

I Rejected You, Alpha – Chapter 101

ELEIA'S POV

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“Stop!” my lungs burn as I scream at the top of my lungs. My eyes sting as I watch Regan toss Rosie around like a rag. Her body hits the wall with a big thud before dropping onto the ground, a gasp escaping her lips as the breath is knocked right out of her. I can see it in her eyes, she’s terrified, unable to breathe.

“Stop!” I beg, my warm cheeks now wet as I stare at Regan’s dark eyes, “Don’t look at me, you mut!” he roars so loud that my ears ring even after he stopped. I directly look at the floor, my entire body aching as it shakes in fear. Regan is the Alpha’s son, he’s brutal and careless and much, much bigger than us.

“Kneel.” he grits out and my legs just give out and I drop to the floor, “I’m sorry, I’m sorry.” I repeatedly mutter as my body shakes.

Regan scoffs and then it turns into a chuckle, but it suddenly fades when heavy footsteps enter, “Dad.” Regan’s voice is low, as if he’s scared. “What is going on here Regan?” the alpha asks in a very low voice, he sounds very mad.

“I’m just...”, “No, why did you stop? I heard her ask you to and you did.” my gaze flicks up to the strong and dark Alpha, his eyes hooded and the darkness glimmering inside of his orbs are like hell fire.

“What are you looking at?” his eyes suddenly flick down to mine and he lifts his large foot and it gets closer in a flash before he kicks me in the face, sending me flying to the ground and I bash my head against the floor, a cry escaping my lips as my eyes glaze over.

“No!” I hear Rosie’s voice and I pray that she keeps quiet, but there’s no answer, “What?” the Alpha’s scoff is loud, but maybe it’s because he’s angry.

“Did you just speak to me without being called on?” his voice gets darker, more devilish.

“No, I...I...” Rosie starts to stutter and I pry my eyes open, the burning sensation making me blink repeatedly as I try to focus on her. All I see is a very big shadow that’s closing in on her before snatching her by the throat, lifting her off the floor, “Here, Regan, do it.” The alpha grits out, dragging Rosie over to his son. I try to get up, my throat dry as I try to speak up, but it’s only a croaking sound that comes out.

“Hit her.” The alpha encourages his son’s selfish behaviour, making him even more of a monster. “Dad, come on.” Regan scoffs and a glint of hope lights my heart.

Don’t do it, please don’t hurt her. Please, save her.

“Do it Regan!” the alpha Roars, making me sink into the floor more. “What is going on in here?” The luna’s voice fills my ears and I try to glance up and I only see Rosie’s body drop, a grunt escaping her. “Nothing.” the alpha mutters, “These girls got themselves into a little trouble.” the alpha shrugs, lying through his teeth.

Can’t she see that her son did this?

Can’t she see what kind of monster her mate is?

I can feel her eyes on me, “Regan?” she calls to her son, “Is this true?” she asks, “Yes, do you think we’re lying?” he asks offended.

“Well go to your chambers girls. Now.” the luna growls and I slowly get up, every muscle in my body screaming as it aches and I crawl over to Rosie, not daring to look up at the alpha, his son or the luna as I help my friend to her feet.

We keep our heads down as we scurry out of their presence and rush to our chambers.

As we burst through the open door, Rosie collapses, rolling onto her back as she begins to cry.

“Eleia.” she whines, holding her ribs and I could hear snorts and laughs behind me as I’m crouched down beside my best friend.

“Shh, it’s okay.” I glance up at the door, baring my teeth before glancing back down at my trembling friend.

“It’s okay.” I grab her hand, “Just be quiet.” I pull her up, a gritted out groan rasping out of her thin pressed lips as I get her to her feet. I hook her arm around my neck, my own body aching as I drag her to her bed, slowly putting her down.

“What did she do?” I hear a girl older than us scoff and I turn to her, “We did nothing, get a ice pack.” I demand and her bushy brows raise, “Excuse me?” she scoffs, giggling. “I’m not helping you.” she snorts, “Well if you don’t, you’ll be very, very sorry.” I seethe, standing upright, “Oh yeah? What are you going to do?”, “Murder you in your sleep, no one will miss you.” I deadpan and her smile falls so fast that it makes me smile from the inside. “As if.” she tries to brush off my threat, “Then start sleeping with one eye open.” I grit out and a little girl steps forward, she looks about five years old, “I’ll get it.” she murmurs and the girl older than us stops her, “No, Jessy, stay here. I’ll get it.” she talks to her so nicely and that’s when I notice the resemblance between them.

