

The Perfect Luna by Marissa Gilbert

Chapter 37

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Chapter 37. The Dark Side

Brayden couldn't sit still ever since he felt it. He felt it way too many times in the past 24 hours for it to be nothing. The soul-shattering sharp pain that started in his march and then was echoing through his whole body. Unfortunately, he knew exactly what he was experiencing, and he hated the thought alone of his wife being taken by someone else.

"Alpha," Roxanne wrapped her arms around his neck leading from the back of his chair and brushed her fingers softly over the part of his chest that was exposed through his

unbuttoned shirt, "You don't look too well. If anything, you look like you are in pain. Maybe I can

help you to get rid of it? A mate's touch is healing for another mate. Let me help you. Let me ease your pain."

He never thought that he would say it out loud but he had enough of blow jobs and her suggestion wasn't as appealing as she probably hoped. It was amazing to have a mate and he loved every minute of it. Someone ready for him any time, someone happy to receive just a speck of his attention, (This novel will be daily updated at)someone who was ready to drop to her knees at him simply implying it, someone who was ready to do everything to please him. She was HIS. He did not have to conquer her, he did not have to keep up with her. With his mate everything was easy. She felt his mood swings very well and knew when to back off. She was working around him, eager to please, ready for everything. Just the way it should be.

Yet his mind kept coming back to his wife since his mark was hurting him.

Riannon was with someone else and there was no denying it. Moreover, he was pretty

sure that it was that asshole, the Lycan king. The way he fought for her to come to his

kingdom was way too obvious. And the worse thing was that there was nothing he could do about it now. It wasn't like he could march into the lycans' lair and demand his wife back. They were more powerful.

He couldn't start a war with them. His pack would be wiped out quickly and no other alphas would support him in such an affair. They would probably even be happy to see his fall and try to claim his territories afterwards.

This wasn't the way.

"Damn, Ri, what are you doing?!" he groaned as he texted her for one thousand's time, not even expecting to receive a reply anymore.

It did not help that he knew that she was angry with him. For not rejecting Roxy. Was she with the lycan king willingly now? Was it her little revenge on him?

If it was, he knew he deserved it. He handled it all wrong, hoping that she would just do be a Luna, was trained to be one, this was all she was. She knew how to make the necessary

sacrifices and he really hoped that she would take one for the team this time too.

The joke was on him as he overdid it. He should have taken his mate to some remote

forest cottage and kept her there with some guards, visiting her when the need was arising. But he wanted it all.

Knowing how his wife was loyal to their pack and how they loved each other, he was sure that she would get used to the idea. After all, Roxy was never threatening her position as an

omega. No one would want her as their Luna. And Brayden never saw that as an option. He

just wanted her close to enjoy their mate bond and all the extra sensations that came with it.

Sometimes he was getting bold and imagined the three of them living together... (This novel will be daily updaed at)But this

was where it all went wrong. For Riannon was an Alpha too and did not want to share what

was hers.

An Alpha female... He loved it about her and hated it about her at the same time. She was always a challenge, always on top of things. Whenever he had an idea, she had a better one. Whenever they had a problem, she was the one coming with the best solution.

He was a better warrior and there was that... But sometimes he wished that his wife was

more submissive to him.

This was when Roxy fitted just perfectly. For she was giving him what Riannon couldn't. With her, he was superior in everything. And he loved that.

However, it wasn't enough. She lacked in many areas. Starting from her low rank to her education. Could someone like her even be compared to Riannon?

So, now he was facing a really big problem. What was he to do now with all that mess?

He wanted Riannon back. She was his. This was undeniable. If he had to choose between his mate and his wife, he would pick the wife. She was something that everyone wanted, and Brayden wasn't going to lose that.

Besides that, he loved her. Yes, they were not mates but she was his chosen mate. They spent years together and never ever had he doubted his choice. She was beautiful and smart. A full package. And she knew him better than anyone else. Their union proved to be successful in many ways. The only thing they were lacking was an heir. And this was something they agreed to try for next year.

