

The Alpha King's Claim

Chapter 108 The Teasing Of The King

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Aero

In the past, I cringed at the thought of marriage; hated it to the core and I wouldn't have undergone it if it wasn't for my father's ultimate decree. My fake wedding, as what I always called it, became real and now, I was sitting with my queen Luna experiencing nothing but pure happiness and contentment.

I sure experienced a paradigm shift towards marriages after that; made me realize that it wasn't bad at all if the bride and the groom were both true mates.

I believed my dear brother, Elijah and his soon-to-be-wife were true mates. He had changed a lot since her arrival. Well, his antics around me were still the same, but the reason with which he does it was different. Initially designed to cover his true lonely emotions, now he teases me because he enjoyed it and he knew that I somewhat enjoyed it too—the brother bond that is.

Now, all four of us received our happily-ever-after—if I want to be cheesy and call it that—and I was confident absolutely nothing could ruin this happiness. With four royals taking care of the Kingdom of Phanteon, it would flourish even more.

Beside me, Serena felt the same way. She was excited for her friend and it showed through her sweet smiles. However, that didn't deter her from teasing my ass. Big time.

While waiting for the wedding ceremony to start, she mind-linked me, reminding me how it went down on ours.

'You made me wait for twenty minutes in the amphitheater, you know. I thought you were having cold feet or you wanted to back out on our deal.'

She rolled her eyes towards me, waiting for my reaction. Her sly smile though was very evident on her face.

Her words instantly drew out a frustrated groan from me.

'Ugh, I was venting out my anger on the snow mountain, Serena. Back then, I still couldn't accept I'd be wedded to you,' I reasoned.

'Hmm,' she simply tipped her chin down in response.

'And when you finally showed up, you hid your anger so well the audience was enthralled by your acting.'

I proudly chuckled. That was one of the best highlights during that time—at least for me when I was still an idiot.

'All to save my throne,' I tried to save-face anyway. She shrugged and then bumped her shoulder against mine.

‘And when it was time for our first kiss, you looked just about to gag.’

Before I could control myself, my temper flew off.

‘Please woman, stop reminding me that!’

It was my way of displacing my shame. I tossed her a glare, but it came out loving instead of frightening.

As a result, she laughed during our mind-link. It was so deep and soulful that her body shook and her face reddened.

Instead of being offended, I treasured this silly moment between us. Damn. If we weren’t surrounded by all these people, I would have already enhanced her bodily reactions: make her body shake beneath me and make her face even redder while I make love to her.

In the middle of daydreaming, Serena stopped laughing and mind-linked me again.

‘Oh, my tsundere Alpha King, you are a hopeless man,’ she remarked.

‘What is that?’ I arched a brow towards her.

‘Tsundere. What does that mean?’

She flashed me another sly grin and said, ‘Try to look it up on Google, Instagram, and Twitter sometimes when we visit Earth again. You’re a viral sensation now, remember? Your fans had called you that based on your candid expressions during our cruise.’

‘What do you mean candid?’ For some reason, the hairs on my skin stood up. ‘Were they taking pictures of us...of me secretly?’

She rocked her head left to right and once again shrugged. ‘Ye—ah, you could call it that. Jessica showed me the pics last night before we went back here. They weren’t harmful to your reputation nor were they paparazzi-crazy really, stepping on our privacy or such. The pics just showed you scowling in the sundeck, scowling in the beach shore and scowling in the restaurant and then blushing when you looked at me a number of times.’

I was beyond amused by this revelation. ‘Damn Serena, now you tell me that?’ I groaned.

Ahead of us, the ceremony started just as the full moon’s light reached its peak. Elijah and Rhea, both looking magnificent, met at the center of the stage like Serena and I did at our wedding. This memory and watching Elijah do the same now strummed my heartstrings good.

‘Hey,’ I grabbed Serena’s hand and interlaced our fingers. ‘Although I acted a moron in the past, know that being wedded to you was the best decision I made,’ I confessed.

‘I know.’ She briefly leaned her head against my shoulder. ‘You showed me that many times already, Aero. Actions speak louder than words as the saying goes.’

Content with her answer, I returned to watch the ceremony with a small smile growing on my face.

The priest did the same ritual to Elijah and Rhea: spilling verses of love and marriage and then requesting their hands together. What I didn't expect to happen next was seeing the same chain of light shining from their joined hands, binding them, and creating similar crescent moon marks that Serena and I have.

