

Chapter 96

Silver

"You look gorgeous, Silver!" Rebecca cooed as I walked out of the bathroom. I wore a red evening dress with straps that went around my neck and pushed up my breasts, putting them on display for Elliot. It wrapped around my figure perfectly. Rebecca also lent me a diamond necklace with some red rubies that went beautifully with the dress and some matching silver shoes that made my legs look great. "Do you think Elliot would like this?" I asked, peeking down at my dress with a frown.

"Are you kidding me? He's going to love this," she said, grabbing a hold of my hands. "And something tells me you're going to get so lucky tonight."

I blushed at her words and bit my lower lip.

"It's not about getting lucky tonight," I told her, looking down at my feet. "I just want him to like me."

She rolled her eyes.

"He already likes you," she said, shoving my arm playfully. "Stop being stupid."

I shrugged and took in a deep breath, wrapping my arms around my body like I was holding myself together.

She continued to help me get dressed while she talked my ears off and a few hours later, we were completely done. By the time Elliot returned home, Rebecca had already left. The way he looked at me made a flutter

erupt in my stomach. He looked at me as if he had never seen anything like me before and I couldn't help the smile on my lips.

"You look incredible," he breathed, taking me in.

"You don't look so bad yourself," I told him, biting my lower lip as I took in his appearance.

He wore a suit just as he always did with a loosened tie that looked so sexy on him. My heart skipped a beat in my chest, and I wanted to run towards him, and I wrapped myself in his arms.

He offered me his arm.

"Are you ready?" He asked.

I nodded a little too eagerly and went with him out of the palace and took the waiting car. A few minutes later, we arrived at the most elegant restaurant I had ever been to. My stomach was growling by the time we stepped through the doors.

The waitress smiled at us politely and escorted us towards our seats.

"I'm sorry I've been so busy lately," Elliott said, breaking the silence between us as we took our seats and started to look at the menu.

I frowned at him.

"You don't need to apologize," I told him thoughtfully. "I understand that you are busy."

He nodded and then sighed.

"I'm still trying to figure out the rogue situation. They are targeting me for some reason. Worry consumed me; the thought of anything happening to Elliot made me feel uneasy. The waitress brought us menus and Elliot ordered some champagne with a couple of glasses. "Can you bring an order of fried calamari as well?" He asked.

"Of course," she said, writing that down on her notepad before she turned and walked away.

"I've been keeping tabs on your

performance in the pack so far and you've been doing really good," Elliot said, surprising me. "If you need anything, make sure to tell me. If

anyone in the pack gives you issues."

I nodded.

"So far everyone has been great," told him. "This weekend we are going to clean up the park and make it suitable for children. I'd like to help make this pack safer for everyone."

Elliot nodded thoughtfully.

"That's my main goal as well," he agreed.

Before I could say anything more, his cell phone started to ring. Frowning, he pulled it out of his pocket and glanced at the screen. A flash of annoyance crossed his eyes but then it went away as he answered the call.

"Shirley," he greeted into the phone.

My heart fell into my stomach as he listened to whatever she had to say on the other end of the line.

His brows furrowed together and then his eyes met mine.

"I'm in the middle of something. It can't wait?" He asked. After another pause, his frown deepened. "Okay, I'm on my way."

I tried to keep the hurt off my face, but I knew it was evident. I was never good at hiding my emotions.

He hung up the phone and gave me a pointed look.

"I'm sorry, I have to cut our evening short. There was another attack and Shirley got injured. She's in the pack hospital."

I nodded, plastering a smile on my lips.

"It sounds urgent. You shouldn't keep her waiting," I told him, biting my lower lip to keep it from trembling.

He nodded and then stood to his feet.

"I'll call Erik to come pick you up and drop you off at home. You can order dinner and eat it here. Have them put it on my tab and I'll pay it my next visit."

I nodded, unsure if I really wanted to eat; I suddenly lost my appetite.

With those words left in the air, he turned and left, leaving me alone and feeling abandoned.

Chapter 97

Silver

"Luna Crown, did the Alpha leave?" The waiter asked as he returned with the champagne. I stared at his empty spot across the table feeling nothing but numb. He asked me out on this romantic date, and then he abandoned me for Shirley.