But considering all the changes, maybe he had to push the date closer. It would probably be a good idea to do that now. An heir would give Riannon security and peace of mind in her

Yes, it was a good decision.

There was only one problem – how was he to get her back into The Silver River Pack? What if the king decided to leave her there permanently?

"My love," Roxanne, who was massaging his shoulders this whole time called him, "I can

see that you are worried."

"Don't concern your pretty head with things like this," Brayden told her, sighing heavily and closing his eyes.

"How can I ignore this when you are not happy?" she purred into his ear, almost annoying him, (This novel will be daily updated at) "I can see you texting her for the past few hours. Is this about your wife again?"

He grabbed her hand forcefully and yanked her to her knees before him. "Don't speak about my wife and your Luna!" he growled but then saw tears forming in her

eyes and his wolf snarled at him in his mind for making their mate sad again, "She is off-limits

for you. Got it?"

"am sorry," she said, sulking slightly, "I understand the vast difference between the two of us. I just want to help."

"How can an omega help an Alpha?" a cruel laugh escaped him.

"I may be just an omega," she placed her palms back on his knees, "But I am still a woman and understand some things from a female's perspective."

Now she got him interested and he tilted his head slightly, watching her and giving her a

reassuring nod to speak.

"Your wife is hurt because of me and it probably made her do some wrong choices," the girl on the floor said, averting his gaze, "It's very sad that she betrayed you when you had your first difficulties. But... never mind. You want her back here, right? But she wouldn't come on her own if I assume everything correctly."

"And?" he was growing impatient.

"Then you need to make her want to come," she glanced at him and there was something dangerous in that glance. However, it was gone quickly, replaced by her usual eagerness to

please.

"I am afraid this time a diamond necklace isn't going to cut it," he scoffed.

"Nothing nice will," Roxy nodded her head, "But I would come anywhere if something was to happen to you."

"I understand," she agreed with him again, "But I bet there is someone else in that pack who she cares about."

He watched her for a few seconds before what she meant registered. (This novel will be daily updaed at) It wasn't what he liked to do. But desperate times...

"There is that best friend of hers," Roxanne continued, "They are practically like sisters to

each other..."

Their eyes met and she held his gaze with her lips curled slightly.

"If I touch Maya..." He started saying when she interrupted him.

"You don't have to do anything," she smirked for the first time, "I can take care of that. Just support me when the time comes."

"All right," Brayden sneered and watched his mate jump back to her feet and leave the

room. :

Maybe, just maybe, that omega mate of his was worth more than he thought...

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Chapter 38. Maya

Riannon gathered her hair at the back of her head and dressed up quickly into a pair of blue jeans, comfortable leather boots and an oversized blouse, part of which she tucked under her belt. All while she was calling Ash and Maya in turns. But to her disappointment and horror,

none of them was replying.

She tried to steady her breathing as panic almost overwhelmed her. She couldn't lose Maya. Not again. She already lost her once and it almost broke her.

It did break her. This was the point from which everything went downhill.

She remembered every detail even now. Roxy was launching attack after attack on her. (This novel will be daily updated at)But Maya was helping to protect her best friend and helped Riannon to avoid traps more than once. She was very snarky towards Roxy always and quickly got under her radar.

So, one day she was accused of treason. There was no evidence against her. Just a confession of a warrior from one of the enemy packs from the East, who insisted that she was

trading secrets with them in the hope to become the next Beta after Ash was accidentally

killed. Even Ash wasn't convinced but her loyalty was compromised. And that was when Brayden came up with a good solution as he called it. To send Maya to the border to serve as one of the guards there. Just several days later her post out of all others was under attack. Moreover, she was one of the very few dead.

Closing her eyes, Riannon felt a tear roll down her cheek as she remembered driving all the way to the border with Ash as soon as she received the news. Brayden couldn't look her in the eye and she did not want to see him anyway.