I Rejected You, Alpha – Chapter 102

AIDEN’S POV

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As we drive up to Alpha Reece’s pack, guards appear from the woods, surrounding the car. They don’t look violent or near as angry, but they are standing defensively, but all I can think is about what if these men knew what their alpha has been up to?

I roll down my window, the guards in the back seat gripping the doors, ready to jump out if they need to.

“Can we help you?” A tall muscular man asks, his hair black, his eyes brown and narrowed on me. “I am King Aiden and I am here on an investigation, a secret one so I advise you not to contact your luna since your alpha is in my cells.” I straighten my arm, my wrist leaning on the steering wheel as I sit back with my head turned to the man.

His eyes widen, “My king...” he mutters, bowing his head. “It’s the King.” he announces in an irritable voice and the rest bow before making way for me. “Thank you...” I c**k my head at him and his hooded gaze flicks to me, “Jackson.” he offers a kind smile and I nod, “Jackson, I appreciate it.” I nod before glancing to the front and I step on the gas pedal, the car roaring

forward and I could tell that Alpha Reece lived in the pack house since the rest of the homes are small.

He's too big of a jerk to stay in such a small home.

I halt in front of the pack house and a guard closes in on me as I get out of the car, "How can I help you, sir?" he asks and I let my aura rip through me, his eyes widening and he immediately kneels in front of me, "My King, hello." he greets me so graciously that it feels like it's the eighteen hundreds.

"I am looking for your alpha's home." I smile. I like that being crowned king means I get my own powerful Aura.

"He's not here, but he lives in this pack house." he stands, looking at the four floor towering building with a lot of windows, "Well it's glad that I didn't come here for him then." I slam the car door shut behind me and walk off.

I can feel the guards following me, their eyes on the back of my head as we come to a steady halt in front of the shut door.

I knock once, just because I want to be polite and the door immediately flies open, a very short beautiful women standing on the inside, her make up is thick, her hair curled and pinned to the back and she's wearing a beautiful colorful dress. "Hi, oh." she suddenly bows her head, "My king." she stutters and I don't think that I'd ever get tired of hearing someone call me that.

I'm use to alpha all these years and 'My king' is something fresh, something I'm not tired of yet.

"Can we come in?" I smile, glancing past her head at the inside and she shakes her head, smiling, "Of course, please." she opens the door, but I don't miss the uncomfortable look in her eyes.

"Thank you." I step inside and it's like the air is left outside. The tension inside of this house is out of this world, like the air is trying to crush my lungs together. "I'd like to see your mate's office." I mutter, looking down at the woman in front of me.

"Penelope said nothing of you coming." her thin lips barely move as she speaks, "No one knows that I'm here, no one has to know." I shrug and her face stays numb, showing no sort of emotion. "I know..." is all she mumbles as my guards stand in a crowd behind me, "Do you mind if we look around?" I

slowly blink and her eyes flick to the men around me, then to Stefan beside me and then back at me. "Reece wouldn't like that." her lips twitch up in an apologetic smile, "He's the one who gave me his permission to come, I would never enter another man's home without asking first. I'm not a rogue." I shrug, offering a small smile and I could see the uncertainty in her eyes. "Look, I don't have all day." I glance away, flexing my jaw to seem more angered, "I apologize, of course you could have a look." my gaze flicks to her and she's nibbling on her bottom lip, "Show me to his office, please."

She leads me to his office, repeatedly excusing the state of the pack since the maids are still cleaning, but there's no speckle of dust or dirt inside.

I could smell the chemicals off the clean walls and portraits and I just hum and smile every time she glances at me. I could tell that she was extremely nervous as she glanced at me, fisted her hands, picked at her nails and how many times she touched the ends of her hair. She felt very uncomfortable, but then again if I had something to hide and the King showed up, I too would be scared out of my mind.

It's nothing when you're innocent, but the way she's acting, I just know that I'll find something...

"In here." she stops in front of dark double doors, the handles shining brightly as if recently polished and I glance at the shut door, "Thanks." I mutter as I slowly push the weighted door to the inside. There's no creak, yet it feels wrong. I'm not a person to invade someone's privacy, especially someone I don't know, but this is my job I guess.

"Could I bother you for a glass of water perhaps?" I turn to her before stepping into the unknown office. She smiles, her hand clinging to the side of her clothes as she nods, "Of course, I'll be right back." she turns on her heel and I watch her walk down the hall. She glances back at Stefan and I a few times, two to many before disappearing around the corner, "Follow her." I grit out and he doesn't hesitate to stalk her.

By entering the office, I glance at the bookshelf and then the leather couch before my eyes trail to the messy desk.

