

Irresistible 621

[Chapter 621 The Wolf Pup](#)

Sylvia's POV:

Flora and I were worried about the wolf pup, so we hurriedly took it to the hospital.

I realized why Rin had left the wolf pup here. It was too weak and couldn't survive in the wild in such a condition.

Rin trusted me and hoped I could save her child.

Flora and I sat outside the examination room, waiting for the result. We were chatting and soon got to talking about Warren.

"What are you going to do with Warren?" I asked. The two seemed to get along with each other. Warren was still taking care of Flora as before. It looked like the two had gone back to how they were.

Flora pouted. "I haven't figured it out yet. I'm going to let nature take its course."

I wanted to say something but stopped on second thought. "Look, you can't hide it for too long. Even if you don't tell him the truth, he will find out when your belly gets bigger."

"Let's wait until then. I've thought about it. He is the father of my child. That wouldn't change even if I don't tell him now about the pregnancy." Flora shrugged nonchalantly.

Just then, the doctor walked out with the little wolf pup in his arms. Flora and I hurriedly sprang up to our feet and strutted toward him.

"Well, the condition of the pup's hind legs is irreversible," the doctor said, letting out a weary sigh. "We will have to amputate the legs and replace them with artificial limbs."

"Does the surgery involve any risks?" I was a little worried. After all, the wolf pup was still young.

"Well, we can't perform the surgery for the time being. The wolf pup is still young and malnourished to endure the procedure. It has to stay in the incubator for a few weeks until we revive its health with the aid of nutrient injection," the doctor said as he handed the little wolf pup to us.

I kissed it lovingly and decided to name it Ian.

Ultimately, we left the pup in the hospital with a heavy heart.

Flora and I had dinner together. Then, I went to see Rufus.

When I arrived at his palace, Rufus was still in his study, handling political affairs with councilors. I estimated he would be there for a long time.

Since Rufus hadn't eaten anything yet, I decided to go to the kitchen and cook his favorite dishes.

I made three dishes: spaghetti with Bolognese sauce, roasted vegetables, and beef stew with carrots. I also fried pumpkin balls for snacks.

However, it still felt incomplete. Therefore, I started making creme brulee. Although Rufus didn't like sweets, I thought he wouldn't mind having dessert with minimal sugar.

By the time dinner was ready, Rufus came downstairs with the councilors.

I greeted them with a warm smile and gave the creme brulee to the councilors. "Try it. It's not bad."

They took the dessert in awe. "Thank you, Miss Todd."

"You can leave now. We'll talk about it later," Rufus announced.

"Yes."

After the councilors left, Rufus held me in his arms and planted a soft kiss on my cheek. "Smells like Bolognese sauce," he exclaimed, sniffing my ear.

Rufus possessed an extraordinary sense of smell.

I giggled and pushed him to the dining table. "I made dinner for you."

Rufus sat down, grinning excitedly. "You said you wouldn't come tonight."

"I missed you." I kissed his cheek and settled on the opposite chair as I picked up the food to serve him.

During dinner, I told him about the wolf pup.

Rufus looked at me and suggested we raise the wolf pup as our child.

Excitement bubbled up in my heart. I grabbed his free hand and kissed it over and over again. "You're the best, Rufus!"

Rufus chuckled, shaking his head. "You look so happy. How about we bring Rin home as well?"

"No. Rin belongs to the wild. We can't deprive her of her freedom," I said.

Rufus nodded in understanding. He emptied the entire bowl of spaghetti in a few seconds.

I propped my chin on the palm of my hand and watched him eat. My heart fluttered with satisfaction. I hoped for him to eat the food I cooked every day.

"If it works and Blair wakes up, it means the curse on you can also be removed." I was referring to the potted plant. I was both nervous and excited about the result. My heart overflowed with maternal love when I held the wolf pup in my hand. If the curse on Rufus could be removed, we could also have our own children in the future.

Rufus understood what I was thinking. "Do you really want that badly to have a baby with me?" he asked, grinning mischievously.

"Of course not! Don't be absurd!" I let go of his hand as my cheeks burned with embarrassment.

However, compared to the full moon curse, I was more worried about the blackthorns on Rufus' back. An eerie feeling settled in the pit of my stomach whenever I thought of it.

