the hair clipper and pointed it towards Flora's head.

Chapter 364 The Disappearing Race

Rufus' POV:

"Noreen?" Sylvia looked at me in confusion.

"She was the witch my father had an affair with. She later cursed my father and his offspring because her love turned into hatred," I explained to Sylvia, pulling a long face. "We didn't know until after we were cursed that Noreen was from the evil dark witch race."

The difference between dark witches and ordinary witches and wizards was that the former were born in darkness and were destined to go against the light. Their magic was evil and all the spells they practiced were fatally dangerous. They tended to hide among ordinary people and rarely ever exposed their identities. If it weren't for Blair's incident, I wouldn't have realized that the dark witches were actually closer to us than I've imagined.

"There are witches and wizards among the werewolves?" Sylvia narrowed her eyes, clearly unable to wrap her head around the situation. "But werewolves seldom talk about them."

"There are, but they're rare—especially the dark witches," I patiently spelled it out for her. "Witches and wizards in general are hostile to neither vampires nor werewolves. They are neutral and are on relatively good terms with both sides. In fact, they have cooperated with both sides before. But since vampires and werewolves signed the truce, their race has been keeping a lower profile. They only showed up occasionally."

About a hundred years ago, they had their own territory.

But later, a civil war broke out, and it lasted for nearly thirty years. As a result, their race gradually declined, until it collapsed completely.

After they lost their territory, the remaining witches and wizards scattered all over the place. Their whereabouts these days were mysterious, especially since they hid themselves among creatures from other races.

"So do they will also disguise themselves and live on werewolf territory?" Sylvia cocked her head to the side curiously.

"Yes. They usually develop all sorts of drugs and potions and sell them. The poison Kyle used on you was made by a witch. And the test stone used to gauge strength during the placement test was also developed by a witch. Also, all the products of a powerful witch or wizard will have their own unique scent."

"Just like a patent?"

Amused by Sylvia's analogy, I couldn't help but smile. "Yes, just like a patent—comparable to a logo."

Generally speaking, more basic potions were made by primary level witches and wizards, such as beauty products and the like. Whereas poisons were usually made by high level ones.

"Since we didn't find any toxins on Blair's wound, he must've been cursed. What if we go to the black market to find someone who can remove the curse?" As she spoke, Sylvia's eyes lit up with hope.

I shook my head sadly. "We can't. Although most poisons or curses made by ordinary witches and wizards can be undone, dark witches are different. They are a taboo race. The poisons they make and the curses they cast have unprecedented power. Only the witch who actually cast the spell can remove it."

That was why we had been searching for Noreen all these years. My curse could only be removed by her.

But years had passed and we still hadn't found a single trace of her. I had mentally prepared myself for the worst, in case Noreen might've died.

If she was in fact dead, my curse would never be removed.

"But then that means Blair won't..." Sylvia's eyes went as wide as saucers and her hands flew to cover her mouth.

I hurriedly comforted her. "Don't worry. At least now we know that Noreen's behind this. There's nothing we can do but wait and see for the time being."

"But..." Sylvia glanced at Blair worriedly. "I'm worried that Blair doesn't have much time..."

Chapter 365 The Dead Key Figure

Sylvia's POV:

Rufus' expression darkened. After a moment of silence, he murmured, "That's what I'm afraid of."

Moreover, according to what Rufus had been telling me, dark witches were unpredictable and the clues they left behind might not be part of their tricks.

"The spies we sent out found traces of Noreen in the border area. I've sent more men to join the search. There's really nothing we can do but wait. I'm hoping our efforts will be met with good news." Rufus let out a long sigh. "As for the black market, I'll ask witches who have been known to cooperate with the royal family if they can help."

"Yes, I suppose that's all we can do." I lowered my head, feeling a little powerless.

Just then, some doctors came in to conduct another round of exams on Blair, hoping that there'd be a medical miracle.

Rufus and I stood aside and watched as the doctors drew Blair's blood. Looking at Blair's lifeless face, both Rufus and I couldn't help but feel bad. After all, he was fine just a few days ago.

"Rufus, don't you think it's strange?" Staring at the wound on Blair's face, I had a gut feeling that something was off.

"What do you mean?"

