

CHAPTER 161

Kai POV

Twins. We're having twins. I look at Winter slightly panicked. One baby was hard enough to imagine taking care of, but two at the same time? Storm on the other hand was preening like a proud peacock, as though he was personally responsible for it. Stupid mutt. Winter looked just as dazed as she got up and went to the bathroom to clean herself off. I had so many thoughts running through my head, but one in particular stood out. I was going to be a father and if I was honest with myself, I couldn't wait. I could already see myself holding a newborn in my arms, Winter by my side, holding the other. It was such a sweet picture, that it brought tears to my eyes.

I felt a sense of determination as Winter came back out, looking a bit pale. "Winter, do you mind if we spend another night or two here" I suggest quietly, "and are you alright? I need to go see Prince Jasper about something."

She nods looking a bit perplexed. "I think I might go take a nap" she says with a yawn.

"Good idea" I tell her hastily, escorting her to the room. I lean down and give her a loving, warm k**s that makes her m**n in appreciation.

“You could come join me” she suggests and I’m so incredibly tempted, but I have something far more important that I need to take care of.

“Raincheck” I say and she shrugs, looking slightly disappointed.

“Have a good nap” I tell her and she smiles and nods, disappearing back inside the room and closing the door.

I waste no time in locating Prince Jasper, who is outside enjoying the warm sunshine. He glances over at me. “Alpha Kai” he exclaims with a grin “I’ve just finished discussing the treaty with King Axel. Did you come to find out the particulars?”

I shake my head. “Actually, I was hoping you could do me a bit of a favor” I hedge, shifting on my feet.

His eyes narrow as he waits for me to finish. “Is there a chance I could borrow a car, and is there a mall nearby?”

He laughs. “Is that all. Of course I can lend you a car. The mall is very close, surprisingly, but I do happen to like to shop.”

“Thanks” I mutter.

He gestures with one hand and begins to walk around the castle, towards the back, where there is a garage, housing several impressive looking cars.

“Will this one do?” he asks politely, pointing at a Ferrari.

I stare at him speechless. Is he really going to lend me a Ferrari? He must be mad. But my mouth waters at the thought of driving it.

“Are you sure” I stammer “I mean what if I get in an accident?”

“Then we’ll be thankful you’re still alive. Cars can be replaced, people cannot be.”

He walks over to a shelf with keys on it, rifling through and then tosses me one. “I wish you luck on whatever it is you are seeking, although” he says a bit sharply “I have an idea of what you are going for. About time if you ask me” he chuckles “she’s a very beautiful woman.”

I stare at him in stupefaction, before coming to my senses and eagerly getting into the driver’s seat of the car.

“Now listen closely” says Prince Jasper, leaning over “here are the directions to the mall.”

He repeats them twice and I nod, Prince Jasper backing away and watching as I start the ignition. The car comes to life and I slowly reverse

out, before turning and leaving the castle grounds, Prince Jasper waving in the background.

The mall was only a few minutes away and the drive was far too short for my liking. I had the windows down, enjoying the fresh air and breeze on my face. It was a beauty of a drive, the car smooth as anything to drive. I reluctantly pulled into a parking spot and got out, ambling into the mall and into a sea of people going in every direction.

I walked, and then spotted the store I needed, walking into the jewelry store with my heart pounding loudly in my chest. I head straight to the rings section. But then I pause, confused. There were so many to choose from, so many different shapes that I was unsure where to begin. Storm however, wasted no time in giving his opinion.

Choose something delicate that reminds us of Winter. She loves gold jewelry or is that because we can't wear silver? hmmm. Anyway, I think something small rather than blingy. Simple, elegant, just like Winter is. But beautiful and unique too.

Storm, you're making me overthink things.

Good, because you don't want to stuff this up. Thank Christ you're finally coming around. It's only taken me months of pushing. Why do you have to be so freaking stubborn.

Do not make me put a block up Storm. I'm letting you help me choose out of courtesy.

Grrr. Fine then, let's have a proper look at the rings.

A saleswoman comes up to me as I'm perusing the rings, feeling a bit hopeless. She gives me a friendly smile. "Is there something I can help you with?" she asks warmly.

"I want to buy an engagement ring" I tell her pointing down at them "but I wouldn't know what to choose."

"Alright" she says calmly "then let's begin with a few questions. Silver, gold, rose gold or white gold?"

I hesitate but then look at the white gold. It's perfect and I like it far better than the gold which I feel would look quite heavy on her finger.

"White gold."

"Fantastic" she beams, putting away the gold rings and silver. This left a few trays still to peruse.