[Chapter 622 Blair Woke Up](#)

Sylvia's POV:

A week later, Blair woke up.

I rushed to the hospital as soon as I received the news.

Seeing Blair sitting on the bed and smiling at me, I was so elated that tears of joy welled up in my eyes. I felt like a weight was finally lifted off my shoulder.

Blair, who was lounging on the bed, jokingly said to Rufus, "Hey, did you see that? Your mate shed tears for me!"

Rufus punched him lightly. "Just keep your mouth shut, will you?"

Blair reacted dramatically. He clutched his chest as if he was gravely hurt. "Hey, watch the chest muscles, bro! I'm still counting on them to impress the girls."

Rufus smirked, his arms crossed across his chest, and eyed Blair coldly. "Don't be ridiculous. Your muscles have already atrophied after you lying in bed for two whole months. You're just weak."

As I watched their interaction, I almost burst out laughing. Although they both always behaved in a dignified and serious manner in front of others, they bickered like children in private.

But that was a good thing. Although Rufus didn't reveal anything in his expression, I knew he was actually overjoyed as he was speaking much more than usual. Blair was his best friend. During the time

he was in a coma, I had often noticed Rufus drinking alone on the balcony, his face lined with worry for his friend.

Now that Blair was awake, he could finally relax.

Rufus patted the empty seat on the sofa next to him, gesturing for me to sit.

I sat there quietly and listened to Rufus tell Blair about everything that had gone down in these past two months.

Blair clicked his tongue and sighed, "Sure enough, you couldn't do anything well without me."

Rufus snorted and arrogantly said, "You indeed make a good mascot to cheer us up."

Blair rolled his eyes, unbothered about his image. "Is it so difficult for you to admit that you need me?"

Rufus glanced at him crossly and pulled me closer to him. "I'm sorry, but I only need my mate."

I automatically blushed. Pushing him away, I asked, "What are you talking about?"

"I've only spoken the truth." Rufus probably thought his words were not enough to convince me, so he lowered his head and kissed me on the forehead to show off to Blair.

Goosebumps sprung up all over Blair's body and he exclaimed, "Help! I've just woken up and you two are forcing me to watch your display of affection. Please spare me."

Rufus ignored him and stood up with his arm still around me. "To be on the safe side, I'd better call the doctor in to give you a thorough check-up."

"No. I'm fine. I'm just too traumatized, because I was exposed to your public display of love." Blair flopped down on the bed like he didn't have a care in the world anymore.

With an annoyed expression, Rufus pulled up the quilt and covered Blair with it. "Well, cut the crap. You're going to have this thorough check-up, whether you like it or not."

Rufus and I accompanied him to get a physical examination again. After receiving the doctor's confirmation that he was fine, we went through the discharge formalities.

Before leaving the hospital, the three of us had a discussion and decided to tell other people that Blair had just returned from his vacation.

We wanted to keep a low profile. So, we didn't ask a driver to pick us up and walked back instead. Fortunately, the Royal Hospital was only a short distance from the imperial palace.

I followed Rufus and Blair, carefully cradling the potted plant in my hands, afraid that it would get damaged. When we returned to Rufus' place, I would place it on his bedside table. With this plant, it wouldn't be long before the curse on him was lifted.

My heart soared with happiness as I thought of this.

Rufus answered a phone call at that moment. He had to deal with an urgent matter and took his leave, leaving Blair and me alone.

"Let's go, Mr. Joshua. I'll escort you home safely in Rufus' stead," I approached him and said with a smile.

He looked at me with an amused grin. "Remember when we first met? You never called me Mr. Joshua or even by my name. You were really on your guard against me."

My mind flashed to the memory of the first time we met, as if it was only yesterday.

I said with a sigh, "If it weren't for your advice, I might not have been able to pass the placement test."

Blair smiled and stayed quiet. He continued walking with me. On the way, he suddenly said, "At that time, even if Rufus hadn't asked me to assist you, you would still have caught my eye and I'd have helped you. Because when the group of students ganged up against you at the school gate and you fought back fiercely, I had already noticed you and was attracted to you."

[Chapter 623 The Black Bug](#)

Sylvia's POV:

I was stunned. Not understanding what Blair meant, I smiled at him awkwardly. "I was too weak at the time, so I suppose a loser like me indeed drew people's attention easily."

