Irresistible 541

Chapter 541 Reinforcements Arrive

Geoffrey's POV:

Things were getting out of control.

The first she-wolf who rushed out to attack the vampire was wearing a beautiful dress. It was obvious that she came from inside the wall.

Tears rolled down her cheeks uncontrollably as she stabbed the blonde vampire's stomach with the spear again and again.

"Give my mate back to me!" she shrieked.

It seemed that the male werewolf the blonde vampire had killed just now was her mate. No wonder she acted so desperately.

I wanted to stop her. But this she-wolf's behavior was the straw that broke the camel's back. The public no longer sat still and waited for death.

More and more werewolves rushed towards the blonde vampire, one after another.

They pulled her hair, pinched her face and attacked her in all kinds of ways to vent their anger.

This was undoubtedly the biggest provocation to the vampires, so the vampires were enraged.

Without idling another second, they rushed up to save their friend.

But Rufus and his companions stopped them.

Although vampires weren't easy to kill, they could not bear such torture. The blonde vampire screamed and cursed in the beginning, but later, her voice was drowned out completely. In the end, her breath seemed to come to a stop.

I trembled as I watched this chaotic scene unfold before me. I quickly pulled a soldier by my side and hissed, "Hurry! Arrest all these rebellious citizens already!"

The soldier's body was shaking like a leaf. He looked so scared, as though he didn't hear a word I said.

Irritated, I shoved him away and shouted at the other soldiers, "Arrest all the rebels! No, kill them! Kill them all!"

To my horror, no one took action.

"Didn't you hear me? I said kill them!" My eyes widened and I roared, "Are you rebelling against me?"

Gradually, the soldiers began to move, but to my surprise, they threw away their weapons.

"How dare you?! If you want to die, let me grant you your wish!" Anger made me lose my mind. I picked up a weapon on the ground and stabbed the nearest soldier.

Hot blood splattered in all directions. The man was killed on the spot without even a chance to cry for help.

I wiped the blood that had splattered on my face and looked fiercely at the other soldiers. "Now, who still dares to disobey me?"

The soldiers all silently lowered their heads.

Suddenly, an angry voice came from one of them.

"Why should we sacrifice our compatriots to the vampires? We're not their slaves!"

It was the head of my guards who spoke. His face was full of anger and his strong questioning voice struck a chord with his men.

"How dare you, the Alpha of our pack, treat us as though we're disposable? You don't deserve our respect."

Then he picked up a weapon from the ground and pointed it at me.

"We will never become slaves to vampires. We will kill all our enemies or die trying!"

"He's right! Either kill all our enemies or die trying!"

Gradually, more and more soldiers joined the rebellion. Their voices grew louder and louder. Everyone held their arms high in the air and shouted, pointing their weapons at the vampires.

A full-on battle was about to break out. All the members of the werewolf race swarmed forward and fought tooth and nail against the vampires. They didn't flinch even if they were injured and bleeding.

I looked at all this in panic. Was this the end? Would all my efforts be in vain?

I was getting more and more uneasy, so I could only watch from the sidelines and hope that the vampires could subdue these disobedient rebels.

But the vampires didn't seem to have expected this outcome either. There were not many of them in

the first place, and after a few of them were killed by werewolves, they began to look uncertain.

They didn't dare to get any closer to the city gate. They could only say harsh words to me as they retreated.

"You'd better be ready to explain this to the duke, Geoffrey, or else we won't let you go. Someone must pay for Alison's death."

Alison was the blonde vampire who had died just now. Although she died a miserable death, I had to admit I felt extremely happy seeing her die.

But now I was not in the mood to respond to them. What I was more worried about was that Rufus would make a big fuss about it and break down the wall. If the wall was gone, I would be doomed.

Just then, the ground began to shake faintly, as though an army was headed this way.

I could smell the scent of werewolves approaching.

My hope was rekindled. I looked at Rufus and his companions with a wide grin. "A-ha! My reinforcements are here. I will arrest you all."

But when the reinforcements arrived at the city gate, what I saw was not the familiar faces I was expecting, but the legendary god of war, Leonard Quinn himself!