I understood that Shirley was hurt and needed him, but he didn't even seem remorseful about leaving me here by myself. He was all but eager to leave and see Shirley. The waiter set the glass in front of me and poured me some champagne.

"He had a work emergency," I finally managed to get out. "You know how it is... he's the Alpha. He can never rest." I tried to appear nonchalant about the ordeal, but I knew that the waiter could see right through me.

He nodded thoughtfully.

"The fried calamari will be out soon. Would you like to put in some more food?" He asked, getting his notepad and pen ready.

I hadn't eaten much today, and I knew I probably should have a decent meal, but I wasn't very hungry right now. I grabbed the champagne and took a long and steady sip, hoping the alcohol would help numb the pain that's wedged itself deep into my chest.

"Would it be possible to take the calamari to go?" I asked him, still trying to mask the hurt. "And maybe add an order of deviled eggs?"

"Of course," the waiter said, writing it on his notepad. "I'll be right back."

I nodded and took another sip of the champagne. I continued to stare at the spot where Elliot once sat, and I felt sick to my stomach. I knew I wasn't going to be hungry later, but I figured I would order extra food just in case.

I lowered my gaze, feeling tears burning the back of my eyes. I refused to let them spill here though. I wasn't going to let anyone from this pack see my weakness. I wrapped my arms around my body as if I was trying to hold myself together, which was exactly what I was trying to do.

I'm not sure how long I sat there or when the waiter returned with my food, but I hadn't realized the to-go boxes were sitting in front of me on the table until Erik got there and broke me out of my trance. "Luna, are you okay?" He asked, narrowing his eyes and studying my face with a concerned expression.

I blinked a few times and then nodded, still feeling uneasy.

"Yeah," I lied. "I suppose you are here to bring me home?"

He nodded a bit sheepishly.

"Per orders of the Alpha," he explained.

I nodded and grabbed my to-go food. Sliding out of my seat I looked up at Erik. He was tall and buff which wasn't surprising considering he was a gamma warrior and typically they were built strong.

"Erik, do you ever tire of being the personal driver?" I asked as we headed toward the door. "I mean, you are trained for much more. Isn't it insulting that you are used as the driver?" He gave me a side glance and a smirk appeared on his lips.

"Every gamma job, no matter how small, is essential for this pack. We all work together to ensure safety; that's the number one goal. I don't see myself as a personal driver, I see myself as a bodyguard. I'm not just driving you home, Luna. I'm protecting you from any harm that may come to you during your travels. When I'm not driving, I'm patrolling and doing other work around the palace that continues to ensure your safety."

"Are you saying you have been assigned to keep me safe?" I asked him, raising my brows. "Like my own personal bodyguard."

He nodded, almost looking amused.

"Yes, exactly," he remarked. "I'm also a really good driver."

My chest warmed at the thought of Elliot caring enough about me that he would assign a personal bodyguard to protect me. But remembering how he ditched me in the middle of our date because Shirley called him, made that warmth turn frigid and I suddenly couldn't get myself warm enough.

He opened the back door of his car and motioned for me to get inside. I did as he requested and waited for Erik to slide into the driver's seat before he took off.

The ride back to the palace was silent but it wasn't awkward. There was nothing for either of us to say and I needed to gather my thoughts.

Chapter 98

I grabbed my phone and checked it multiple times, expecting to hear from Elliot at least once. But he didn't bother reaching out to me and that hurt more than anything. I feel as if he cared so little for me and now, he was stepping on me like I was nothing more than a small ant.

I pulled out my message thread with Rebecca and decided to send her a text.

Me: Date night was a bust.

Rebecca: Did he not like your dress?

Me: He loved the dress. But his girlfriend called, and he left.

Rebecca: Are you talking about Shirley? Did he ditch you for her?

Me: Apparently there was another attack and he got hurt. She's at the pack hospital."

Rebecca: Strange; I didn't hear anything about another attack.

I sighed and messaged her again.

Me: That's the story she's going with. I don't know what to do anymore. I'm so tired and I'm sick of fighting.

Her: Then don't fight anymore. Get some rest. We will catch up soon.

With that, I shoved my phone into my pocket.

By the time I got home, it was late. Erik said he was going to do a quick sweep of the perimeter before he turned in for the night. He also wanted to call Elliot and update him on some stuff. I didn't bother asking him to elaborate because right now, I didn't care.