"How could someone who disappeared years ago suddenly show up and left her traces? If Noreen is such a powerful dark witch, how could she make such a stupid mistake?" I turned to look at Rufus seriously. "Don't you think it's too big of a coincidence?"

Rufus frowned slightly and lowered his voice. "Truth be told, I've also found it a bit strange. But my priority is to save Blair, so I haven't been able to give it too much thought. Any clue, even if it might be a trap, should be investigated."

"It just doesn't feel right, Rufus," I said worriedly, squeezing Rufus's hand.

Noreen's sudden appearance was too out of the blue. Rufus and Ethan had been looking for her for years but couldn't find a single trace. Why would she show up and leave a clue at this moment? It was just too strange.

It must've been premeditated.

Rufus sighed once more. "I have a feeling that Mateo had something to do with Noreen. You know, taking about the drug that made me go mad previously."

"You mean Mateo knew Noreen ten years ago?" I asked, a little taken aback.

Over a decade ago, Mateo had used the same drug to make my mother crazy. But when he was confronted about it, Mateo didn't seem to have known about the existence of the hidden compartment in his room. If it was true that he had no idea, then how could he have kept the mechanism in the hidden compartment?

The only possibility was that the mechanism was not set up by Mateo himself, but...

As this thought crossed my mind, a chill ran down my spine.

"There probably was some connection between Mateo and Noreen, but it's too late now." Rufus pursed

his lips and shook his head angrily.

"I know..." I knew how he felt. I felt the same way—helpless and powerless.

Even though we now knew that Mateo had something to do with Noreen, it was useless, because Mateo had been executed just last night.

"Why did they have to kill Mateo so soon?" I closed my eyes and pressed my fingers against my aching temple. "If only they executed him just one day later."

Last night, when Rufus called me and told me about the execution, I'm not going to lie; I felt relieved. Little did I know that things would develop like this.

The dead Mateo had become a key figure.

God made fools out of us.

Rufus tucked my hair behind my ear and comforted me. "Don't be angry. These things are outside our control. I think my father had Mateo killed so quickly was because he wanted to protect Richard. Only by silencing Mateo forever could he rest easy. No one could've expected that Mateo's execution would make things even more difficult for us."

I sighed sadly. "I just hope that the doctors can give us some good news."

Speaking of which, the doctors had just finished conducting the examinations and were about to leave with the blood they had just drawn.

Rufus glanced at his watch and turned to leave to discuss countermeasures with the doctors.

"Wait a second," I said, grabbing Rufus' hand.

"What's the matter?" Rufus turned to look at me questioningly.

After hesitating for a bit, I looked at Rufus with fierce determination. "If my blood can soothe your curse, do you think it could also help Blair?"

Chapter 366 A Moment's Recovery

Rufus' POV:

Sylvia wanted to use her blood to remove the poison in Blair's body. I had already thought about it.

However, I was still hesitant. I had been worried about Sylvia ever since she awoken some kind of strange power and attracted the crows in the forbidden forest. I wanted know more about her power, but was also afraid the result would only confirm my worst guess.

"Isn't it a viable method?" The anxiety and hope were evident in her eyes.

"That is indeed viable." I looked into her eyes and asked, "But what if it doesn't work?"

"We can't confirm anything without giving it a try, can we?" Sylvia smiled at me and walked to Blair's bed. "If I don't try, I will never know the result, and..."

She paused and looked at me. "Blair is your only friend. I don't want you to be sad, Rufus."

My heart skipped a beat. "Okay, let's give it a try," I said, letting out a sigh.

Perhaps it was time to have all my doubts clarified.

Sylvia had a general check-up when she was in a coma when Kyle poisoned her. Her blood type was the same as Blair's, so the doctors didn't have to run a blood test.

I arranged for a doctor to draw 200cc of blood from Sylvia's body, and then transfused it to Blair's body. Later, I asked everyone to leave.

Sylvia and I were all alone in the ward.

Sylvia grabbed my hand nervously. "I hope it works."

I felt conflicted as I watched the blood flowing through the transfusion bag. On the one hand, I wanted it to work. But on the other hand, I didn't want my doubts to be confirmed.

If my guess turned out to be true, then Sylvia...

A ball of fear settled in the pit of my stomach when I looked at Sylvia's head.