<u>Chapter 542 The Conflict Between The Two Races</u>

Rufus' POV:

I wasn't expecting Leonard to show up with reinforcements.

But when I saw the excitement on Sylvia's face, I pieced two and two together.

Sylvia noticed my meaningful gaze and winked at me playfully, as if she knew what I was thinking.

I smiled and nodded to show that I understood her signal.

Now, Leonard had blocked the vampires' way out of here, and werewolf troops guarded the perimeter of the wall.

Realizing that the situation was clearly unfavorable, Geoffrey turned around to escape in secret, but it was Leonard himself who stopped him.

"Where do you think you're going?"

Leonard yanked Geoffrey back and threw him to the clearing. Geoffrey's face turned pale and his voice trembled. "How... What are you doing here?"

Leonard laughed wildly. "Were you expecting someone else? Reinforcements from the Fixed Star Pack and the Wapiti Pack perhaps? I'm sorry to say they were trapped three kilometers away from here and are unable to protect even themselves."

Hearing this, Geoffrey's knees buckled and he fell to the ground. "How could this be..."

Leonard snorted and didn't waste time with him anymore. He strode over to me and asked, "Prince Rufus, what do you want me to do with these vampires?"

I glanced at the cornered vampires coldly. "What do you think?"

Although I had made a decision, I still wanted to hear Leonard's opinion.

After mulling it over for a while, Leonard strode over to the vampires and held up a thin, sickly vampire by his collar. With a disgusted expression on his face, Leonard asked, "Why do you look so weak?"

The thin, sickly vampire feebly tried to defend himself. "I... I'm not full..."

Leonard chuckled. "Werewolf prisons have good food. I'm sure you'll be satisfied there."

All the vampires shivered in fear. A male vampire with hair that reached his waist stepped forward and said, "Only one of us died here. The situation isn't irredeemable. When we go back to our clan, we'll just say that it was an accident."

The other vampires chimed in enthusiastically. "We swear we won't tell anyone. Duke Hobson will never find out the truth."

"The dead vampire wasn't very important anyway. Her death isn't enough to start a war between the two races."

"Just let us go. We'll forget what happened today and continue to live in peace."

Leonard didn't say anything and turned to look at me, awaiting my instructions.

"Arrest them," I said firmly.

Vampires were good liars. I couldn't just let them go back to their territory.

And now, there wasn't just the problem with the border. Because of the existence of the wall, the conflict between the two races that had accumulated for a long time was about to implode.

I didn't want to see any more of these dirty deals and means for even a second.

With a smile, Leonard stretched out his arm and shouted at his men, "Arrest these vampires!"

The well-trained soldiers promptly sprang into action.

For a moment, light and darkness collided. The vampires all used their special powers, trying their best to resist imprisonment. But in the end, they were outnumbered and were soon subdued.

"Be careful of that vampire in a dark blue suit. His special power is very destructive. I encountered him outside the wall last time," Sylvia said in a low voice.

I followed her gaze and saw that the vampire's hand held a ball of blue flames and a flash of blue lightning.

I shouted urgently, "Everybody, scatter!"

Chapter 543 The God Of War

Sylvia's POV:

Rufus and I wanted to stop him, but we were too late.

The ball of flames in the vampire's hand was about to explode any second now.

Just then, a giant white wolf with red flames under its feet showed up and leaped forward. It opened its jaw wide and bit down on the vampire's neck, smashing him into the ground in the blink of an eye.

The vampire struggled hard and tried to use his special power, but Leonard quickly turned into his human form and stepped on his hand hard.

With a gut-wrenching crack, the vampire's bones shattered into pieces.

The vampire screamed then fainted from the pain, without even a chance to beg for mercy.

There was a split second of silence before violent cheers erupted.

I was so excited that I threw my arms around Rufus, who was standing beside me.

Even he seemed infected by everyone's excitement. He broke into a bright smile, which was an incredibly rare sight.

"Oh, my God! This is the strength of the god of war! I hereby declare that Leonard is my new idol from now on." Harry's eyes lit up and he clapped his hands excitedly.

Without thinking, he hugged John excitedly.

John, who was much shorter than him, was lifted off the ground. His expression immediately darkened and he gave Harry a good beating.