Leaving Erik outside, I first went into the kitchen to put my leftovers away. The kitchen was empty because most of the staff had gone home

for the night. I was relieved about that because I wasn't in the mood to speak to anybody, including Mariah.

I found room in the fridge and put my boxes on one of the shelves before retreating to the bathroom for a quick shower. The hot water helped burn the memories of Elliot from my head, but not enough to stop the pain from consuming my chest.

Once I was done in the shower, I changed into my pajamas and walked out of the bathroom. I chose to stay in the parlor and read a little before bed. I was too wound up to settle down and I was honestly a little worried about Elliot considering there was yet another rogue attack in his pack.

Just as I opened the door to the parlor, a shadow swiped across the room, making me whip around and gasp from fear. Most of the palace staff should have been gone by now and I didn't think anybody else was in the palace. The gammas on duty were outside patrolling the area. Yet, I saw a shadow clear as day in the corner of my eyes.

Then it happened again, making me whip around in the other direction.

"Who's there?" I shouted into the void of the parlor.

There was obviously no answer, which made me even more nervous. If it was someone who worked here, they would have told me for sure who they were and what they were doing here. But this person was silent, and it gave me an uneasy feeling in the pit of my belly.

"Reveal yourself," I ordered, proud that my voice came out firm and unafraid.

Another shadow.

"Please, whoever you are... just-"

My voice was cut short when I felt a pair of strong hands grabbing my wrist so hard that it hurt. I whipped around again to face the intruder and

my breath got caught in my throat. I was faced with piercing yellow eyes and the elongated canines of a wolf.

He was a rogue wolf!

I struggled against him, trying to get him to release me, but he pulled me into him, sinking his teeth deep into my flesh making me cry out in agony. His other hand went around my mouth to keep me silent. I attempted to bite him, but it did nothing but piss him off. He threw me to the ground like I was nothing more than a rag doll.

I kicked and attempted with all my strength to break free, but he was too strong. I felt a blow to my head as I made contact with the corner of the glass table, shattering it on the spot. I felt the warm pool of blood from my head and down my cheeks.

My vision became blurry as he slammed my head against the marble floor. I had no fight left in me.

The last thing I saw before everything went black was the gleaming smile of the rogue wolf.

Chapter 99

Elliot

"You really didn't have to come all the way here. It was just a scratch," Shirley innocently said as she batted her lashes at me. I stifled an eye roll because she sounded frantic on the phone about getting hurt and now, she

was playing it off like it was nothing. She was right though; it was nothing more than a scratch. It was obvious that the rogue didn't want her.

"Your wife must be so upset that your date night was ruined because of this."

She pouted as she ran her hand up my arm. I sighed and took a step back, out of her reach.

"I need answers, Shirley," I told her, keeping my voice indifferent. "How many rogues were there?"

Pack doctors had surrounded Shirley because I ordered them to keep their priorities on her injuries. Now that we had free time and she was just about to be discharged, I knew I could ask her questions. "I think maybe 1," she answered. "It was dark, and I couldn't really see clearly."

I furrowed my brows together; we were wolves which meant we had great sight in the dark. But I wasn't going to question her because I knew everything happened quickly.

"What did he look like?" I asked, trying to keep the annoyance out of my voice.

She wrapped her arms across her chest.

"I didn't really see him good, Elliot," she told me. "But he had a silver knife."

"But he didn't use it on you?"

"I don't think so," she murmured. "I didn't feel the silver if he had. I think he only used his claws. It all happened so fast though so I can't be sure."

Tears welled up in her eyes and I stood from her bedside.

"Christ's sake, Shirley. You are an Alpha; you should be stronger than this," I scolded, not caring if I sounded like an asshole.

"I know... I'm just upset I couldn't be more helpful. I'm also upset ruined your evening," she let out a sob.

I sighed, running my fingers through my hair and feeling a jab of remorse for my oldest friend.

"I'm sorry, Shirley. I know you've been through a lot, and I don't mean to hound you with questions. But can you at least tell me where you were and why you were in the forest alone?"

'I was in the northern region of the pack," she explained. "I was there because I was on a hunt-"

"On my territory?" I snapped, feeling that surge of anger returning.

She bit her lower lip again.

"I didn't think you would mind," she confessed.