"No. It was because you had a unique temperament that people took notice of you," Blair added.

I scratched the back of my head, not knowing what to say to Blair. "I guess you could say my weakness was unique, right?"

Amused, Blair suddenly burst into laughter. Then, he sighed and looked at me intently. "To be honest, if Rufus didn't come to your rescue, I would've."

"Oh, really? Thank you," I said dryly, averting my gaze. I didn't know why, but I couldn't seem to look at him. Blair was acting so strange today.

"If I were the one who saved you back then, would you have paid more attention to me?" Blair pressed me further.

I looked up at him, stunned. What did he mean? I hesitated for a while and chose to pretend not to hear him.

"Maybe you would've fallen in love with me instead?" Blair chuckled. Although his tone sounded like he was joking, I didn't think it was funny at all.

I coughed with embarrassment and decided to be honest. "I doubt it. Rufus and I are mates. We're destined to be together."

Hearing this, Blair's expression darkened. "Is a mate bond so important? If Rufus wasn't your mate, would you still have fallen in love with him?"

"Of course!" I said without thinking. I didn't need to think. Rufus was the only man in my heart. No one could replace him. I would fall in love with him no matter what, even if he wasn't my mate. This was fate and I couldn't escape it.

Blair fell silent, staring at me with an unreadable expression.

I couldn't stand being with such a weird Blair. I forced a laugh and said, "Oh, why would you say such a thing? Stop making fun of me."

Blair broke into a smile again and patted me on the shoulder. "I was just kidding. You're still as serious as before."

Finally, I breathed a sigh of relief. My hands, which were clutching the potted plant tightly just now, finally relaxed. I frowned at him and said crossly, "You are still as naughty as before."

Blair snorted and started walking.

I quickly followed him and added, "I might've saved you with the flower this time, but you were injured because of me in the first place, so I suppose we're even now. Let bygones be bygones, and I hope we can get along with each other like before."

Blair stopped and turned around to look at me. The smile on his face hadn't changed, but there was something different about him. After sleeping for two months, he didn't seem as bright as before.

Was it because his hair was longer? Blair's hair reached his neck now and his tall figure looked thinner than before. In his loose shirt and baggy jeans, he kind of looked like a broody, wandering artist.

In a low voice, he said, "Okay... Just like before."

I continued to poke fun at him. "Your hair is so long now. You should get a haircut. The royal guard captain can't be so scruffy."

Blair couldn't help but chuckle. "Okay. I'll have it cut when I get back."

Soon, we arrived at Blair's house. It was a quiet villa.

Just as I was about to say goodbye to him, I saw a tiny black bug crawling in Blair's eye.

Chapter 624

Sylvia's POV:

Startled, I leaned over to take a closer look.

But Blair's eyes were clear and bright. I couldn't see the black bug anywhere.

"What's the matter?" Blair asked curiously.

I shook my head and smiled awkwardly. "Nothing."

Maybe I was just seeing things.

After parting with Blair, I went back to the palace and placed the potted plant on Rufus' bedside table.

Since the plant was able to lift the curse on Blair, perhaps it could also do the same for Rufus. Maybe, just maybe, I'd soon bear Rufus a child.

Thinking about this, I felt very happy.

I wondered if Rufus preferred a daughter or a son.

I could already imagine the cold, arrogant prince becoming a clumsy clueless father. What an interesting sight that'd be!

Fantasizing about these things, I couldn't help but chuckle to myself.

Since I had nothing else to do for the rest of the day, I cleaned Rufus' room.

The servants tidied his place daily, so there was very little for me to clean. I just organized the things that Rufus had brought back from the border. He had brought a plethora of souvenirs, everything from jewelry to snacks. Most of them were bought by me actually.

I put Rufus' watch and sunglasses in the cloakroom. When I came back, I caught a glimpse of a familiar wooden box in the bottom of the suitcase.

Wasn't this the box from Noreen's lab?

Confused, I picked it up and looked inside. Sure enough, inside lay the pendant I had thrown away. It turned out that Rufus had kept it.

I stared at the pendant with mixed feelings. Edwin had already returned to his pack. It didn't matter whether we would recognize each other as family or not. I was no longer as expectant as before.

I figured we could talk about it when we met again.

Besides, Edwin probably wasn't going to return to the capital city any time soon.