I couldn't help but smile and shake my head. It felt as though a huge weight had been lifted off my shoulders.

After the vampires were arrested, Rufus ordered the soldiers to clean up the battlefield. Geoffrey's men didn't resist at all. They obediently dropped their weapons and surrendered.

They looked very calm, as though they had already accepted their fate.

Just then, one of Geoffrey's men shouted, "Alpha Geoffrey has escaped!"

I whirled around. It turned out that Geoffrey had made his escape in the heat of the excitement.

Regardless of anything, I transformed into a white wolf and rushed in the direction the man had pointed.

When Geoffrey heard the commotion behind him, he turned around in panic and saw me galloping towards him. Then he also transformed into a wolf and sped up.

Living a comfortable life had taken its toll on Geoffrey. For the longest time, he had no need to use his wolf form, so its nerves were out of practice.

His wolf form only lasted about a dozen seconds before he was forced to turn back into a human. He slowed down, out of breath and exhausted, and could do nothing but wait until I caught up with him.

"Even your wolf has betrayed you. You're such a loser, Geoffrey."

Panting, Geoffrey looked at me wordlessly, as though he was at my disposal.

I didn't say anything more. I took out handcuffs and was about to cuff him when Geoffrey suddenly took out a dagger from behind him and jabbed it at me.

I acted swiftly and dodged the blade in time. Simultaneously, I kicked his belly, knocking the dagger out of his hand.

Geoffrey doubled over from the pain. Wincing, he looked at me defiantly and said, "Do you think you've won? Don't be so naive. You've just scratched the surface of the mountain of sins the royal family has committed. There is no such things as fairness and justice! There will never be! Sooner or later, you'll be assimilated into their sins."

I didn't want to listen to his nonsense anymore, so I tied him up and threw him in front of Rufus and Leonard.

"He's at your disposal."

Leonard smiled at me. "Well done. You acted fast. It seems you haven't forgotten what I taught you."

I knew he was talking about Geoffrey's sneak attack just now.

I smiled back at him brightly. "For a student of the god of war, such reflexes are necessary."

Rufus couldn't help but laugh and touched my head dotingly.

Whilst we chatted, the soldiers Leonard brought quickly controlled the situation.

All the citizens present, both from inside and outside the wall, looked at Rufus with uneasiness and fear, as though they were awaiting trial.

Standing in front of them, Rufus kept silent for a long time. Finally, he declared, "I'm going to demolish this wall. Today."

Chapter 544 The Wall's Collapse

Rufus' POV:

Everyone fell silent, surprised by my words.

I pursed my lips and continued, "But because this wall was built by the ancestors of all the citizens here, I hope I can get your permission first."

Nobody dared speak. They all looked at me warily.

The sudden riot just now stained their faces with blood.

Even the well-dressed werewolves from inside the wall were not as clean as they were at the beginning. They stood among the werewolves outside the wall awkwardly, their clothes also stained with blood.

It was Geoffrey who had given them the opportunity to don such gorgeous clothes. He had created a sweet dream for them.

But no matter how wonderful their lives were, they had to wake up one day.

Today, I was determined to burst the aloof bubbles in their hearts.

And this wall was the beginning—and also the end—of everything.

"Will the vampires come to take revenge?" It was a boy who spoke. He was in rags, standing barefoot. Despite his dirty face, his eyes shone brightly with hope and humility.

"I also want to destroy the wall, but I'm really scared. I don't want to see anyone else die..." The boy couldn't help but sob. "Everyone in my family were killed by vampires. I'm the only one left. I'm really scared..."

His crying pained my heart.

It was a kind of desperate sadness from someone who had been through immense suffering.

I took a deep breath and bowed to the crowd.

Everyone was startled and quickly bowed lower, not daring to accept my humble salute.

"Consider this the royal family's apology to you. I'm sorry that we didn't protect you in the first place and left you alone to face the vampires. I know this wall has protected you from the vampires, but from now on, the royal family will protect you. Please trust us one more time." I squeezed my eyes shut and spoke from the bottom of my heart.

When I opened my eyes, I saw that everyone had raised their heads and looked at each other uncertainly, as if they couldn't believe what they had heard.