Noticing that I was staring at her, she looked up at me and smiled. "Don't be nervous, Rufus. Blair will be fine."

This little fool had been comforting me when I was worried about her.

I smiled and stroked her cheek.

Time seemed to pass slowly -- every minute seemed like an hour. My nervousness eased only when the last drop of blood was transfused into Blair's body.

I was ready to accept the outcome regardless of what it was.

However, Blair was in a coma even after the blood transfusion. He didn't show any signs of waking up.

My heart sank. 'Was Sylvia's blood useless to Blair?'

"He moved! I saw Blair's finger move!" Sylvia squealed in excitement.

My heart leaped to my throat. Sure enough, Blair's eyes fluttered. He was slowly regaining consciousness.

"Blair, can you hear us?" Sylvia stared at him nervously.

Blair groaned as he moved his body. His eyes slowly fluttered open. His brows furrowed as he looked around in confusion.

"Blair, how do you feel?" I stood beside the bed and looked down at him.

"Rufus?" Blair was still in a daze. "I..." He winced in pain.

I could tell he was in pain. He groaned and fell asleep again.

"I'll call the doctors! I'll ask them to transfuse more blood." Sylvia frantically tried to leave the room and look for doctors.

I grabbed her hand and stopped her. "It's useless."

"Why? Maybe he will wake up if I give more blood," Sylvia retorted.

"Have you forgotten that your blood can only ease my madness, but not completely remove the curse? So it's the same for Blair as well," I explained.

"All right." Sylvia's shoulders slumped with dejection. "I thought my blood would work."

"It works. At least it has made him feel better." I massaged Sylvia's shoulders to comfort her. "Don't worry. We will find Noreen."

Sylvia looked at Blair and back at me. "But why is my blood working on both you and Blair?"

"Maybe you are God's sent gift; an invincible opponent of witches," I joked.

Sylvia chuckled and leaned against my chest.

I held her in my arms, but my heart was racing in my chest.

Just as I feared, Sylvia might have something to do with the dark witch race. The mere thought made my blood run cold.

Chapter 367 Mysteries

Sylvia's POV:

Afterwards, Rufus asked the doctors to run a general check-up on Blair.

There was no need for me to give Blair more blood, so there was no point in us staying here. Rufus and I left the ward together shortly after.

Rufus' men were stood guard outside Blair's ward. Other than the doctors, no one was allowed to enter Blair's ward without Rufus' permission.

These were the necessary precautions Rufus needed to take to protect his friend. After all, dark witches were good at disguising themselves and often resorted to trickery.

After we left the ward, Rufus and I headed to the lounge to deal with some governmental matters. A lot of work had piled up on his plate as of late. After Richard was caught, Rufus also needed to take charge of the military school. He was so busy these days that I wondered if he ever had the chance to rest.

Rufus didn't put down his pen until he had reviewed several urgent documents. Rubbing his temples tiredly, he said to his subordinate, "I'll deal with the rest later. Send these documents to the city hall first."

"Yes, sir." The subordinate took the documents and left in a hurry.

Rufus was like an integral part of a machine. Only when he worked could all the other parts function normally. It turned out that not only Rufus was busy, but everyone else around him was busy working alongside him.

I sat on a sofa in the lounge and waited quietly, not wanting to disturb his work.

A little while later, the leading doctor came in with a report.

"I'm afraid the result is the same as before." The doctor handed the report to Rufus. "The data shows that Mr. Joshua simply fell asleep. But according to the blood analysis, his red blood cells are much more active than before."

Rufus and I immediately exchanged glances.

It seemed that my blood had some effect at the very least.

"Is his life in danger if he just continues sleeping?" I asked worriedly.

The doctor pushed his glasses up the bridge of his nose and thought carefully before shaking his head. "For the time being, he's not in any fatal danger. There's nothing wrong with his physical condition."

The doctor's answer lifted a burden off of my shoulder. As long as Blair wasn't going to die any time soon, there was still a chance for us to save him.

Rufus nodded in satisfaction and dismissed the doctor.

When the doctor was gone, Rufus walked over to me and sat down. "I think we have enough time to look for Noreen."

I nodded seriously.

"So, Sylvia, that means you can go to the army and train first," Rufus said softly, tucking my hair behind my ears.