The Beta brought her to one of the small cottages of the border village and there on a table lay her best friend, covered with a white sheet. They already cleaned

her body after they heard that the Luna was coming. But they still couldn't do anything about the claw marks which didn't grow well together after she shifted back to her human form after her death. Those ugly uneven scars were going through her face and neck, some were on her chest. And just by looking at them, Riannon could tell that several beasts were attacking Maya.

She was so cold. So lifeless. A shell of the person that she knew. It was hard to recognise in that vacant face the person that Maya was. The strong girl, who was a fighter in

heart and could barely spend a minute without cracking a joke wasn't there anymore.

Riannon remembered how she wept over her friend's body. How painful it was. (This novel will be daily updated at)How Ash tore her off and how she cried into his chest for hours in that cottage...

But all that happened much later in time in her previous life. What was happening now? If

She took her bag and went downstairs, hoping not to meet anyone and find a car easily. If

anything, she was sure she could ask for some assistance from Savvy. The princess seemed like someone who could understand the situation.

However, the first person Riannon met was Reid. He was reading something in his Ipad in the living room when she passed it. But he jumped to his feet as soon as he noticed her and

followed her.

"Where are you going?" he asked, slightly shocked seeing her ready to leave. "I need to get back to my pack," the Luna stated plainly as she kept walking to the exit.

"Absolutely not!" Reid blocked her way.

"I don't think that I asked your permission," Ria arched her brow, "I simply informed you

that I am going."

"Luna," the Beta tried to reason with her, "I am sorry. But I just can't allow it. Gideon will

kill me when he comes back."

. "Let's drop the formalities, Reid," she looked at him with a challenge, "If I don't go back to

my pack now, my best friend in the whole world may die! I just cannot let that happen."

"But I..."

"I will hate Gideon forever if you stop me now because of him," she lied. She would never hate the lycan king. It was simply impossible. However, she knew that this was the right button

to push on the Beta. Nevertheless she decided to sweeten it a bit, (This novel will be daily updated at) "Reid, I can't lose her. I almost lost her once and it was the worst thing ever. For me, she is my Beta..."

Something changed in his eyes at her words. Something clicked. Because after that, he opened the door for her himself, saying, "I will drive."

She decided not to argue with that. A lycan by her side could prove useful.

The drive to the Silver River pack seemed terribly long and they barely spoke to each

other the whole time.

"This friend of yours," Reid decided to break the silence, "Is she at least hot?" "Hotter than fire," Riannon scoffed, "But way out of your league."

"Excuse me?!" the Beta pretended to be offended although his eyes gleamed as if he has accepted the challenge, "Any girl will be happy to land a lycan Beta like me!"

"Not Maya though," Ria chuckled, "She is different. She doesn't care about title and she is not your typical she-wolf."

story about Maya, relieving years of their friendship.

The guards let them into the pack territory with ease, greeting their Luna. "Wait for me here," Ria told the lycan when he parked in front of her house and she

jumped out of the car.

The door of the mansion opened at once and a very troubled Ash walked out of it. He looked her up and down as if he was checking for something and then took her hand, pulling her behind him.

"Where is she?" Riannon asked him, not even trying to struggle. "In the barn," he replied dryly, "Everyone is there! I have to tell you that it doesn't look

good, Riannon.”

“Ash, stop for a second! Explain to me what is going on! What happened to Maya?” she

begged him.

He stopped, inhaling deeply and then turned to face her.

“Goddess knows what is happening, Riannon,” he said, “It started yesterday but it escalated rather quickly into something completely else!”

“Details, Ash, I need details!” she urged him.

“Yesterday, out of the blue Roxanne announced at the pack dinner that she saw Maya stealing from your jewellery box while you were missing,” he started explaining.

“What nonsense!” Ria rolled her eyes, “Maya would never! And anyway, (This novel will be daily updated at)she can take whatever she likes from my jewellery box if she needs it.”

