

Chapter 120 Half-fae, Half-wolf

Serena

“Thank you for being such a wonderful host while we’re here, Alpha Aaron.”

Standing close to the coach, I awarded the alpha of the Slandail Pack a grateful smile. Aero stood next to me, ready to embark the conveyor too, but of course, we had to say our goodbyes properly to our host.

“You’re welcome, Luna,” Alpha Aaron dipped his chin briefly. “It is a pleasure to serve you.”

“I trust that you’re...doing what you should be doing?” I tossed him a curious glance. He sucked in a breath in response, knowing exactly what I was talking about.

“I’m working on it, Luna. Victoria is...uh...sleeping inside my room.”

“Excellent!” was my quick reply. He didn’t need to detail it out. Whether or not they made progress in his bed, the fact of the matter was that they shared sleeping quarters and that was progress enough for me.

“You’re all good, Alpha Aaron. Treasure her forever.” Aero, who probably didn’t want to be kept waiting, tugged at my wrist.

“Serena, let’s go,” he urged with a tinge of jealousy coloring his voice. With this, I swallowed hard.

The Alpha King jealous of his alpha? That cracked me up, but I saved my giggles for later when we’re alone.

“Have a safe journey, Your Majesties.” Alpha Aaron bent at the waist. Behind him, Beta Mark and Omega Sloan did the same.

As we settled inside and the coach moved, I leaned against Aero’s shoulder and looked up at him with a proud grin on my face.

“We made progress with our travels, don’t you think?” I expressed.

He threw his arm over my shoulder and pressed me further against his chest.

“Agreed,” he replied. “Do you want to head home or do you want to stop-over at another place?”

“Hmm,” I twisted my lips. “What’s the nearest pack territory on our way to the castle?”

“None,” he shook his head. “The other territories are located east and north. We are currently traveling southwest.”

“Oh, that’s a shame,” I sighed.

“We could do it some other time, Serena, that is, if you want to visit the other territories before we’re busy with our pups.”

The curve on my lips stretched wider. Aero and I occupied with our babies. What a lovely image to treasure in my head.

“Yes, I think that’s a wise plan. For now, let’s go home and start solving Phanteon’s issues regarding the mating process.”

“I’ll be subjected to countless meetings again,” he groaned. As a hands-on king, he never really liked the long hours of sitting and listening.

“I don’t think so,” I argued. “Your council will readily agree to the changes since they themselves want the change. They experienced hardship under your father’s rule. They had to keep their crescent marks a secret. Now is their chance to make it right.”

“I wish that were easy, my queen.” He shifted his head against the cushioned headrest and stared at the padded ceiling. “Don’t forget, it includes paperwork too.”

“I’d be happy to volunteer to do it.”

Hazel-greens met mine again and a warm hand touched my cheek.

“I don’t doubt your skills, Serena, but I prefer you to just relax. Be free of our kingdom’s worries for our babies’ sake. I’ll take care of it. Don’t worry.” He was beginning to act like a father and my heart swelled for it.

“Just tell me if you need my help anytime.” It was a standing offer and I knew he’d likely take advantage of it if and only if he was already desperate. I wasn’t offended when he declined, though. He was right, after all. Better I stay clear of any problems whenever necessary.

“There’s another border close here to Ehnrelil, though,” he remarked out of the blue.

My brows arched. “What?”

His face morphed into a knowing look. “The Baltic Meadows isn’t the only existing portal, Serena. Slandail has one, and it is just through that road passage over there.”

He pointed past the window and into an area in the distance. As I followed, I saw an arched cavelike opening like the ones for trains on Earth.

Transparent-looking rainbow colors curtained the entrance, giving it an air of magic. The good news was, it was big enough for our coach to pass.

“Oh good, you just gave me an idea, Aero,” I smiled widely at him.

He looked smug as he replied, “I’m all ears.” I got a feeling he expected already what I was about to say.

“We should make a quick stop to the palace. Aunt Adna hasn’t been informed yet of my pregnancy.”

He kissed my forehead before knocking on the side of the window. "I thought so."

Silence punctuated our conversation for a moment. I figured he was mind-linking his beta to inform him of the sudden change of our destination.

Aero

'William.'

'Alpha?'

'Change of plans, we drop by Ehnrelil palace first.'

'Yes, Alpha.'

No buts. No whys. No complaints. William was always ready for anything, and that was what I liked about him. He was loyal to me so much so that he gladly volunteers to do trivial stuff like for example now, driving the coach for us.

As beta, he was my second-in-command, but some people, especially those who didn't understand our relationship, would say he acted like my butler. William didn't mind being called one though. In fact, he was happy about it and contented to serve me.

Hailing from the Eolas Pack, or the pack where the intellectual and artistic werewolves and lycans get sent, third son of Alpha Benjamin and Lady Cora, William became my beta since I was crowned alpha king, but we were already friends before, serving me and becoming my arms and

legs while I fixed my family's problems in the shadows.

He was an indispensable member of my kingdom; the man I could truly trust aside from Elijah and General Halcynos.

As ordered, the coach took a sharp turn towards the portal to Ehnrelil. Our jump was a quick one.

The surroundings drastically changed to that of illuminating flora and nauseating glitters—the kind that I was uncomfortable of.

I reminded myself that this was all for Serena; that she'd be able to spend some time with Queen Adna, give her the good news, and probably be updated with Ehnrelil's improving situation.

We headed straight to the palace without a hitch.

Ehnrelil guards already knew who were inside the coach without needing to check us.

When we entered the crystallized foyer, bells rang in chorus; its sound probably reaching all borders of the realms.