"I know you don't trust the royal family anymore, but I'll try to make it up to you. I will dispatch troops to stay here at all times to protect you. I swear on my life that this place will never been given up again. I'm not asking for your forgiveness. I only hope to prove what I said today with my future actions." My eyes swept across the crowd calmly. "From now on, you will only live in peace. There will be no more unnecessary killing from now on."

The atmosphere grew heavy, and people broke into sobs.

Just then, an old man with a staff hobbled forward and said, "Tear it down! This wall has brought too much suffering. That terrible era is now over. Look at the werewolves from outside the wall. They're not slaves of vampires. They are our compatriots."

The old man's words struck a chord with the people. Everyone burst into tears and hugged each other without scruples.

"Yes! Tear it down! This wall of sin should never have existed!" It was a male wolf in a suit who spoke. He rushed to the wall with his fists clenched and shouted, "Tear it down! We all deserve freedom!"

Everyone cheered and rushed to the wall behind him.

The dawn of victory was finally here.

In that moment, the walls in their hearts also collapsed.

The era of Geoffrey's autocratic rule was over.

Things moved smoothly. I didn't delay and immediately sent a contractor to carry out the demolition of the wall.

The public didn't want to leave. They stood at a safe distance and watched as the huge wall, which had witnessed many tragic stories, finally collapsed with a loud bang.

Chapter 545 Reconstruction

Sylvia's POV:

The huge wall took three days to finally come down. From that moment on, there would be no more distinction between the inside and outside of the wall.

Soon, the army also began to engage in the reconstruction work.

Together, Flora and Warren were assigned to clear the debris of the wall.

Meanwhile, Rufus and I decided to visit and comfort the bereaved families of those who were tragically killed in the riot.

Many of the dilapidated buildings outside the wall had also been demolished in order to be rebuilt. Because of this, the amount of labor and resources needed was huge.

Everyone who was able was enlisted to contribute to the complicated work.

The homeless werewolves that used to live in the sewers and on the streets were taken to a temporary shelter. Once the new buildings were constructed, they would be allocated housing.

Food and accommodation were the easier problems to solve. The most pressing one was health.

It didn't come as much of a surprise, but the werewolves from outside the wall were suffering from long-term malnourishment along with other diseases.

Even without the threat of vampire attacks, these werewolves wouldn't have lived much longer anyway.

It was a good thing that Rufus thought of importing a big group of doctors and nurses from the imperial capital and stationing them in the pack's largest hospital.

One day, Rufus and I were doing work as usual outside the wall. We normally didn't return until the evening.

When we passed by the orphanage, I suddenly remembered Alva and asked to go and take a look.

While most of the children were able to reunite with their family, this didn't mean that the orphanage was now empty. Unfortunately, there were still many children who had permanently lost their families in the riot. They still needed to be taken care of. At the same time, many kind-hearted adults, who had lost their own children, came to take care of those left behind as well.

The once-closed gate of the orphanage was now wide open. The dense branches that used to hide it from the world were trimmed so that passers-by could see a little bit inside.

Poking out of the wall, roses with raindrops on their petals swayed in the wind. I picked one and put it in the chest pocket of Rufus' suit, winking at him playfully. "A handsome flower for a handsome man."

Rufus swiftly pulled me into his arms and tilted the umbrella towards me so that raindrops wouldn't fall on me. "Come here. You've got yourself wet."

I leaned against his shoulder, closing my eyes and sighing. "I feel good, Rufus. Things are finally starting to settle."

Rufus lowered his head to kiss my forehead. "I know. When we get back to the imperial capital, I promise you a long and well-deserved holiday."

I wrinkled my nose disapprovingly. "No, thanks. I don't want such a special treatment."

Rufus chuckled while stroking my hair as we continued to walk. "Well, just don't hesitate to tell me anytime when you are tired."

"Oh, I'll tell you for sure. Only a silly girl wouldn't use her boyfriend for perks." I clutched his arm closer and closed my eyes again.

"Well, since you are acknowledging that I am your boyfriend, don't call me Rufus anymore. Call me darling," Rufus said affectionately.

"1..."

I choked on my words, my face turning bright red. The past days, he had been so insistent on being called darling.