“That’s what we all thought,” the Beta nodded, “Only that it did not end there. All of a sudden Brayden got very angry and ordered to search Maya’s room.”

“Of course, he did,” the woman gritted her teeth.

“But that was when they found Maya hiding a secret phone in her room,” Ash went on, “The Alpha ordered her to unlock it and this was when the shit hit the fan. Because on that phone she was texting with foxes and werebears. And even lycans from the Eastern kingdom. And I mean texting about upcoming attacks on our pack. She was giving them information on when would be the best days to attack us...”

“That’s impossible!” Riannon splashed her hands, “Maya would never...”

“Again,” he interrupted her, “Everyone said so. But right now, this escalated even more... That’s why you need to go to the barn with me. You need to see this.”

repeating itself!

Yet when the doors of the barn were opened before her, she met Brayden’s gaze. And Roxanne’s too. Maya was right next to them.

But Riannon was already staring in the pair of smoky grey eyes. She would never forget

them...

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Chapter 39. Interrogation

Riannon knew that she would never forget that face and she recognised him at once. The man who accused Maya of being a traitor. The man she interrogated personally for many hours. The man even Ash interrogated and he was by far one of the cruelest interrogators she knew. And yet that man never cracked.

She remembered his perfect face being broken in many places and yet he kept saying the same story over and over again. He was the one to blame for what happened to Maya back in the past. Because he helped to set her up.

Riannon always knew that this man was connected to Roxy somehow. She knew it. She just had this gut feeling inside telling her that she was right about that.

He watched her walking inside of the barn with Ash by her side and she could swear that she saw a vague smile in the corner of his lips. (This novel will be daily updated at) His hands were chained and lifted up and he was shirtless, revealing his perfect muscles.

A warrior. This was what he claimed to be. His long brown hair was reaching his shoulders and was not bloody yet, meaning that no one tried to beat the truth out of him. Yet.

"Ri," Brayden stormed her way but stopped when she gave him a death stare.

"What is going on here?" she walked past him and stood in front of the man. Maya was in the room too and they exchanged knowing glances. No words were needed. But Riannon tried her best to signal her friend that everything would be fine. Whatever it took now, she would make sure that nothing happened to her in this lifetime. She wasn't going to lose her again.

She noticed a few warriors and their Gamma in the room as well. All of them looked concerned. Maya was everyone's favourite and some of the men were even after her in hopes to get her as their chosen mate.

At least, she could hope for their support if it came to this.

"Nice to see you, Ri," Brayden stood next to her right in front of the man with the grey eyes who was watching her with some kind of amusement in him, "I missed..."

"I asked what is going on here!" she demanded not even bothering to look at him.

"Unfortunately, our Maya is compromised," her husband sighed as if he was sad. He

wasn't. She knew that he wasn't. He did not care. She wasn't his friend. If anything, they were NOT each other's biggest fans although there was never an open confrontation.

"Nonsense," she interrupted him.

"Luna," Roxy dared to speak, "We found out that Maya..." "Shut up!" Riannon said calmly but loud enough for everyone to hear, "You may be my

higher-ranked wolves should deal with and as far as I remember you are still an omega.

Unless something changed in the few days that I've been absent."

Everyone looked at her. And she only lifted her chin up higher.

"I understand that you are upset, Riannon," Brayden said, finally not using her nickname anymore, (This novel will be daily updated at) "But Roxy... Roxanne here was vital for the investigation."

"I have no doubt!" she let out a laugh that was stone cold. "Helpful little omega, isn't she? How did all this start again?"

"I..." Roxy started to form tears in her eyes the way she always did, trembling.

"There, there," Ria came to her and patted her shoulder, "You were so brave and full of yourself just three seconds ago. I am sure you can handle an adult conversation without bursting into tears for once if you try really hard."

Again, no one spoke a word. They all just looked at her, stunned.

"Maybe you need emotional support?" Riannon went on, "We can do that too! Luckily your mate is right here! Come on, Bray, give her a hug. The girl needs some strength! For the sake of her wolf and all."

