

Chapter 16 Maid Melisse

*****Erika's POV*****

"I need you to cheer up and come celebrate your single hood, and the strength for overcoming it all. Also, for your soon to be position as the Alpha of Iron Claw pack." He said, patting my back encouragingly.

"Yes, father. I'll be out soon. I just need to remain alone for a while."

He sighed, looking at my face. "You sure you'll be fine?"

"I'll be fine, father."

"Why can't you just be fine now?" He raised a disproving brow at me.

"Father, bad things just happened to me. I need time to get them off my mind so I can concentrate on ruling as Alpha when it's time. Better to be distracted now by memories than to be distracted later on as an Alpha." I tried to reason with him.

He nodded softly, "I understand. Anyone in your shoes would need time to piece themselves back together." He said, showing his unwavering support, and that melted my heart.

I moved closer to wrap my hands around him. "Thank you father, you're the best"

"Anytime, my little Alpha." He kissed my brows and stood up to leave. "I should get going"

"Any thing important for the day?" I took in his height.

My father was a really tall Alpha. His presence was imposing and he commanded attention wherever he went.

I was proud of him and how far he was taking this pack.

I hoped when it's my turn, I'd be able to do better.

"Yes, I have two very important meetings. One with the Elders of the pack and second one, I'll be hosting some neighboring Alphas"

Immediately concerned, I faced him. "Any war from enemy packs?"

"No, not at all. They are the Eastern Alphas, we just want to think of the region and how to increase security and just general welfare discussion about the East region" He explained.

"Are you sure?" I asked with a narrowed gaze.

"Yes, don't worry. I'll be fine." He patted my head and proceeded to the door. "I'll tell the maids to come see to your needs, they'll be bringing food too"

"But father, I'm not..."

"I'll see you later, little Alpha." With that, he was gone.

I sighed. He already knew what I was going to say, and had cut me off immediately.

I was not hungry and wanted to be alone, but father was just too concerned to actually listen to mine own wants at the moment.

Releasing another sigh, I climbed back into my bed and tried to close my eyes. I pulled the bedsheet over my head, making sure every part of me was covered.

My head would not stop throbbing, and as much as I tried to stop thinking of the events from earlier, I could not.

The betrayal and pain of three years was something that could not be easily washed away in a day.

I was trying to forget but it was hard. Where had I gotten It all wrong? What had I done to get it wrong?

I'd been a faithful Luna and submissive wife. I had tried my best to make

sure I gave Alexander the kind of home most men would want to have.

I heard another knock on the door, but I ignored it.

Father's presence was enough for the day, I did not want to see any other person.

Tears refused to fall but my heart was bleeding within. It was tormenting my sanity, making me about to question myself again.

"Your Highness"

I knew then it was a maid.

"Go away!" I commanded from beneath the sheets wrapped around me.

"Your Highness!" Came the voice again.

"Goo away!" I raised my voice even more this time.

The maid rapped on the door again, it was soft and patient. "Your Highness, please can I come in?"

I realized she had not heard me the other times. I needed to pull the sheets away, and I did just that. "Whoever you are, go away. I do not wish to see anyone!"

"I'm sorry Your Highness, but the Alpha said I must insist!" She said, raising her own voice so I could hear her.

"The Alpha's not here now, so go away!"

"I'm really, truly sorry to do this Your Highness, but I must obey the Alpha's order."

Already knowing where it was headed, I groaned in annoyance.

"Do not dare com..."

And she was inside the room.

"Greetings, Your Highness. Welcome back" She bowed in greeting and

respect.

I was called 'Highness' because father was the Alpha King.

I grumbled in response. One could not have peace and a much needed alone time to think and just be.

"Here's your meal." The maid pleasantly went about her assigned duty, setting the table for me.

"Bring it over." I was not in the mood to get down from this bed and eat on the table close to the sofa in my room.

"Okay, Your Highness" She gathered the tray and brought it to me on the bed.

She set it and stood at a respectful distance.

Pretending I was oblivious to the covert glances she was throwing my way, I picked up a spoon and scooped warm soup garnished with what looked like lamb.

Three spoonful of the broth-goodness and an apple later, I could no longer pretend she was not staring.

"What do you want to say to me, Melisse?"

"Uhm..oh..uhmm... it's nothing, Your Highness."

I took a short sip of water and settled my eyes on her freckled face, she was pretty with those reddish brown spots on her nose and its surrounding. "Say it"

"I'm so sorry for what you went through, Your Highness." She blurted, keeping her head bowed.

I smiled at her boldness, "Raise your head, Melisse." I instructed her.

She obeyed and bit her lower lip nervously.

"Why are you nervous?" I asked with a playful smile.

"Uhhh...I don't know how you would feel with me sympathizing with you, being a maid and all" she said honestly and I nodded.

"Now being a maid doesn't make you a lesser person, Melisse. I find it very nice that you sympathize with me. Thank you"

She appeared calm, her nerves gone as she gave a short bow, a small smile spreading on her lips. "Welcome, Alpha"



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