In the end, I put the pendant away with a sigh. I figured it wouldn't be so bad to keep it as an ornament. After all, a pink gem was rare pretty.

Just then, I heard a knock on the door.

"Miss Todd, are you there?"

Thinking that Maya had come with some snacks, I quickly stood up and opened the door. But to my surprise, I found a group of maids I'd never seen before standing outside.

"Are you looking for me?" I asked in confusion.

The leading maid was wearing a grey suit. She stepped forward and smiled amiably at me. "We're here under the queen's order."

I immediately grew vigilant. "Queen Laura? Why? What's wrong?"

Alina was gone already. Did Laura want to stir trouble again? Did she find a new fiancée for Rufus? If that was the case, I was sure I'd go crazy on the spot.

But even I had to admit that Laura was actually better than the vicious mothers-in-law in TV dramas. She had never really done things ungracious to hurt me in private. At most, she had just used Alina to annoy me.

And after a while, I gradually came to understand where Laura was coming from. Every mother simply wanted the best for her child after all.

It just so happened that Laura was a little... extreme.

The leading maid bowed to me respectfully and continued, "Miss Todd, don't be nervous. We will just dress you up for dinner tonight, which you're required to attend. The queen has arranged a banquet for you and Prince Rufus."

"Wait a second..." Hearing this, I darted back inside the room to check my phone. There was no message

from Rufus. Obviously, Rufus didn't know about this yet.

I wondered what the queen was up to.

After mulling over it for a while, I decided to tell Rufus about it first.

"Miss Todd, may we come in?" the leading maid asked politely.

Quickly putting my phone away, I said loudly, "Okay, come in!"

Then, the maids filed into the room one by one. Each maid was holding a gorgeous dress in their hands.

The leading maid pulled me to stand up. She looked me up and down carefully, fiddling with my hair as though I was a doll, making me try on all the dresses to see which one looked the best.

[Chapter 625 Different Perspective](#)

Rufus' POV:

As soon as I came out of the military department, I received a message from Sylvia that said that my mother had sent some maids to invite her to the banquet tonight.

I was worried that my mother was going to make things difficult for Sylvia again, so I quickly got in the car and went back to the imperial palace.

When I returned to my residence, I found a group of maids fussing over Sylvia's outfit.

Sylvia turned to look at me when I entered. Smiling, she stood up and gently waved away the maids. When the maids dispersed, she elegantly made her way towards me.

The sapphire blue dress shone brightly against her fair skin. Her waist looked so slender that I felt I could hold it with my two hands. The pearl earrings and her red lips made the perfect match.

I was awestruck by her beauty. I hadn't seen her dress up like this for a long time.

It had already been half a year since she first came to the capital city, but I still recalled the first time I took her to a party like it was just yesterday.

"You can go ahead. Prince Rufus and I will be there soon," Sylvia said to the maids calmly.

"Yes, Miss Todd." The maids nodded in unison and left respectfully.

The second the door was closed behind them, Sylvia's facade fell. She held my arm and gestured at her 3-inch heels proudly. "Look! I can walk in high heels now!"

Amused, I touched her nose gently. "Don't your feet hurt?"

Sylvia shook her head and beamed at me. "No. I've been practicing in secret ever since I nearly made a fool out of myself last time."

After saying that, Sylvia winked at me and added, "I've also been practicing how to dance. I think I've gotten pretty good at it. I promise I won't embarrass you."

I wrapped my arms around her waist, lowered my head, and gave her a kiss.

Sylvia groaned, worried that I might ruin her makeup.

Ignoring her complaints, I sucked her lips a little longer before letting her go. Then, I buried my head in her neck and took a deep breath. "You smell so good."

Sylvia tilted her head to the side curiously. "Really? I didn't use any perfume. I just used the same body wash as you."

I chuckled, parted my lips, and bit the tender flesh under her collarbone, leaving a slight mark.

Sylvia yelped and pushed me away in a hurry. "Not that spot! It's too conspicuous!"

"It doesn't matter. It'll disappear soon anyway." I pulled her back in my arms and planted a kiss on her forehead. "Thank you."

Sylvia looked up at me shyly. "For what?"

I couldn't help but kiss her on the eyelids. I would never be tired of kissing her or caressing her skin.