Her husband clenched his lips tight. But before he was to reply something, Roxy spoke.

"All I did was notice she had your bracelet under her shirt when you left. I didn't think much of it, but later I followed her and saw her walking into your room. She went straight to your jewellery box and took something else from it."

"Right," Riannon nodded a few times, "And to that, I have a very important question."

She made a pause and walked back to the chained man because she needed to see his

reaction as well as everyone else's.

"Which bracelet?" she asked and noticed how the man's eyebrows twitched slightly. (This novel will be daily updated at)Just a second of movement. Nothing more. Not enough for anyone else to notice. But she knew that he was surprised.

"Excuse me?" Roxy seemed startled as well. But that did not come as a shock.

"Which bracelet did you see on Maya?" she repeated the question slowly as if she was talking to a stupid child.

"Erm... A diamond one," Roxy stuttered.

"There are many diamond bracelets in the world," Ria scoffed, "Yet you were sure that Maya had mine on. You must remember the details well then. It must be one of my memorable

"It was the one with an emerald in it," the omega said quietly, hugging herself and

lowering her head as if the pressure was too much for her.

"Oh, really?" Riannon sneered, "And how would you recognise it if I never wore it in the few days that you stayed here?!"

This time she got a few gasps from the people around them. "I..." Roxy was lost for words. But just for a second. Then she looked straight into the

Luna's eyes and said, "I looked at your pictures in the magazines and saw that one."

"Did you see others?" Ria did not want to lose the momentum and kept going, "Can you describe them? You seem to have quite an eye for jewellery if you remembered it that well from just one pic."

"I..." the omega looked at her mate and Brayden stepped in at once.

"Riannon, enough! That's not about the bracelet anymore!" he practically growled at her.

"On the contrary," she turned to look at him, "The bracelet is the most important part here! It was enough for you to suddenly search my best friend's room! Like I couldn't have given her the damn thing! And you know that I would let Maya have anything she wants from my jewellery box! Not that she would want anything! So, why did you order that search?!"

"Because I wanted to get to the bottom of this!" he snapped, (This novel will be daily updated at) "And I am happy that I did! Because that phone is the main issue now, Ri! Not the bracelet!"

"How convenient!" she narrowed her eyes at him.

"The phone unlocked with her fingerprint!" he snarled.

"Big deal!" she scoffed, "Like those are hard to get nowadays! All you need is a glass that the person used!"

"You haven't seen what's inside!" Brayden was breathing heavily now. He did not like to

be contradicted.

"Were there her pictures with our enemies?" she rolled her eyes, "Videos maybe? Texts

are no proof, Bray!"

"They are if they lead us into capturing the intruder!" her husband spat the words, "It's

too much of a coincidence!"

"This part I agree with!" she folded her hands on her chest and came up closer to the man with grey eyes, "It is a bit too much of a coincidence that everything got solved so easily. And Maya, who is not an i***t, by the way, was stealing my jewellery and wearing it in front of

messages that describe all her betrayals and future plans plainly. I mean, come on! I know Maya since we were children. She is not that dumb! She would at least use a code!"

"And yet she didn't!" now Brayden was properly angry, "You should listen to what this man says before you continue to embarrass yourself protecting a traitor."

"She is not guilty unless proven otherwise," Riannon snapped, "And I am not convinced at all. But you are right. Let's listen to that very important witness who you got at the most convenient time."

She already did this in the past. She interrogated that man and knew what did not work. Because she didn't break him and neither did anyone else. He was good. Very good. Which meant that he was dangerous.

So, she had to try something else. Something that he wouldn't expect.

She came much closer to him, regretting that he was much taller than her. It did not give her the desired effect. But she had to work with what she had.

Slowly, she traced her fingers over his face and all the way to his chin, cupping it gently as he did not tear his eyes off her.

"You are very beautiful," she said, and his lips parted slightly. (This novel will be daily updated at) (This novel will be daily updated at) "Th-thank you, Luna," he said in a hoarse voice, "I..."