Recently, it seemed that he had also learned a new trick. He used to be such a serious man, but now he liked to act like a spoiled child around me. Sometimes, he would deliberately show me his ears just so I could touch them.

Honestly, I couldn't resist such a temptation either.

I peeked up at him, contemplating whether or not I would grant his wish today.

"Ah, forget it. I'll ask again when we get back." Fortunately, Rufus let me go for now. He then leaned down and whispered in my ear, "But when we get back, I'm going to make you call me darling one hundred times."

Shivers crept down my back and I sheepishly ran off into the orphanage without looking back.

"Let's just talk about it when we return. First, we need to find her."

I needed to ask Flora for help tonight. I couldn't allow Rufus to take me away with all kinds of excuses again.

Chapter 546 The Innocent Alva

Sylvia's POV:

As expected, Rufus and I found Alva in the abandoned children's park with Felix. Together, they were eating Alva's favorite tiramisu cake at the stone table.

As soon as Alva heard my voice from afar, she instantly put down her fork and hopped off the bench, making her way to me.

"I'm here, Alva!" I smiled. I crouched down and caught her in my arms.

Alva nestled her face into my neck and placed her little hands on my arms. "Young lady, you finally came to visit me!"

I playfully bounced her up and down. "Of course. Have you been eating well, Alva?"

"Yes, I have! For two days, I've been eating pizza! My favorite!" Alva nodded enthusiastically, her lips still reddish pink from the coldness of the cream.

I brought out my handkerchief and wiped her mouth. I then scooped her up and walked back to the stone table.

Felix was standing there nervously. He didn't seem to know what to do with his hands and feet. His eyes, which looked very similar to Alva's, flickered with helplessness.

"What are you doing over there? You're stiff as a piece of wood." I playfully ruffled Felix's hair and smiled.

As Alva wrapped her arms around my neck, she waved her hand at Felix. "Felix, why are you so quiet? Come here!"

Felix turned red and he avoided any eye contact. He didn't want to look at me. After a long period of silence, he finally opened his mouth.

"Thank you. For the other day."

I shook my head. "Don't mention it. It's all over now. What's important is how we move forward."

"Okay..." Felix awkwardly agreed and fiddled with his fingers.

Rufus checked his watch and suddenly remembered something. He turned to Felix. "By the way, do you know where I can find the director or whoever in charge of the orphanage? Can you take me to them?"

"Yes, I know where he is. He's usually in the teaching building. I can take you to him, Prince Rufus." Felix stood up straight and quickly offered to help Rufus.

Rufus gently kissed my forehead. "I need to have a talk with the director regarding an expansion of the orphanage. Just wait for me here."

I nodded. "Go ahead."

Rufus smoothed my hair before leaving with Felix.

I took Alva to sit with me at the stone table so that she could finish her tiramisu cake.

Alva loved eating it so much that her head and legs never stopped bouncing.

While feeding her, I told her some interesting stories of things that happened.

"I will always be happy as long as I'm with my brother," Alva said with her mouth full of cream.

"From now on, you will always be with your brother," I replied.

Finally, peace was restored on the border. Hopefully, things would return to normal in the near future. Children like Alva and Felix would never have to be separated from their families ever again.

"Oh!" Alva fished out a strawberry hair band from her pocket and handed it to me. "Young lady, could you help me tie my hair?"

I gladly took her hair band and fixed her hair. "By the way, Alva, what made you decide to escape with all the other children that day? How did you even do it?"

Alva's answer surprised me. "It was all because the orphanage's puppy went missing. We had to find it as soon as possible."

"You snuck out because of a missing puppy?" I was confused.

Alva hesitated for a bit, her legs swaying. "Well, not exactly. We were actually playing a game."

I didn't bother asking any more questions, but the strange feeling in my heart grew stronger.

Suddenly, Alva took out a mobile phone and gave it to me as well. "You left this behind last time."

Surprised, I took my phone back. I didn't notice I had left it at Alva's place.

As I looked at Alva's innocent little face, the strange feeling came back again.

I looked back at the recent happenings and came up with a bold guess.

Had Alva known about Felix's situation and things beyond the wall all along?