"I don't know what my mother's up to. If you don't want to go, you can just refuse. I'll decline for you," I said in a low voice.

Sylvia shook her head. "Queen Laura is your mother. I have to face her sooner or later. Running away from her won't solve anything. Besides, your mom's not evil. She just loves you and wants the best for you. Rufus, I don't want to see her as my enemy."

Sylvia's words moved me. I didn't say anything and fell silent for a moment. In the end, I sighed. "Then pick a tie for me. Let's go to the party together."

"Okay," Sylvia replied with a smile. Then she stood on tiptoe and gave me another kiss.

[Chapter 626 Family Dinner](#)

Sylvia's POV:

When I arrived at the banquet hall again, it felt like a lifetime had passed. The bright lights, people dressed in gorgeous clothes, and the array of wine and food took me back in time. Everything looked familiar.

I still couldn't forget the cold gazes and the rude remarks I had endured in this place. It still made my scalp tingle.

A shiver ran down my spine. Although I seemed confident in front of Rufus, I was still trembling with fear.

I would be lying if I said wasn't afraid of Laura. After all, she was Rufus' mother and the queen of the empire.

Just then, Rufus pinched my palm, snapping me back to my senses. "What's wrong?" I asked, looking up at him.

"She is walking toward us," Rufus reminded.

I immediately straightened my posture and forced a confident smile, trying to look noble and elegant.

Laura was still elegant and beautiful, but it looked like she had lost weight.

Maya told me that Laura had developed a serious illness after Alina left and she didn't get better until recently.

I bowed before the queen in a polite greeting. Unexpectedly, Laura took my hand and smiled. "It's a family dinner tonight. Don' be too formal or reserved."

My eyes widened in shock. I never expected Laura to talk to me. I thought she would ignore me like she always did.

Laura held my hand and ushered me to the dining table. She was talking to me like I were her close friend. "You look great in this dress."

I looked down at my clothes and smiled. "Thank you."

"You're welcome. First, try this tea. It's a specialty of Leonard's pack. This is a rare type of tea. I know most of you young people prefer coffee, but it's good to consume tea occasionally."

Laura smiled and slid the teacup toward me. Then, she turned around and sat in the opposite chair. She and Rufus were discussing the events in the imperial palace.

I held the teacup and looked at the mother and son, wondering if all this was just a dream. I never expected Laura would be nice to me. She didn't pretend to be gentle or deliberately try making things difficult for me. Her every word and every smile seemed genuine. The harmonious interaction surprised me. I was still in shock as if I had won a lottery.

Rufus held my hand under the table as I took a sip of tea. We looked at each other in silence, our eyes glistening with joy.

I knew Rufus was as happy as I was.

At that moment, Ethan arrived. He wasn't in his traditional, multi-layered robe, but was wearing a casual shirt and a pair of trousers like an ordinary parent.

It looked like he was in a good mood and was talking to Rufus with a smile on his face.

However, he seemed unhappy when Laura took the fried shrimp away from him.

"The doctor advised you not to eat oily food," Laura grunted, leaving no chance for Ethan to discuss.

Ethan stretched out his hand as if he wanted to protest. But considering Rufus and I were present, he reluctantly gave up.

I quietly pulled Rufus' sleeve and whispered to him, "He's just like Leonard when they took away his chocolate."

Rufus smiled. "How else did you think they became friends?"

However, Ethan heard us talking. "What are you talking about?" he asked, feigning a cough.

I quickly fell silent, pretending to be a well-mannered lady.

"Can't a couple have a private conversation? Stop being nosey," Laura snapped.

Ethan was rendered speechless. He cut the steak and put small pieces on Laura's plate one after the other.

He was obviously a hen-pecked husband.

It was a lively dinner. Only Ethan seemed unhappy because he wasn't allowed to eat his favorite fried shrimp.

In the middle of the party, Richard suddenly came uninvited and ruined our moods.

[Chapter 627 The Storm](#)

Sylvia's POV:

Holding his suit jacket in one hand, Richard strode into the banquet hall.

His hair, which used to reach his waist, had been cut short, and slightly wavy tufts were casually hung around his ears, which made him look gentle. His new hairstyle managed to mask most of his evilness.

As soon as he strode in, the atmosphere in the banquet hall dropped several hundred degrees.