"Don't thank me," she took her hand off him, happy to throw him off his course even a little bit, "It's just a fact. Not a compliment."

"Riannon, what is the point of this?" Brayden was losing his patience. "No point, really," she shrugged her shoulders, "Just stating the obvious. He is very

handsome. That's all."

She could hear the sound of her husband's teeth-gritting.

"All right, handsome, tell us everything. Who are you? Why are you here? And what is your connection to Maya?" she looked straight into his eyes, not even flinching.

He impressed her in her past life but right now he was even more impressive. His game was on point.

"What pack are you from?" she asked and immediately answered in unison with him. "*Crimson Moon.*"

He looked at her with a newfound surprise. "They caught you on the border. What were you doing there?" she gave him a soft smile

"I was..."

"*Waiting for Maya,*" she said together with him again. She remembered every line of his. She never forgot a single one since he didn't give anything new no matter how many times she

asked. And just a few days later he escaped to never be seen again.

"Continue," she waved for him to go on.

"*She was supposed to meet me under the willow tree and give me the information...* stopped talking when again she pronounced all the words at the same time as him.

"Couldn't she just text it to you?" Riannon scoffed, "You didn't seem to have any problem communicating through texts, right? Why meet up?"

he

"She said that it wasn't a phone conversation,"

they said in unison again and now Maya

snorted loudly.

"Riannon, what is going on?" Brayden stepped closer to her, mixed emotions evident on

his face.

"Just an interrogation," she angled her head to look at him, "Why? Don't you think that his

replies are so natural and flow nicely?"

"How do you know what he is going to say?" her husband asked.

"Because I have my sources, Brayden," she chose to lie this time because she couldn't possibly explain to him how she knew all that. But she knew that he would buy that. "And they told me that this would happen."

She turned to the man with grey eyes and asked, "What is your name?"

"Axel," he said, and she was glad that she didn't try to answer together with him this time. (This novel will be daily updatd at)The name that he introduced himself with in her past life was Everett. He caught up with her game very quickly. She knew that she would hardly get anything out of him anymore. Not even through torture.

But she couldn't help and did one thing. Riannon leaned lower and whispered into his ear.

"Nice try, Everett."

His face was void of emotions, just his lips twitched a bit as if he had a momentarily need to smirk.

"Anyway," she now was facing her husband, "I don't see any good evidence here to accuse Maya. Just a bunch of badly thrown together clues and two very unreliable witnesses. I have more questions for them, to be honest."

victim again.

"Fine, you are right," the Alpha agreed, "Maya is almost family. I wouldn't punish her severely anyway. We will send her to the border since her loyalty has been compromised. It will be just for a year or two."

"No," Riannon said firmly. She knew that she couldn't lose that argument.

"Ri," he took her arm above her elbow and pulled her closer, "Be reasonable now. This is

the best decision. She'll be fine."

"I said no!" the Luna furrowed her brows, "Maya will stay by my side at all times! She is the only one I trust and this will never change!"

"Ri!" this time he shook her roughly and she almost fell down from the impact, but Maya and Ash were next to her side to catch her just in time.

"Are you out of your mind?!" Maya growled angrily. She was surprisingly calm prior to this but now even her nerves gave in.

She pushed her Alpha and in less than a second he was back grabbing her throat tightly. "Brayden!" Riannon screamed, "Let her go!"

"I will f*****g snap her neck for this!" he snarled and Riannon was ready to attack him herself. No matter what it cost her.

But this was when a loud menacing growl interrupted them all. "Take your hands off my MATE!"

NOTE: Hi, Circle! Thank you for all the messages of support that I received today. I am still going through them but will try to reply to everyone. This will probably be my last long author's note as the one they have is limited to 200characters. So, it will be a bit harder for us to communicate. I will edit out my previous notes as well. I may be leaving some extra important info in comments and in Marissa Gilbert's Reading Circle group in the future. So, stay tuned.