"I never heard the palace bells of Ehnrelil get played before," I remarked as I cringed with how loud the offending sounds were.

"That's because Queen Adna was still mourning then," Serena placed a hand to iron out my wrinkled forehead. "Now, although there's still a tinge of pain left, she has moved on. Playing the

bells informs the kingdom that the king or queen or both has arrived.”

“It is too showy for my taste,” I expressed, still creating wrinkles on my forehead.

She chuckled whilst turning sideways to face the grand stairs. “I agree, but it’s tradition here.”

“Serena! Sweetie! You’re here!” Queen Adna, as expected, exclaimed.

I looked up and there she was, appearing from a hallway and hastily descending the ice-like stairs. Then, her attention fell to me and her eyes rounded even more.

“Oh fallera, you both are actually visiting me! How divine!”

“We were near the Slandail portal so we figured we drop by to see you, auntie,” Serena lifted her arms up and accepted the interim queen’s embrace.

“Thank you for visiting me then.” She turned to me, ready to give me a hug too, but I lowered my head in haste, deciding to opt out from the kind gesture.

No other woman could embrace me except my wife—that was my choice.

She seemed to catch my drift, so she stepped back and dropped her arms.

“You were touring the pack territories?” Her attention went to Serena again.

“Only a few, auntie,” my wife replied, throwing me a brief glance. “We had some issues to fix that needed our alphas’ help.”

“Well, I hope that issue is resolved now.” She took Serena’s hand, lifted it up and studied her belly.

“Anyway, how have you been? Wait, do you have some sweet news for my dear fae ears to hear yet?”

Serena giggled before breaking the news. “We’re expecting auntie.”

“Oh fallera! I knew it! I knew it!” Queen Adna was instantly a squealing woman. Never had I seen her act like this. Before the Great War, all I received from her were scowls and glares. This side of her now was entirely different. She looked genuinely excited. Overjoyed.

“I’m so happy for the both of you!”

She embraced Serena again, to which the latter reciprocated with a wide smile. Then, to my surprise, before I could even block it, she embraced me too.

Serena gave me a wink and a cheeky smile despite seeing my discomfort.

“Are we expecting a boy or a girl?” Queen Adna returned to studying Serena’s belly with her palm. “I hope it’s a girl because she’d be beautiful in the fae throne.”

Serena and I exchanged looks before she proceeded.

“Uh...they are boys, auntie. Twins.”

“Boys?” The queen’s golden brows knotted. “Oh dear, I guess I’ll just have to wait for your second pregnancy to get a girl, but that’s great news still.” Her elated composure returned, and she tossed her head back and arms up into the air. “Huh! Twins! Perfect!”

But then, as labile as the wind, her face morphed into concern.

“Oh, no...twins,” she muttered.

“You look worried, auntie. Is there a problem?”

Serena, seeing the change, questioned.

“Yes, Serena. I’m sorry.” Queen Adna held my wife’s gaze before giving me an apologetic nod. “I can’t help but be worried for you.”

“Care to share your insights Queen Adna?” I asked, not liking the expression she displayed.

“King Aero, Serena is a half-fae, half-wolf right?” she started.

“Indeed,” I replied.

“Which is unheard of until now,” she filled in, turning her attention back to my wife. “You, my dear, are the first of your unique kind. It is unknown how your pregnancy process will be. Should it be like a human which is nine months? Or a werewolf which is six months?”

“Fae women bear for three months,” Serena continued; her eyes growing with the realization I wasn’t quite following. Was this some women’s code? A female thing, perhaps?

“Exactly,” Queen Adna confirmed, exchanging the same gravitating gaze.

I continued to listen, maybe and hopefully they’d fill me in what I missed out.

“I am going to three months, auntie,” Serena expressed, placing a palm on her stomach. With her words, I finally picked up the cause of their concern.

“But your belly is still small,” I interjected, placing a hand too on the hardly noticeable bump.

“Does that mean she’s following the werewolf way of pregnancy?”

Queen Adna didn’t nod or shake her head. Her serious gaze continued as she held my confused ones. “We can’t be sure, King Aero. We fae women bear for only three months because our unborn children feed off on our energy. This helps their growth thrice as fast as compared to a normal human pregnancy.”

“So you mean to say there’s going to be some growth spurt expected on our children? When?”

“Only time will tell, Your Majesty,” she replied, now sure of her words.

“And to think I have twins,” Serena murmured, sighing.

I didn't want to act like a midwife or anything. Hell, I didn't even have one bit of experience regarding these kinds of things. My mother, when she was pregnant with Elijah, didn't involve me. I was six back then, already clamoring for a motherly attention that never came, but when I finally received it, it was in the most sickening way possible.

"You're strong, Serena. I have faith that you can withstand it," I expressed with conviction, tossing the unsavory thoughts aside. Her hazels brightened on my way.

"Thank you, Aero."

"I apologize if I caused you worry. It wasn't my intention." Queen Adna took her hand again and squeezed it; her luminescent eyes full of unrepressed apology.

"That's okay, auntie," Serena sniffed a smile. "It's better this way. We are more informed now so we can prepare better."

I gave my agreement through a nod. Who was I to debate on this when my mate's optimism was positively contagious?

"Well now," Queen Adna stepped to the side, "you're famished, right? You're just in time for lunch. Come!"

Serena and I already ate before leaving Alpha Aaron's pack house, but declining the fae queen's

offer wouldn't sound right, especially when she was back in high spirits.

My wife thought the same, so after we mind-linked our agreement, we followed her.

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