The warm smile on Laura's face had vanished. She instantly became dignified and reserved.

Even Ethan, who always protected Richard, put down his fork and knife unhappily.

As if he didn't notice the change of the atmosphere, Richard pulled out a chair and sat down. "Why didn't you tell me there was a family dinner? And how could you still call it a 'family dinner' without me?"

Then he gestured at the maids to bring him a set of tableware.

Ethan didn't say anything. After all, Richard was his son. Even if Richard had made big mistakes, he couldn't stop him from eating at their table.

Rufus and I also kept silent and ate the food on our plates without saying a word.

As soon as he was served, the insensible Richard began to ask about Lucy. "I'm her mate. Why can't I see her?"

Ethan's expression darkened. "Don't talk about work during dinner."

Richard refused to give up. "Lucy is my mate and your daughter-in-law. How can she be 'work'? It's a family affair, if anything."

With Richard rudely barging into the banquet like this, Rufus and I lost our appetites. We quietly put down our utensils and looked at Richard.

Richard probably figured out that Ethan had given up on him and had decided to train Lucy's child as the new heir after it was born.

How could an arrogant man like Richard accept that? Moreover, the child was not even his biological son.

"Lucy is pregnant. We can risk exposing her to anyone. You can see her after the baby is born." Ethan obviously didn't want to talk much, so he just prevaricated with Richard.

But this only served to anger Richard even more. He glared at Ethan resentfully. "I thought you were supposed to be fair. I didn't expect that you would also be blinded one day. Lucy is such a terrible actress. How could you believe a word she says?"

Sensing that Richard was about to reveal the fact that Lucy's baby wasn't his, Rufus cut him off hurriedly. "Calm down, Richard. Your love for Lucy might've faded away, but be careful what you say next."

I could tell that Rufus just didn't want to upset his father. Ethan was in poor health and couldn't take any more stimulation.

After being warned by Rufus, Richard calmed down. Reluctantly, he picked up the knife and fork in front of him and began to pick at the food on his plate.

I secretly sighed in relief. Fortunately, he didn't make a huge fuss. Richard was just like fickle weather—he was too moody and unpredictable.

Sometimes he looked smart, but most of the time, he acted like an idiot. Whenever he was agitated, he was as useless as Shawn. But, unlike Shawn, at least Richard would listen to advice.

Ethan and Laura exchanged meaningful glances and decided not to say anything about what Rufus said. They were already used to seeing Rufus lecture Richard.

In the past, Ethan would usually come out to mediate when the brothers fought. But now, he just kept silent, chewing the food in his mouth expressionlessly.

Laura didn't want to meddle either. She sipped from her glass of wine with relish, as if nothing had happened.

The storm that loomed over the dining table finally subsided.

Just then, I noticed that Rufus had picked up his napkin and was wiping his hands. I immediately understood what this meant, so I followed suit. Together, we stood up from the table, intending to leave early.

Unexpectedly, Ethan's confidant suddenly burst inside the banquet hall, looking flustered. "Your Majesty, bad news! The curse on Prince Rufus has been exposed online."

[Chapter 628 Exposed](#)

Sylvia's POV:

"Richard! Why the hell would you do such a thing?!" Ethan instantly flew into a rage. Without thinking, he strode over to Richard and slapped him across the face. "Haven't you repented?"

Richard covered his swollen cheek. Eyes wide as saucers, he looked so stunned he couldn't even speak.

"How dare you look at me like that? Spit it out, boy! Are you the one behind this?" Ethan was so angry that he raised his leg and kicked Richard on the chest.

This brought Richard to his senses and he cried out, "Why would I do that? I've been so busy with work every single damned day! How would I have found the time to do such a thing?"

After saying that, his eyes darted over to me and Rufus. He said sincerely, "It really wasn't me. Do you believe me? I'm done with my old ways. Why would I make trouble for all of us?"

The truth was, I didn't believe Richard. Only a select few people knew about the curse. Besides, with Rufus gone, Richard would have nothing to lose but everything to gain.

"I should never have let you out of the dungeon!" Ethan roared. Obviously, he didn't believe Richard either. He was so angry that his whole body trembled.

Richard wore an aggrieved expression and slumped his shoulders.

But we were all tired of this hypocritical look.