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Chapter 40

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Chapter 40. Leave

They all froze, watching Reid breathing heavily as he stood at the entrance of the barn. He wasn't supposed to be here. And he did not look his usual self with messy hair and crazy eyes that were glowing blue now. Eyes that were looking at Maya only.

"Who the hell are you?!" Brayden growled, his head snapping in his wife's direction. However, he quickly realised, to his own relief, that the intruder wasn't looking at her. So he placed Maya back to her feet. Riannon cuddled her friend at once. Nevertheless, Maya wasn't

her usual self either.

"Mate," she whispered and, for the first time ever, Riannon saw a tear running down her

cheek.

Maya never cried before. At least, she hadn't had any memories of her doing that. (This novel will be daily updated at) Maya was tough. And yet her mate managed to bring the emotions out of her within just a mere second.

"Mate," Reid smiled at her, stepping inside.

"I am going to ask just one more time," Brayden clicked his fingers to make his warriors spread out evenly through the room, "Who are you?!"

"Brayden," Ria snapped at him, "This is Beta Reid Frazer, he is king Gideon's second in command. A lycan! Didn't you see him at the Alpha Ball?"

The warriors were visibly perplexed but none of them budged. They all stood ready to

defend their Alpha and Luna if it was necessary and Riannon felt proud of them at that moment

in time. Even though they were personally trained by her husband and not her. While she handled inner matters and politics, Brayden was the one who took care of their army and their training. This was something he was very good at.

But she did not want their people to fight a lycan. And Reid of all the people in the world.

"There is no need for this," she stepped in between them hoping to negotiate. "Of course, there isn't," her husband said through his teeth, "Just leave our territory and

"Not without my mate," the lycan balled his fists, muscles flexing on his arms and chest.

"You mean Maya?" the Alpha looked at the girl who stood next to his wife and an idea

struck him at once, "Well, you need to know that from this day in our pack she is considered a

traitor."

"Brayden!" now Riannon wanted to slap him even more than when he was sleeping with Roxy in the next room to hers. She glanced at her friend and noticed how she clenched her lips.

"Maya is a beautiful name," was all that Reid said to them as he took another step.

"And Maya will have to leave now to the border for her punishment," Brayden said coldly, "You can make a formal request and..."

"She will be leaving," Reid quirked his brow up at the Alpha, acknowledging him for the first time, (This novel will be daily updated at) "To the border with the Lycan Kingdom. And then she will cross it to go and leave

with me. Today."

"This is not how these things work!" Brayden said with a smirk, "There are procedures

that have to be done and..."

"F***k the procedures!" Reid snarled and the warriors got tense, "I am not leaving her! She is mine! And unless you want to offend a Beta of the lycan kingdom..."

"I can't!" Maya said and they all looked at her. The pain was evident on her mate's face, but he stayed strong. "I cannot leave Riannon here alone."

Ria bit her lip. She didn't tell Maya that she had found her mate yet. She did not want to

do that over the phone. She couldn't do that now. However, she was sure that it was an extremely good idea to get her out of this pack. She would be safe with the lycans. And they would reunite after the inevitable divorce.

"As I have said," Brayden interrupted them, "Right now you will go to the border. And we will go from there."

"No," Riannon said loudly, "She will not go to the border. She will go with Reid, her mate!"

"Ria!" Maya looked at her pleadingly. She knew for a fact that her friend would be in danger here now. She tasted it just a few minutes ago when she got framed so easily and no one could do anything about it.

"Maya, it's okay," the Luna tried to reassure her friend, "We'll take you to the lycan kingdom now and I will explain to you everything on the way, but..."

"About that," Brayden interjected and they all looked at him warily, "Considering everything that is happening lately, I think that it would be best if you stayed here, Ri."

She froze, not knowing how to react to that. She knew that she had to come back at the end of the week, but she sure as hell did not want to stay here today. Gideon would be back soon and she counted on spending the little time they had left together until the big game had

to start.