"What? But..." I shook my head hesitantly. "I need to be here for you. And Blair."

"Don't worry, Sylvia. I've already sent my men to watch over Blair. If anything happens, they'll report to me directly. I'll tell you if I receive any news." Rufus looked at me patiently. "Noreen is very powerful. If you can become stronger, we'll have a better chance at catching Noreen and saving Blair."

I gnawed my lower lip, caught between a rock and a hard place.

"Listen to me, Sylvia." Rufus stroked my cheek gently. "Don't you want to catch Noreen yourself?"

"Fine, fine. I'll go train in the army," I finally relented, albeit reluctantly. When faced with a powerful enemy, I needed to resort to violence to deal with them. And in order to keep winning, I needed to keep getting stronger.

"That's my girl." Rufus planted a kiss on my forehead tenderly before letting me go.

After escorting me back to the elevator, Rufus went straight to the doctors to discuss Blair's condition.

It suddenly occurred to me that Warren's ward was also in this building, so I pressed his floor's button in the elevator.

However, as soon as I reached the corridor leading to Warren's ward, I was stopped by four bodyguards in suits.

"No one is allowed to enter," they said gruffly. One of the men even had the audacity to shove me rudely.

But this didn't anger me. I was just confused. Were these men sent by Warren's father?

But before I could ask, the door to Warren's ward was opened.

A well-dressed noble lady walked out. It was Alina herself.

Chapter 368 Confrontation

Sylvia's POV:

Alina strode out of Warren's ward elegantly. She was wearing a beautiful hat, with a silk scarf wrapped around her neck delicately. There wasn't a single wrinkle on her expensive-looking clothes. She looked like a doll that just came out of its box.

As she walked towards me, I caught a whiff of her sweet perfume.

This was the first time we had run into each other alone.

Mixed feelings stirring within me, I looked away from her to avoid conflict.

But Alina was hell-bent on making my life hard. She sneered with disdain, demanding, "Why are you here?"

"I should be asking you the same question." I locked eyes with her fiercely, not wanting to be outdone.

Alina simply crossed her arms over her chest and smiled as though she had heard a funny joke. "Quit messing around. Warren's my man. Why else would I be here?"

I frowned and corrected her without hesitation. "He's a man from your pack, you mean."

After Warren and Flora got together, he made it clear that he had nothing to do with Alina.

Even though he used to be the princess's personal knight, so what? Warren now had someone else he truly cared about.

Alina's smile stiffened. Her face contorted, and she opened her mouth to retort.

But I didn't have the patience to argue with her, so I cut her short. "Is Warren awake? I want to see him."

"He's awake but he doesn't want to see you." Alina looked at me defiantly. She deliberately blocked the door to Warren's ward so that I couldn't see what was going on inside.

"I don't believe you," I said through gritted teeth.

Without hesitation, I pushed Alina out of my way and intended to walk straight into Warren's ward.

But the four bodyguards immediately sprang into action and surrounded me.

"Get out of my way!" They didn't faze me. I raised my leg and kicked a bodyguard in the chest, sending him flying backward.

The three other bodyguards all rushed over and tried to attack me simultaneously.

"Stop!" Alina shouted, and the bodyguards immediately stopped in their tracks.

I patted the dust off my clothes nonchalantly and didn't say anything.

Alina looked behind her at the ward, as though she was worried that Warren would hear her. Then she closed the door and walked to me.

"Are you really so shameless? Aren't you content with Rufus? Why do you have to pester Warren?" Alina lowered her voice to a growl.

I sneered. She was absolutely ridiculous! "I'm just here to see Warren as a friend. Alina, what exactly are you afraid of? That I'll take Warren away from you? I'm afraid you've pushed him away yourself."

Warren was Flora's boyfriend now. It was too late for Alina to turn around and run into his arms.

"What the hell do you mean?" Alina glared at me fiercely, her face turning purple from anger.

"You went back to Warren because you're out of options, right? Rufus announced his mate bond with me and Richard's out of the picture." I sneered coldly. "Warren isn't a dog who's always at your beck and call. Just give up, Alina."

"Why, you—!" Alina's face contorted in a mix of emotions. She seemed to be pissed off by my words, but at the same time embarrassed. "Even though you're no longer a slave, so what? You're still beneath me."