Everyone fell silent for a moment, not knowing what to say. Finally, Rufus spoke up. "Father, calm down. Let's see what's going on first."

Only then did Ethan look to his confidant for an explanation.

His confidant quickly handed the phone to Ethan and said, "It all started with a post on the Internet."

The rest of us also took out our phones to check.

Sure enough, the post made headlines. The article was very in-depth, including even the details about how Rufus went berserk every full moon night and how he couldn't have any children.

The article went so far as to state Rufus' age when he had been cursed, and that even his mother didn't know about it.

Everything in the article was accurate, down to the last detail. Evidently, whoever wrote it had to be someone close to the royal family.

Now everyone was certain that it was Richard who did it.

Scrolling through the comments, I couldn't help but frown.

At first, most of the netizens didn't believe it because Rufus had been set up before and his name was

cleared later on.

Because this wasn't their first rodeo, the netizens weren't so quick to believe such claims anymore.

When the news spread that Rufus had made great contributions at the border, his reputation as a good prince had been established. As a result, he won the hearts of a lot of political fans.

Thus, many werewolves believed that Rufus was being framed again.

But later on, the public opinion gradually shifted.

Someone had anonymously posted a video in which Geoffrey talked about the curse on Rufus in public.

The video was clear and smooth, without any trace of editing.

So, now the netizens were divided into two groups.

Some held the opinion that it didn't matter whether Rufus was cursed or not. Leadership qualities were more important for a ruler, while it didn't matter whether they could have descendants or not. Others felt that although Rufus was innocent, he wasn't qualified to be the heir to the lycan throne. After all, to them, it was integral that a lycan king continue their bloodline.

There was even a small group of werewolves who began to claim that Richard was the destined heir.

The Internet was an explosion of debates regarding this matter.

Rufus closed his eyes and rubbed the spot between his brows. Putting down his phone, he looked at Ethan and said grimly, "It's too late to have the post taken down."

Ethan didn't answer him at first. After a while, he said, "We have to distract the public and stop them from talking about it first."

Just as Rufus and Ethan started to discuss countermeasures, Laura's trembling voice suddenly sounded from behind us.

"What the hell is going on?"

When I turned around, I found that all the color had drained from Laura's face. She looked at us as though we were ghosts.

Oh, my God! I felt terrible. In the heat of the moment, we all forgot that Laura had no idea that Rufus was cursed. We even talked about it in front of her. It was obviously too late to go back on our words and cover things up.

Now, we couldn't hide the truth from her any longer.

[Chapter 629 The Unbearable Truth](#)

Rufus' POV:

My father hesitated. "It's a long story," he stammered, not daring to look at my mother.

"Then make it short! Why is there a curse on Rufus, and why has it lasted all these years? And the worst part is, I had no clue about it," my mother snapped.

My father secretly winked at me, silently begging me to help.

My mother shook off my father's hand and turned to look at me. "Rufus, tell me. Are you really cursed?"

She tried her best to keep calm, but her hands were trembling.

I wanted to say something to distract her. That was how we'd been dealing with her all these years.

But seeing her anxious and devastated look, I could no longer lie.

In the end, I acquiesced.

Mother staggered backward, almost as if she couldn't bear the weight of the truth. My heart leaped out to her. Fortunately, Sylvia held her in time.

"What the hell is going on? Why didn't you tell me that you are cursed?" she asked in a tremulous voice. Her face turned pale. She held Sylvia's hand to support herself.

My heart sank, and I didn't know where to begin.

We had been hiding the truth from her because we knew she wouldn't stand it.

We had thought we could somehow find a way to remove the curse soon, and so there was no need to worry her. That way, it didn't matter even if she knew about it later, since I would be fine by then and we just had to patiently explain everything to her. But, to my utter dismay, things had gotten out of control.

Finally, my father stood up and broke the silence. "It's all my fault. I was the reason for the curse on Rufus."

"You?" My mother turned around and glared at her husband as she staggered toward him.

Knowing it was impossible to hide the truth anymore, he smiled bitterly and told everything to her.

My mother's face reddened with rage when she heard I was cursed because of my father's affair. Before I knew it, she slapped right across his face.

I was taken aback and wanted to stop her. However, my father waved his hand, gesturing for me to remain calm.