I opened my mouth to say something more, but then my phone rang, snapping me back to the current moment, I grabbed my phone from my back pocket and glanced at the screen.

"Erik," I said into the phone.

"Alpha, there's a problem," Erik gasped, putting me on full alert.

I ordered Erik to be Silver's personal bodyguard and driver. Whenever he called, I knew it had to do with Silver because told him to give me frequent updates about her well-being and overall safety; I also liked knowing her whereabouts in case anything happened. But for him to call me and tell me that there was a problem, I hoped for once that it had nothing to do with Silver.

My chest constricted and I felt queasy.

"What is it?" I asked, trying to keep the urgency out of my voice.

"I was patrolling the area around the palace after I dropped the Luna off. As I walked around, I noticed there was a sign of a break-in," he told me, much to my dismay.

My heart fell deep into my stomach, and I had to take a shaky deep breath.

Chapter 100

Elliot

"And?" I impatiently urged.

"And I went inside to find Silver and let her know that there might be a break-in, but she wasn't there," he told me.

"What the hell do you mean she wasn't there?" I asked through my teeth, a surge of anger coursing through me.

"I mean, she's gone, Alpha. I walked not the parlor and there are signs of struggle."

"What kind of struggle?"

"The glass table was broken and there's blood on the ground," he told me.

I nearly dropped the phone right then and there. I met Shirley's eyes and my chest tightened.

"Find out where she is," I barked before I hung up the phone.

I dialed Beta Leo's phone number and pressed the phone to my cheek.

"Is everything okay?" Shirley asked, looking worried. I didn't bother answering her, I turned my back towards her and waited for Leo to answer.

"Alpha?" Leo asked.

"Leo, the rogues took Silver," I said, breathlessly as I had just run a marathon. "I need you to find out where they'd take her and why."

"I was just about to call you, Alpha. It seems there was only one rogue who attacked Shirley, the others have been waiting and hiding. We picked up their scent but it's faint enough that tracking it is difficult."

"Do you think the attack on Shirley was just a distraction"?" I asked.

"I was thinking the same thing," he replied. "I'll find out what I can and get back to you."

I hung up without another word.

"Silver was taken?" Shirley gasped, quickly getting out of the hospital bed.

"Yes," I said and started towards the door. "I need to find her."

"I have a tracker's nose, I can help," she said urgently.

I didn't wait for her to follow; Silver needed me.

The pounding in my head made it impossible to think straight. The blood that pooled from my head down my cheeks was now dried and caked onto my flesh, making me uncomfortable and itchy.

"He's going to kill you for hurting her," I heard a gruff voice close by saying. I felt arms wrapped around my waist and I was slung over someone's shoulder like I was a sack of potatoes.

Silver

The pounding in my head made it impossible to think straight. The blood that pooled from my head down my cheeks was now dried and caked onto my flesh, making me uncomfortable and itchy.

"He's going to kill you for hurting her," I heard a gruff voice close by saying. I felt arms wrapped around my waist and I was slung over someone's shoulder like I was a sack of potatoes.

The scent of fresh wood and pine indicated that I was somewhere in the forest, and it felt like I was on the move. I tried to open my eyes to gather my surroundings, but everything hurt, and I feared what might see. I figured the only thing I had left on my side was the element of surprise. If they knew I was now awake, that would be taken away from me. So, I remained limp in this rogue's arms with my eyes squeezed tight.

"He'll have to get over it," the rogue holding me huffed. "I didn't know how else to get her out of that house."

"The boss was clear when he said he wanted her unharmed," the first rogue muttered. "I'm going to tell him I had nothing to do with this."

"Fine," the second rogue said through his teeth; their voices sounded as if they swallowed glass, and it gave me a shiver down my spine "But we need to hurry and get her over the border before the Alpha comes and finds his precious little wife."

"You don't honestly think he gives a shit about her, do you? She's wolfless," the first rogue practically laughed. "The most powerful and strongest Alpha in the world isn't going to come for a wolfless female."

"She's still his wife," the rogue holding me reminded him.

"Both of you just shut up and keep moving," a different rogue that sounded further ahead hissed.

I wondered how many there were; so far, I counted 3, but there could be more. Someone, their boss, wanted me, and they wanted me alive. My question was why? Who was their boss and what did they want from me?