"You can believe whatever you want to believe, Alina." I didn't want to waste my breath on her anymore, so I walked past her and headed towards the ward.

"Get her out of here!" Alina was enraged and she pointed a trembling finger at me. How pitiful.

I wasn't in the mood to waste my time with her. If she insisted on getting in my way, I refused to be polite to her anymore.

Just as she reached out to yank my hair, a majestic voice suddenly sounded.

"What the hell are you doing?"

Alina's body instantly went stiff and she let go of my hair.

The bodyguards who were holding me down suddenly scattered like mice.

Rubbing the painful spot on my scalp, I turned around to look at the new comer. It was Leonard and Owen. They were standing nearby, looking at us with dark expressions.

Leonard closed his eyes and took a deep breath. Pulling a long face, he asked unhappily, "Alina, what were you doing just now?"

Chapter 369 The Unfriendly Alpha

Sylvia's POV:

Alina, who had been acting like a spoiled brat just now, suddenly fell quiet and lowered her head.

"I'm talking to you, Alina." Leonard spoke through gritted teeth. He seemed to be unable to swallow his anger.

I almost couldn't help but snicker. After all, they both had seen Alina yanking at my hair. It was completely outside a noble lady's character to wrestle with someone unscrupulously, regardless of her opponent's status.

But on second thought, I realized that I was the one who had the upper hand just now, even though Alina managed to pull my hair in the end.

Thinking about this scandalous matter, I couldn't help but feel a little anxious. Although Leonard was Alina's father, he was once the strongest werewolf of all and was known as the legendary god of war.

I thought very highly of him and even worshiped him.

I was racking my brains, trying to think of a way to greet him since this was the first time we had formally met.

Alina, who was standing quietly, finally opened her mouth. "Father, I... I didn't..."

"You didn't what exactly?" Leonard growled, his eyes darting between me and Alina.

I felt my heart leap to my throat. Oh, my God! Did I just give him a bad first impression?

I wanted to say something, but Alina spoke first.

"It was all her fault!" she suddenly shouted.

I raised my eyebrows and turned to look at her in disbelief.

Alina stole a glance at me and blushed from being flustered. "Prince Rufus already made his relationship with her public, yet she still came here to pester Warren! And she tried to break in by force just now. My four bodyguards and I couldn't stop her."

I shrugged helplessly, "I already told you that I'm not here to 'pester' Warren. We're just friends, Plus—"

I paused mid-sentence. I was going to say that Warren already had a girlfriend, but I realized in time that they didn't seem to know about his new relationship yet.

So I'd better let Warren tell them himself.

"Plus what, hmm?" Alina sneered, as though she had caught me in a lie. "You can't defend yourself, can you? The guilt's written all over your face."

I resisted the urge to roll my eyes and just ignored her.

Leonard frowned and squinted at me for a while before asking, "You're that slave, right? What's your name again?"

A bit embarrassed, Leonard turned to look at Owen for help.

I couldn't help but frown unhappily. His first sentence to me made my high impression of him decline fast.

I didn't say anything, waiting for him to remember my name himself.

Owen, who was standing next to Leonard, cleared his throat and whispered helpfully, "Sylvia Todd. And she's no longer a slave."

Leonard turned to look at me again. "It's Sylvia Todd, right?"

"Yes," I still replied to him out of sheer politeness, but if I had it my way, I'd have walked away from this conversation the second he called me a slave.

Although Leonard didn't explicitly say so, his attitude obviously told me that he didn't like me one bit.

I figured that Ethan's arrangement must've made things difficult for him.

I suddenly closed my eyes, regretting agreeing to let Leonard train me.

Wasn't I just begging to be insulted?

"Shouldn't you be in the army already?" Leonard asked again, narrowing his eyes at me.

"My entry into the army was delayed a day because I have something important to deal with first." I lowered my head and couldn't look him in the eye.

Leonard snorted and asked in a dissatisfied tone, "Is coming here your so-called 'something important'?"

"Yes, Father! Actually, Sylvia's been bothering me here for a long time already. She'd better go to the army," Alina sneered.

I took a deep breath to calm down. Looking at Leonard indignantly, I said word for word, "I'm not here for Warren."