My mother was still angry. She slapped my father over and over again. "Have you forgotten your promise to me? You said whatever happened outside the imperial palace stayed out there. But look at what you have done! You not only had an affair but also got Rufus cursed. And worst of all, you've been hiding it from me all these years! He's our only son, Ethan! What the hell were you thinking?"

My father dropped his gaze to the floor guiltily without uttering a word.

"So you took him back because you knew Rufus couldn't have a child," she said, pointing at Richard, who was standing in a corner. "So you placed your hope on this bastard, didn't you?"

Richard's face darkened at the word 'Bastard'. He opened his mouth to say something, but my mother's vicious glare shut him up.

My mother didn't stop there. "So you've given up on our son, right?" she demanded, her voice hoarse because of the emotional outburst. "Answer me, Ethan! You had never been a coward. Why aren't you answering such a simple question? You weren't so compliant when you brought Richard back. Why don't you admit it now?"

My father stood in front of his wife like a withered old tree. He didn't have the courage to answer her questions.

I didn't want to put him in an embarrassing situation. Just as I was about to help, my mother spoke again, "Say something, Ethan. I want to hear the answer from you. Are you giving up on Rufus? Are you going to abandon our son?"

My father's shoulders slumped in defeat. "Yes. I brought Richard back so I can have an heir." He sighed. "I had no choice."

My mother's eyes widened when she heard that. Her legs gave away, and she fainted.

[Chapter 630 The Queen Fainted](#)

Rufus' POV:

My father and I waited anxiously while the doctor checked on my mother.

Her fainting had given us all a fright. My father in particular felt very guilty and kept sighing. His old disease, which he had already overcome before, recurred.

I tried to comfort him in an effort to calm him down. I didn't want to see both him and my mother fall.

Sylvia knew what I was thinking and tried to help. She poured a glass of water for my father when he started to cough violently.

Fortunately, after drinking the entire glass, he stopped coughing. Looking at Richard, who was motionless and silent in the corner, he said crossly, "You go back to your place first. I'll deal with you later. Don't you dare do anything rash."

Richard nodded silently and left, not wanting to provoke our father any further.

When the doctor had finished checking on my mother, he turned to my father and said, "The queen had a heart attack from intense anger. She should avoid getting emotionally stressed from now on. Besides, the queen hasn't been in good health the past few years and just recovered from her previous illness. She really can't afford to be stimulated again."

I lowered my head guiltily. My mother's health was in worse shape than I thought.

Soon, she woke up.

We all huddled around her expectantly, but she turned her head away when seeing my father and said coldly, "Get out. I don't want to see you."

My father stood beside the bed awkwardly. "Laura..."

She snorted and ignored him.

I sighed and pulled my father aside. "Father, you go deal with the issue on the Internet first. And for the sake of Mother's health, please don't anger her in the near future."

"Okay, fine. You stay here and take care of your mother. Call me if you need anything." My father lowered his head and sighed heavily. Shooting his wife one last sorrowful glance, he left dejectedly.

Sylvia came over and tugged at my sleeve. "I'll wait for you outside," she whispered. "Call me if you need any help."

"Okay." I nodded, touched her cheek, and sent her out of the room.

When I came back, my mother had already sat up and was leaning against the headboard.

I was a little nervous. She always had high expectations of me. Although we had been alienated from each other for so many years, I couldn't stand to see her disappointed expression.

After hesitating for a while, I sat down at the edge of the bed and asked softly, "Mother, how are you feeling?"

She looked up at me blankly, and then suddenly burst into tears. She threw her arms around me, choked with sobs. "Rufus, I'm so sorry."

My hands went limp. I didn't know how to react.

It was the first time I had seen my mother cry so openly since I was a child. In my eyes, she had always been a stubborn she-wolf with a strong will. To her, tears were always a sign of weakness. Thus, she never showed her fragile side in front of the younger generations. No matter how sad she was, she never shed tears.

But now, her tears rolled down her cheeks uncontrollably and seeped into my shirt as she hugged me. "You must have suffered a lot over the years. I had no idea. This is all my fault. I didn't protect you well enough. How I wish I could bear this damned curse for you!"

I was stunned. Suddenly, I felt a lump in my throat.

I had thought that my mother would be angry and perhaps even disappointed that I didn't live up to her expectations. But I had never expected this reaction from her.

Her guilt made me feel even worse.