I was more than surprised to see this happen to Elijah and Rhea, but knowing what this meant for both of them, I was even happier than I already was. Serena agreed with me. We exchanged gazes filled with nothing but joy.

The crowd around us gasped and cheered. They gave the same positive reception to this event with Elijah and Rhea as they did with ours.

The elated priest continued with the ritual and by the time everything was done, the celebration was moved to the grand hall of the castle.

En route to the location using a coach, I fell into a pensive mood. Thoughts of what happened and Lady Yllana's words during the leaders' meeting told me I had to dig deeper.

I did say I would look into this mate bond Serena and I have; the crescent moon marks to be exact

and seeing that my brother and his new wife had it also gave me all the motivation I needed to kick-start my investigation.

Inside the grand hall, the newlyweds were at their special table, accepting well-wishes from their guests. When it was our time, I stared at Elijah with all seriousness and stated to him through mind-link, 'I need to talk to you in private later. Do you think you can spare me the time before you're occupied with your wife?'

He cast Rhea a loving glance first before directing his attention back to me.

'Of course, after the first dance, we can head over to your study room, brother.'

'Good. Enjoy this night, Elijah.'

Serena and Rhea exchanged hugs first before we left their dining table and went to our own.

While waiting for dinner to be served, I watched as guests flooded in from the outside. I knew Elijah invited a lot of his close friends and comrades into the reception but I didn't expect Hale to be one of them.

Together with Lady Yllana, the King of Sattus, Lord Mage Aiken, and Lord Jacobi, Hale neared the couple's table and exchanged words.

The whole time this happened, I caught the vampire lord glance towards us, or to Serena specifically, and this irked me.

‘Relax, Aero. Lord Hale is just here to celebrate this wonderful occasion. Not to mention the food and the booze,’ she assured me through mind-link. I groaned inside. ‘You mean to say blood, not booze, Serena,’ I corrected, still my sharp eyes trained on him. I itched to erase that cool grin off his face; tearing his mouth away would be preferable.

Once the leaders’ were done with their greetings, they neared our table and lowered their heads in genuine deference to the crown, except Hale that is. For sure, he never was genuine over anything.

“King Aero, what a lovely occasion this is,” Lord Jacobi exclaimed. “I am sorry Queen Demantha couldn’t come again.”

“Nothing is new with her, Lord Jacobi. Enjoy the night despite this,” I replied.

From my periphery, Hale neared Serena and requested her hand. She gave it like it was nothing unusual—which it was. I was just me who acted too prickly about it.

“It has been ages since we last saw each other, Queen Serena,” he started and thereafter planted a kiss on her hand.

She dipped her chin slightly down and chuckled. “It was only just a month, Lord Hale. You’re overdoing it.”

“It felt like it though when you’re not around.” His red eyes shifted to me. I arched a brow and shifted on my seat. Heck, this vampire really infuriates me no matter how Serena talks me out of it.

In a flash, I decided to split them.

“Alright, food will be served soon. You best be on your seats, dear leaders.”

Fortunately, they acknowledged with a nod and left where a prepared table awaited them a few meters away from us.

“Way to go with controlling your temper, Aero,” Serena cheered me with a thumbs up once we were alone again.

I knotted my brows. “It is not without difficulty, Serena.”

“Well, you do know Lord Hale is just messing with you, right?”

I groaned and placed my knuckles under my chin; my eyes still glaring at the aforementioned man’s back. “I wouldn’t know. He makes it seem real.”

Serena laughed lightly in response.

“Let’s enjoy Elijah and Rhea’s reception. You weren’t able to enjoy yours since you were so preoccupied digging answers about our crescent moon marks, remember?”

I grabbed her wrist and ran my thumb along the mark's edges. "I'm about to do the same, Serena. Knowing that Elijah and Rhea have them too, I'm guessing it means something."

Gently, I kissed the mark and thereafter returned my focus to her. "You will be fine here alone, right?"

"I will be. Lord Hale will accompany me," she teased, but I knew she meant it as half-truth.

William, my beta; Chris, my omega; or even her father couldn't stop Hale from sneaking and asking her for a dance later.

I couldn't stop my growl from reaching to the surface, but it was just brief. "Serena, just be careful with him. You know vampires can't be trusted."

"I know." She leaned forward and kissed my cheek. Wanting more, I grabbed her waist, pressed her closer to me and captured her mouth for a passionate mouth-fuck.

Partly, I wanted to do that because I desired her since this evening began and another part of it was for everybody to see and for a certain someone to know that Serena belonged to me and me alone.