"Now are you going with a traditional diamond, or are you looking for a different stone such as amethyst, emerald, garnet?" she prompts.

What do you think Storm?

Honestly, I think traditional diamond. It's so pretty and will look dazzling in the sun on her finger.

So no to the other stones?

No to the other stones. It's not her. I'm telling you.

"I think we'll stick to the traditional diamond" I tell the saleswoman.

She nods and removes more rings. "Now what kind of thing were you thinking? A solitary diamond or a diamond surrounded by smaller ones?"

Now I was feeling even more stuck. They all looked stunning when you looked at them.

Single diamond, but rather large. I don't like them surrounded, that seems more like a wedding band than an engagement ring.

Are you sure Storm?

You better believe it. Have another look and you'll see I'm right. Plus, Winter has small fingers, so she needs something that looks delicate while still having a large diamond to show off.

I'm going with you on this, so let's hope you're right.

I'm always right you moron.

"I think a single diamond" I murmur and she nods.

"Most people go for an individual diamond when they are proposing but go for several on a wedding band" she explains.

Damn Storm for being correct. Boy is he smug right now.

"Now are you thinking small or large" the woman questions me, still smiling warmly.

"Large" I say decisively "but not so big that it gets in the way of things."

She nods in understanding, pulling several rings out and placing them on the counter for me to view.

"I hope you don't mind but I've taken the liberty of putting some of my favorites out on the counter. These ones are quite special and unique,

which the woman I assume your marrying is like. This one is a princess cut” she explains holding it up.

I peer at it. It’s really pretty, the diamond more medium size but on Winter’s hand it would look quite large on her delicate fingers.

She hands me the ring and I feel it, holding it up to the light. “It’s not huge, but then sometimes too big can look tacky on a person, not to mention feel really heavy when wearing it.”

I didn’t want it to feel heavy on Winter’s finger. She hands me another one that’s similar, the diamond slightly smaller, in a square shape. I immediately shake my head.

“No square shapes” I tell her, handing it back. She puts it back under the counter.

She hands me a few more, but none of them are as pretty as the first one she gave me. My instinct is telling me to go with that one but I check with Storm first.

Storm what do you think?

Go with the first one with the princess cut for our princess. I don’t like the other ones. This one seems right somehow, like it’s made for her.

I think the same. It's perfect. It screams Winter you know. I really hope she loves it.

She will. Hell, I love it.

Storm, I'm not marrying you, just so you know.

No but she's marrying the both of us. So, I get a say and I say this one.

Fair enough.

"I think that the princess cut is perfect" I say honestly before she can hand me anymore. "I can picture it on her finger and I'm going on instinct."

The saleswoman, her name tag reading Barbera now that I've taken the time to look at it, nods in understanding. "That's the best way to choose. You know your partner well, so you know what she'll like."

She cheerfully places the rest of the rings back under the counter and then motions me towards the cash register. I follow her, feeling excitement in my breast. I don't even flinch at the price. For me, \$15000 was hardly anything and I quickly hand over my bank card, watching her swipe it, before putting in my pin.

“I’ll get you a box for it” she says, turning away and grabbing one from the shelf behind her. It’s a nice red one. She winks. “Red is far more romantic.”

She puts the ring inside and hands it to me. “Goodluck and all the best” she says “I really hope she says yes.”

“Thanks for your help.”

I put the ring box in my jeans pocket, feeling it against my leg. Storm is almost wriggling with excitement in my mind but I’m determined to do this right. I didn’t just want to propose in the bedroom; I wanted it to be romantic. Winter deserved romantic. I also don’t want her to think that I’m proposing just because she’s pregnant. It’s been on my mind for a while, thanks to Storm and that stupid song he continually sings at me. This just pushed me to do it earlier. I want Winter to have my name, my children to have it. I want her to be married to me before she gives birth. But will she say yes?

Better make it extra romantic so she doesn’t say no.

I will. I will. God, I’m feeling the pressure.

You’ll survive. Or do you want me to do the proposing? Cause I’ll happily do it.

No way Storm. You are not taking over the proposal. Get that in your head right now.

What if you freeze? Then what?

Then you have my permission to take over, but only then. Otherwise leave it up to me.

Fine, then don't stuff it up.

I won't.

I shake my head and sigh. Storm has a point though; I need to make this romantic for Winter. I have an idea in the back of my mind but I'm going to need some serious help with it. Something tells me Prince Jasper will be more than willing, but I still need to pick up some supplies in preparation. I start to head down towards the opposite side of the mall, listing things I need in my mind. My card was about to take a serious hit and I didn't even care. I had one chance at this and I was going all out.