Chapter 547 An Unknown Number

Sylvia's POV:

When I was about to ask her more questions, Felix came back. I had to stop talking with Alva.

"Prince Rufus asked for you to go there. He's waiting for you downstairs at the building next to the gate," Felix reported to me.

"Got it." I nodded and gathered the rubbish on the table to take them away.

Suddenly, Alva tugged at the hem of my clothes and raised her head. Her big eyes were... dull.

I felt a little sorry for her. I squatted down and touched her cheek gently. Perhaps I was overthinking just now. Alva was still so young. How could she know that?

"I'll come see you as soon as I have the time," I told her softly.

This made Alva smiled brightly. "Yay! Don't forget me, okay? I'll wait for you."

"Okay."

After waving goodbye to the two siblings, I went to find Rufus. When I arrived at the gate, I found the director of the orphanage was also standing there with Rufus. We chatted with him for a while before parting.

On our way back, I tinkered with my phone.

Seeing this, Rufus gave me a confused look and asked, "Where'd you find your phone?"

"I left it at Alva's place," I murmured. The phone had run out of battery and wouldn't turn on.

"Charge it in the car," Rufus suggested.

The car and its driver were already waiting for us.

I charged my phone as soon as we got in the car and waited anxiously for it to turn on.

In addition to the missed calls and messages from Rufus and Flora, there was a three minutes' call log from a strange number from a day ago.

I tried calling back but was met with an error dial tone.

Surprised, I tried checking more information on the phone number, but nothing came up.

"What's the matter?" Rufus asked, glancing at my phone.

"Look at this number. It was working just yesterday, but now it's just an empty number." I passed the phone to him and told him about Alva.

"Something feels off, but I don't know what exactly..."

"I'll have someone check on this number." Rufus briskly forwarded the strange number to his men and asked them to check it.

I sighed and leaned against the backrest. "Things are over, but I can't shake off the feeling that something's wrong."

Initially, I thought that I was just overthinking things, but this strange phone call made me feel that Alva definitely wasn't as innocent as she seemed. Perhaps she knew everything about the world outside the wall, including Felix's situation.

"I got the same feeling. A lot of things just don't add up. After all, we have yet to interrogate Geoffrey. As for Alva's matter, she is just a child. Don't think too much." Rufus sat beside me and gently pinched my cheek dotingly.

I caught his hand and rubbed his palm against my cheek. I couldn't help but feel a little depressed. "I hope that we'll all make it out of here safe and sound. If I didn't go out alone that day, Layla wouldn't be missing now."

Rufus sighed, lowered his head, and kissed my eyelids. "Everything will be fine, Sylvia. Don't worry. I'm here now. Warren's already interrogating those captured vampires. I doubt it'll be long before they tell us where Layla is."

"I hope there'll be good news soon." I lowered my head and interlaced my fingers in his, feeling a little restless.

Layla had been gone for too long. I was really worried that something bad might have happened to her.

"Well, what if we interrogated Geoffrey first? Maybe we'll get useful information out of him." Rufus rubbed my forehead to comfort me.

I nodded obediently and looked up into his eyes. "Okay."

Chapter 548 A Private Interrogation

Sylvia's POV:

Geoffrey was imprisoned in a dungeon.

It had to be said that Geoffrey was a man who enjoyed luxuries. Even his dungeon was elegantly decorated. If it weren't for the dim lighting, I would've thought that we were in a palace.

"Did Geoffrey foresee that he'd be imprisoned here one day?" Yana whined in a low voice.

Hearing this, I couldn't help but chuckle out loud.

Rufus, who was walking beside me, looked at me questioningly. "What's the matter?"

"Nothing. Let's go. Geoffrey's probably dying to see us." I pushed Rufus, urging him to go inside.

Rufus chuckled. "I think the opposite is true."

And he was right.

The second Rufus and I stepped foot inside the cell, Geoffrey immediately dove under the covers. He didn't ask any questions, nor did he look like he wanted to listen to anything we had to say.

Geoffrey stayed in a single, fully-furnished cell. It was just like a little hotel room. Rufus didn't torture him either.

After all, Geoffrey was still the Alpha, albeit just in name. Before he was dismissed officially, there was nothing we could do to him for the time being.