"Then don't try to look for excuses. What's so important that you needed to delay entering the army? Do you think that just because you topped the selection competition you can act arrogantly now? You're so ignorant. I wonder what the hell Ethan was thinking," Leonard snorted, his tone dripping with disappointment. "It seems that this year's new recruits are just so-so. You all think you've made such a huge contribution that you let it get to your head."

Chapter 370 Scolded

Sylvia's POV:

Leonard trained his people very seriously, and he didn't allow anyone to talk back. I knew that if I retorted, he would only say that I was trying to make excuses.

Owen was expressionless the whole time. He looked at me from time to time as if he wanted to communicate with me through eye contact.

I also looked at him with an expressionless face. Then I calmly looked away.

I knew he wanted me to restrain myself.

Leonard's words were strident, and he spoke in a voice dripping with sarcasm. But I couldn't find faults in everything he said.

So I stood silently in front of him, and my thoughts drifted away unconsciously.

He kept on talking as if he didn't plan to stop. Owen had to comfort him from time to time.

"Don't be angry. Mind your health. You have to be careful of your body," Owen reminded him.

Leonard snorted heavily and didn't listen to Owen's advice. He continued criticizing me for not reporting to the army on time.

"Why don't you say anything? Have you lost your tongue?"

I raised my eyes and pursed my lips. "What do you want me to say?"

What else could I say? He had already said so much. I could only feel depressed and aggrieved.

"Who allowed you to disregard the military discipline? What? You can just go there whenever you want? If you want to postpone, you will just do it at will?" Leonard had a stern look on his face. He was as fierce as a raging thunder in the sky.

I didn't say anything and just curled my lips.

Originally, I wanted to explain. But he obviously didn't want to listen at all, so it was useless.

Regardless of my reason for not reporting to the army on time, I was still wrong because I disregarded the discipline.

And now, I was almost nailed to the pillar of shame.

"Even if you don't tell me the reason, I know it," Leonard sneered disapprovingly. "It's the preferential treatment that Prince Rufus is giving you, right?"

I reminded myself to hold back. Since he was my future teacher, I couldn't lose my temper with him.

I was tense. I lowered my head and stared at the floor, admonishing myself over and over again not to lose control of my emotions.

But thinking that Leonard would train me, I couldn't help but break down.

"Head up and look at me! You don't have the military demeanor at all. Going out as a soldier, you represent the image of the empire. How can you look so dejected?"

Being scolded like this, I immediately raised my head.

Leonard's frown deepened even more. He was definitely dissatisfied with me. "Don't think that you can already relax because Prince Rufus is backing you up. The army is not a place for you to enjoy your relationship. If your mind has nothing but only romance, you'd better leave the army and marry Prince Rufus as soon as possible."

This time, Owen coughed to clear his throat and said, "That's enough. She should know she is wrong."

"No. I'm not done yet. I have to tell her everything I want to say. I can't just let this kind of evil thoughts pollute the army," Leonard said firmly. Then he continued, "The battlefield is not a place for jokes. A she-wolf like you is not suitable to be in the army at all. You'd better go home, get married, and have children."

It turned out that he only regarded she-wolves as mothers and housewives who didn't have the right to serve their country as brave soldiers. How masculist he was!

Leonard's every word was definitely testing my bottom line. I clenched my fists and was about to lose my temper. But I reminded myself again and plastered a smile on my face.

However, I saw out of the corner of my eye that Alina secretly sneered at me. I almost exploded with rage.

I took a deep breath, forcing myself to calm down.

'Hold back, Sylvia. Remember the virtue that the empire advocates. Respect the old and love the young. Control your temper,' I reminded myself inwardly to restrain my anger.

But Leonard continued, "She-wolves should always act like she-wolves. But look at yourself..."

"I'm sorry, but I have to go now. I still have something else to do," I finally interrupted Leonard as I couldn't stand it anymore.

After saying this, I turned around and left, ignoring his reaction. I was no longer in the mood to visit Warren. All I wanted to do was get out of this suffocating place as soon as possible.

The moment I left the hospital, I felt alive again. But my heart was still full of grievances and resentments, so I called Rufus.

My call was quickly connected. And as soon as I heard his voice, I burst into tears.

"Rufus, I don't want to train with Leonard anymore. Whoever interested to be his student can just take my place. I really don't want him to be my teacher."