

## I WILL KEEP BOTH OF YOU SAFE

At that time, people only assumed that Althea didn't come out because she was afraid of the people's wrath, that's why she avoided the people by hiding inside the alpha's quarter.

All of the people knew how much alpha Killian loved Willow and when they learned Althea had killed her own sister, they could see the wrath of the alpha.

Not a single soul dared to stand between the alpha and Althea when he took her away with him. They would be crazy to sacrifice their life by saying something about it.

Not even Brian and Abigail said something about Althea, because they were grieving the lost of their daughter, thinking whatever Killian did to Althea, she deserved it since she killed her own sister.

"Pregnant?" Brian was taken aback with the news. He staggered back. This was news that he didn't expect at all.

"Yes."

Killian didn't want to talk more. He didn't want to discuss this matter, neither he wanted to answer any question. His only goal was to have Althea back. They were going to have their first child. She wouldn't be able to go anywhere even if she wanted to, since there was a baby that they had to think of right now.

This time Brian didn't stop the alpha and spout more nonsense to forgive his first daughter.

It didn't take long before the shocking news reached Abigail and Willow and the latter wailed painfully, thinking she was going to lose Killian forever.

"No! No! This couldn't happen!" Willow cried her eyes out, while Abigail tried to comfort her. "I should be the one, who gave birth to his firstborn. I should be the one, who is pregnant with the future alpha of the pack!"

"Willow, please, calm down, please calm down..." Abigail was crying, she didn't feel good to see how her daughter was upset.

"Enough!" Brian finally snapped. "That's your fault! That's your fault to

leave the pack! Now, you should bear the consequences!"

"Brian!" Abigail snapped back at her mate. "How could you reprimand her when she is already down? We need to support her!"

"You spoiled her too much! That's why she turned out like this!" Brian was having none of it. "She caused her own sister to be accused as a murderer and now she returned and wanted everything to go back to normal?!"

"She met with her destined mate! You know how strong the mate bond is! Even the alpha couldn't resist to take Althea because she was his destined mate!"

Willow cried even harder. "I am going to see him! I am going to see him!" She struggled to free herself from her mother's grip, as she headed toward the door.

However, Brian's words stopped her.

"You don't need to bother. You are already very late. The alpha must have left to the harbor, he found a clue about Althea's whereabouts and he is on his way to the Main Island."

"What do you mean...?" Willow was visibly trembling now. Tears streamed down her cheeks, as she screamed. "No! Why would he look for her?! I am here! I comeback for him!"

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"Are you feeling better?" Alex asked, he handed her a glass of water. She still looked a little bit shaken up. He didn't know what she had gone through, but he was sure it was not a fond memory for her.

"Th- thank you..." Althea took the glass, but her body language told Alex to stay away from her.

Seeing that, Alex kept his distance from her. He didn't want to make her felt uncomfortable and put her under so much stress. She was pregnant and he knew it wouldn't be good for her baby.

He knew that much. A year ago, he learned about pregnancy excessively after all, thus he had enough knowledge about it.

"Feeling better now? Do you want more?" Alex was very patient, he looked at her gently.

"No." Althea shook her head. "I am sorry if it sounded rude, but... can

you leave now?"

Alex chuckled. She was being very polite right now, even though she was the one, who was troubled here. "I will leave once I am sure that you are fine."

"I am fine. I am really fine..." Althea nodded her head to emphasize her answer.

Alex nodded. "I will leave after I clean up the dining table, okay?"

"N- no, no need for that, I will do it."

However, Alex didn't accept the answer. "I will really leave after I clean the dishes. You better lay down and take a rest. You have put so much stress on your baby."

Althea wanted to retort, but Alex had gone to the dining area and clean the dishes. He did it clumsily, but she could see that he was very genuine when he said he was going to help her.

Somehow, watching him moving around in her small kitchen was very comforting, probably because deep down she knew that this man wouldn't hurt her. Or maybe, Althea was simply very tired from everything that had been going on in her life.

Therefore, once her head touched the pillow and she closed her eyes, sleep came to her very easily and the moment Alex was done with his task, he went to check on her.

"Sleep well, Althea," Alex said, he put a blanket over her body to keep her from cold.

He didn't know what she had gone through, but he had this strong desire to keep her by his side. His subject would say how crazy he was, especially Northern and Greyson. He would say that he had gone insane.

However, Alex couldn't care less about what they were going to say. He only wanted to keep this woman close to him.