"But I am not done with the work in the lycan kingdom," she said calmly, concealing all of

"I am sure your work was very productive." Brayden looked at her with veiled anger in his eyes, "I felt it even when you were far away from me."

She knew what he meant. And she knew that she had been defeated in that argument already. (This novel will be daily updated at) He wouldn't let her go and she had to suck it up.

"Very well," Riannon nodded curtly, "But Maya goes with Reid."

"She is a part of our pack for now," Brayden sneered, even though he actually wanted the Beta girl gone. But he knew that he had to make Riannon struggle with this one to make her think less of herself.

"Well, I am the Luna!" she snapped, "I let her go and live her life with her mate!"

"Ria," Maya sighed with regret in her eyes. Reid was next to her the next second, pulling her in his arms and taking a deep breath, inhaling her scent so that it would feel his lungs for the first time.

"No, worries, little one," he said to her, "Everything is going to be okay."

"He is right," Riannon smiled at the two of them, "Go, M. I will pack your things and Dean will bring them to you."

"But," Maya was still not sure what to do. For her, Ria was not just her best friend and

Luna, she was her Alpha.

"It is better for me if you go now,"

Riannon mind-linked her, "

Just trust me on this one,

okay?

Maya nodded and Reid pushed her towards the door. He knew that he would be in huge trouble with his king. Because right now, to get his own mate out, he lost the one who belonged

to Gideon.

At the door, he turned to look at Ria and she gave him a reassuring nod, letting him know

that she would be fine.

"Go," she mouthed to him and he took it as an order. Maya looked at her with worry

written all over her face. The girl was panicking but her mate hugged her tighter as he led her

out.

The doors behind them closed and Ria felt sad and happy at once.

"So, this is done," Brayden exhaled as if he was relieved and she hated him at that moment. (This novel will be daily updated at)He was very happy with himself, even though everything in the pack was a mess."

Roxy," he turned to his mate, "Leave now. I will see you tomorrow."

Riannon wanted to follow her example but at the last moment, she turned and

immediately met the gaze of their prisoner.

"Ash," she said to their Beta, "Take him to the underground prison. Use chains and whatever else we've got there to keep him locked. Use only the guards that you personally trained. No one else."

"You pay him way too much attention," Brayden chuckled as he laced his hand around

her waist.

"He just framed my best friend," she tried to shake his hand off but he held her in place almost forcefully, "He did not speak a word of truth and I am sure he knows a lot of useful information. I want him imprisoned until I am done with him."

"I love it when you are feisty," her husband growled and commanded their warriors, "You

all heard your Luna. Ash, do as she said.”

She looked at their prisoner again and for a mere moment there she could swear that she – saw a smirk. She did not like it one bit but at the moment a much bigger problem was pulling her out of the barn.

They walked towards the mansion slowly and met quite a few people as it wasn't that late yet. The pack members were smiling at them and greeting them, probably thinking that the happy couple had finally reunited as Brayden had his hands wrapped around his wife.

Ria was thinking hectically of what she could do or say in the situation she was in. She

wasn't surprised when he led her straight to her bedroom. But she really did not like it when he

locked the door behind them.

“Was all that really necessary?” she asked, walking deeper into the room and going behind her desk, so that there were more obstructions between the two of them, “Did you believe even for a second that Maya was a traitor? Or was this all just to get back at me?”

“It was both,” he admitted without any kind of hesitation, “My main aim was to get my wife back home.”

“What for?” she looked at him, unimpressed, “Did you get bored with your sweet little

mate?”

“I missed you,” he got closer and then sighed, “Look, I know that I hurt you. (This novel will be daily updated at)And it was wrong of me. But I had to obey my wolf's needs! And what you did with the lycan...”

“Was obeying my wolf's needs,” she chuckled, “You are not the only one with a wolf, you

The Alpha slammed his fist on the desk between them so hard that a crack formed in the

wood...