"What're you doing here? I told you everything I needed to say. You've demolished the wall. You've succeeded. Why come here?" Finally, Geoffrey's voice broke the silence. He sounded neither reconciled nor wronged.

Rufus and I exchanged glances and didn't know what to say.

Perhaps it was because we didn't say anything that Geoffrey couldn't stand it anymore and sat up in the bed, pulling the quilt off of his head. He was wearing a shabby white shirt. Stubble littered his cheeks and chin, and his eyes were bloodshot. In a word, he looked very disheveled.

"Tell me, what is it you want from me now?" Geoffrey swung his legs over the edge of the bed and lit a cigarette. In a matter of mere days, he had become much thinner and desolate-looking. His usually upright back had become hunched.

"Noreen. You haven't told us where she is. What's your relationship with her? Why did she help you?" Rufus asked.

Geoffrey fell silent and took a long drag from his cigarette. After a long while, he opened his mouth.

"I met Noreen ten years ago. That was one year before the werewolf race and the vampire race signed the peace agreement. At the time, this place was still under the rule of the vampires. Noreen came to me and said that she had cursed Hobson with the black death curse and that I should take the opportunity to reach an agreement with Hobson."

"Has Hobson been cursed with the black death curse ever since?" I was a little surprised. I was under the impression that Hobson was cursed just recently.

"Yes. On one hand, Hobson was suffering from the black death curse and was afraid that other vampire clans would seize the opportunity to attack him. On the other hand, the tenacious resistance of the werewolves at the border also bothered him. So as enemies from both sides pressed against him, he finally agreed to my proposal to announce the truce. With some extra strings attached, though."

"What about Noreen? Did you contact her after that?" I asked, narrowing my eyes at him.

"No. I haven't seen Noreen since then. Even Hobson has been searching for her, but to no avail." Geoffrey shook his head. He extinguished the finished cigarette in his hand, picked up a cup of water on the table, and took a sip.

For a while, nobody spoke, and a hush fell over the small cell.

"Then how did you know about my curse?" Rufus suddenly asked in a low voice.

I raised my head and looked at Rufus vigilantly. It seemed that he didn't intend to hide the fact that he was cursed from Geoffrey anymore.

Geoffrey chuckled. "You finally admit that you're cursed. Fine. It doesn't matter even if I tell you. Noreen showed up again a month ago. She came specifically to tell me about your curse."

Chapter 549 The Supreme King

Rufus' POV:

Geoffrey said that Noreen had showed up at the border a month ago, which coincided with the time my men found traces of her here.

It seemed that Geoffrey wasn't lying. Now, I wanted to know the specific whereabouts of Noreen.

But Geoffrey kept claiming that he didn't know where Noreen was.

In the end, we had no choice but to give up and leave.

"Maybe Geoffrey really has no idea," Sylvia said in a low voice as we walked out of the dungeon.

"Well, then I have to find another way to find out where she is." I sighed and reached for her hand.

Sylvia also sighed. She looked a little depressed. "Don't you think it's strange, Rufus? When we interrogated Geoffrey just now, he firmly believed that he was in the right and that he did everything to protect this place."

"There's more than one way to protect this place, but he used the most extreme and twisted one. Perhaps he had good intentions at the beginning, but as time went by, he did everything to feed his ambition. The lives of ordinary citizens were nothing in his eyes. Geoffrey has already been blinded by his selfish interests. Think about those who died in the riot. No matter what happens, he deserves what's coming to him," I said calmly.

Sylvia looked at me hesitantly. Biting her lower lip, she finally relented and told me what Felix had said about my father.

"How much do you think the king knows? How much of this was his fault?"

I didn't respond. Honestly, I was also worried that my father was involved. I didn't know what my father would do to Geoffrey after we returned to the capital.

Earlier on, I didn't call my father for help because Geoffrey was monitoring all communication lines. It was also because I was afraid that he was involved somehow.

And if he really was involved, things would be even more complicated than I had thought.

In the end, Geoffrey could be released without charges.

"The border is so far away. Maybe your father really didn't receive any letters and messages. Besides, messages from the border could only be delivered indirectly. Maybe the information was warped by the time it reached him," Sylvia suggested, although she didn't look so convinced. She seemed to be worried that I'd feel bad, so she spoke in my father's defense.