"I will come back again later." Alex stared at her bulging stomach. "Keep your mother safe, okay. I will keep both of you safe."

## A KNOCK ON THE DOOR

"Alex, this is really not good." Greyson came to him with a storm on his expression. He finally voiced out his displeasure with the way the king had been acting lately.

Yes. Alexander was the king of the El Marca continent. The main island where the shifters lived. He was the lycan king.

The lycan was a royal blood. There were not many of them, but if you saw one, that person must come from royalty and Alex was the king.

"You have been neglecting your duty," Greyson was not happy with the way Alex chose to play around with that pregnant woman. "What is your goal to stay with her?"

Alexander just returned from Althea's rented house. This time, he dragged the royal healer to come with him to check on her condition and the baby.

After last night she was having a breakdown, he was afraid that she had hurt herself and the baby in her womb. Thankfully, there was nothing to be worried about, but just like he had predicted, she and the baby were underweight, Althea really needed to take a good care of herself and watch what she ate.

"Why are you being so loud?" Alex was in a good mood because Althea was being a little bit more welcoming with him.

"You will not be able to get to him, let him be," Northern said. He was the royal beta, while Greyson was the royal gamma. "As long as he didn't touch alcohol excessively like usual. He will be fine."

"Are you taking his side?" Greyson growled in annoyance.

Northern didn't know what Alex found in that pregnant woman, but probably he could guess that. However, there was no harm for the king to take a fancy on her, as long as he stayed sober and started to function again, because truth be told, the last year since he lost his mate and the baby in her womb, he was a complete mess.

"There is no side to take," Northern said casually.

"Where are you going now?!" Greyson watched Alex was going to leave again.

"I got an invitation to have a dinner somewhere," Alex said cheerfully.

"You have the best chefs here, but you preferred to eat a small meal inside that small rented house?" Greyson was going on with his complain, but Alex already left, leaving Northern to deal with the gamma.

"Can you calm down?"

"He has been neglecting his duty."

"Compared to what happen the last year, he is very active now."

Greyson couldn't say anything when Northern brought up how Alex was last year. Even ghost would be scared of him.

"Let her to have some fun."

"What if he took a fancy of that woman?"

"He only feels pity for the pregnant woman. He will come to his sense eventually."

"No." Greyson shook his head. "What if he wanted that woman?"

Northern took a moment to answer that question. "No. He knew that he will not be able to take the woman. He is smart enough to know there is no future for the two of them."

Greyson furrowed his brows. "You know how stubborn Alex could be."

And both the royal beta and gamma prayed thing wouldn't turn out to be very complicated later on.

Royal family was rarely seen in public, even though people knew their king's name, but not all the people had ever met with him in person, unless the king decided to shift into his beast, which was a form of lycan, they wouldn't know that Alexander was the king.

Even so, the way he carried himself and the authority that he wore like a cloak was hard to ignore. The women would take a second look on his face and tried to think from what noble family he came from.

"For a while," Althea said when she heard the knock on the door and opened it to see a bouquet of flowers in front of her face and then Alex' s scent hit her, which made her laugh.

It felt so nice to be able to laugh like this. She couldn't remember when the last time she felt happy.

"Come in." Althea stepped aside and then let him in.

"The smell is so good. I am hungry." Alex handed the flower to Althea and then went to the area area. You couldn't say that this was a dinning area, because of how small this place was.

"Thank you, I just finished roasted a deer meat that you bought." Althea took a big jar to place the flower. Alex would come with flowers or food, or both.

She didn't know what to say, but she was very grateful for him.

"Can we eat now? I am hungry!" He whined like a child. "You are really a great cook. Do you want to work in the palace?" He asked casually, which made Althea laughed.

"What? Do you know someone from the palace that could take me in?"

Alex grinned. "You can say that I know someone powerful in the palace to let you to be more than just a cook."

Althea laughed again, but she didn't indulge in that conversation and started to prepare their dinner, because she really just finished cooking.

"No. Sit down. I will do it." Alex immediately nudged her to sit down, but he saw how she flinched with his touch, thus he didn't do it again. He simply stepped in and started to move around the plates and their meat, preparing everything on the table.

"Thank you so much," Althea said, being very grateful for him.

"Well, if you were really grateful, you need to feed me dinner every day."

Althea rolled her eyes and started to eat her meal. They were having conversation about trivial thing and when they were done, she heard someone knocked on the door.

"Are you expecting a guest?" Alex asked, as far as he knew, Althea didn't have friend aside from that woman in the flower shop.



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