I smiled at her bitterly. "I hope that's the case."

My father had always loved his people. He might not have been an excellent father, but he was an excellent emperor.

He had been in office for so many years and there was little to no complaints about him among the public.

In fact, my first reaction was to doubt that he had turned a blind eye to the poor werewolves at the border.

But now, it seemed impossible either that my father had never caught wind about what was happening at the border over the years.

The werewolf race was under the regime of centralism. As the supreme king of the empire, my father had to control the power of all the packs.

He would never be blinded by false information.

It was not easy to hide anything from him, let alone something that had been brewing for so many years.

"Let's talk about it after we get back to the imperial capital. I'll find out about just how much my father knew then," I said calmly.

As soon as I finished speaking, I heard someone approaching us in a hurry. It was Leonard.

"You two are seriously misunderstanding Ethan this time."

Chapter 550 The Truth

Sylvia's POV:

Rufus and I were shocked when Leonard approached us. We hurried to help him.

"Why are you here?" I asked, frowning. I couldn't help but sound a little harsh, because I was worried about him.

That day, as soon as the dust settled and the crowd dispersed, Leonard couldn't hold on any longer and spat out a mouthful of blood.

Startled and worried, we sent Leonard to the hospital as quickly as possible.

It wasn't until later that we found out how serious his condition was. His internal injuries were too many to count. He was intact and strong on the surface but riddled with holes and empty inside. He refused to tell his conditions because he didn't want to be pitied.

Fortunately, Leonard looked a lot better today than that time after the riot.

Leonard pushed us away and refused our help with a bright smile. "I'm fine. Stop worrying about me."

I looked at him warily, guilt and sorrow filling my heart.

If I hadn't asked Leonard for help, he wouldn't have had a relapse.

Leonard seemed to have guessed what I was thinking and looked at me disapprovingly. With his hands behind his back, he clicked his tongue and snorted arrogantly. "Don't feel guilty. I don't like it when others feel guilty for me. I was happy when you asked me for help in that critical moment. Besides, I feel like I've regained my strength, leading the army into battle."

After saying that, he threw his head back and burst into laughter. It seemed that his good mood wasn't affected by his injuries at all.

His laughter was infectious. I couldn't help but smile.

After exchanging a few pleasantries, Leonard went back to the subject he had brought up when he first entered the room.

"You two misunderstand Ethan. If that old bloke heard what you were saying about him, he'd have exploded in anger!"

Rufus and I exchanged guilty glances and lowered our heads without saying anything.

"When I received your message, I immediately reported it to Ethan. Ethan was also enraged when he found out what had happened. He even sent more troops to help me. In fact, he nearly came here himself." Leonard paused to cough.

"Didn't he know about the border's situation before?" I asked in disbelief.

"How could he? Geoffrey has been deceiving the royal family for years. He bribed prosecutors who came to inspect the border every year. And he has been lying to the werewolves here, claiming that the royal family abandoned them and ignored them. That was how he was able to sow discord between the two

sides."

Hearing this, I felt righteous indignation. It turned out that Geoffrey's words on the day of the riot was all bullshit. I regretting believing a single word he said.

He was indeed a shameless man—and a good actor.

"It's possible that Geoffrey felt that he had no choice but to cooperate with the vampires to protect the majority of his pack. But since the moment he lied to the royal family, that agreement and the wall had become the symbols of his ambitions."

Leonard's words were similar to what Rufus had just said.

Geoffrey's original intention was probably good, but his good intentions had been eroded by his desires and ambitions.

Geoffrey was unworthy of sympathy.

It just served him right.

Upon learning that Ethan wasn't involved in this matter, Rufus looked relieved.

A faint smile tugged at the corners of his mouth. In a much louder voice, he said, "After the matters here are settled, we can take Geoffrey back to the imperial capital and he will stand trial there."

"Sounds good." Leonard nodded and fished out a USB flash disk from his suit pocket. "This is the information we found in Geoffrey's hidden compartment. It contains the truth about the border's situation and records the process of Geoffrey's deal with the vampires."