Everything else is in place, neat and I could tell that everything has a place. I round the desk, coming to a steady halt between the wood and the chair as my eyes scan the papers scattered on the top. "Where is it..." I mumble under my breath as I read every paper, my eyes flicking over the words carefully as I

look for something about Cleo or Zac since I know nothing of Cleo's mother or their surname when I finally find a folder underneath everything but as I push it aside, a feeling draws me to it and I open it up, seeing a photo of Cleo, her mom and Zac. My eyes read through the rest of the file, noticing that she has no family, she has no other living relatives and I slam my fist against the desk top as anger fills me.

How could he lie?

How could he lie so effortlessly, to look me in the eyes, promising that Cleo would be safe?

A tug on my mindlink distracts me and I open my mind, "She ran." Stefan's breathless voice booms through, "Follow her." I demand as I round the desk and strut out of the office, but I don't go the same way we came and I head into the direction of a door at the end of the hall, stopping at every single one and opening it up, glancing inside to find empty bedrooms, closets, bathrooms and storage spaces.

My heart is thundering inside of my ears as I grab ahold of the last door, inhaling a breath before I open it and my eyes narrow at the gloomy steps. I could smell it was clean at least and the soft light cascading down the steps leaves a pit in my stomach.

Surely it's just a dungeon, like every other pack has for intruders...It won't be anything to do with kids...

I hurry down the steps, the light becoming sharper and brighter until I come down, my heart stopping when I hear giggles and little voices.

I freeze when a room filled with children stare at me, it's so quiet that I could hear a pin drop if there was one to fall right at this moment.

They all stare at me with wide eyes, little girls and boys, "Is it time for dinner already?" A little girl asks and my eyes flick over them as I do a headcount.

Twenty children.

I lower to my haunches, offering a warm smile, "Are you hungry, little one?" I ask and she nods, "What are you doing down here?" I ask, my eyes flicking to a older girl that comes to stand next to the little one. "I don't know." the light haired little girl mutters, "We are to stay here until we need to do something or

when we have to eat.” the older one mutters, “But I’ve never seen you before.” she bluntly mutters, “It’s because I’m not from here.” I shrug.

I stand up and my eyes glance around, it seems pretty clean, but it’s cold down here, there’s little to no light coming in or fresh air.

I see no vents, no windows and no other way out.

“Who wants to get out of here?” I ask and all of them glances around, seeming so unsure, so frightened that it breaks my heart.

“I’ll take you some place safe, some place magical.” I beam, wanting them to want to come with me, the only problem is that I have no way of transporting them.

‘I have her.’ Stefan deadpans, ‘Bring her along to the car, I found kids.’

I Rejected You, Alpha – Chapter 103

AIDEN’S POV

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I was fuming as I exit the house, seeing Stefan’s foot on the vile woman’s neck as she laid with her stomach flat against the grass, but how Stefan was holding her captive was not the reason for my murderous mood, no. It was her face, the knowing look in her eyes as her pale blue orbs met mine, the fear that covered her face and the way she squirmed to try and free herself.

I could hear her pleads to Stefan, begging him to let her go, but as my gaze lifts to my best friend, his eyes are wide and focused on the little humans behind me. The sound of their feet pattering follows me and I swiftly turn to them, making them all freeze in their tracks, their heads pulling back as their eyes widen.

“Before we go, I need you all to know that these people will never hurt you, so don’t be afraid of the luna, okay?” I smile, my eyes glancing over their innocent scared faces. “Stay here until I come and get you.” I smile before turning back to Stefan and I strut toward them.

I ravel in the sight of her fear, her hands pushing against the ground as she tries to over power my beta, but she fails miserably and resorts to tears for sympathy, or she might be actually frightened, but that I don't care about.

As I approach them, I lower onto my haunches, brushing the hair out of her face as she swats my hand away, "How could you do this?" I ask in a surprisingly calm tone. "Do what?" her voice shakes as she speaks. "Treat children that way?", "What way? I don't know what you're talking about." she tries to shake her head, but it barely moves as it's pressed to the ground.

"Then why did I find them in the basement?" my shoulders lightly rise and fall as I stare her down, "I, I didn't know..." oh how she pleads innocent is beyond the line of calm and I grab a fist full of her dark hair, pulling her up onto her feet. She lets out a cry, but something about it just sounds fake. Her painful cry sounds forced and her face barely shows any pain.

"Tell me the truth." I grit out, tilting her head back and she growls at me, "I'm sorry." she immediately apologizes for growling at me.

Her eyes are narrowed, her chin wobbling as she tries to plead with me, but how could I just forgive her.

I let go of her hair, shoving her back and Stefan grabs her by the arms, "Put her in the car." I grit out, glancing back at the kids, "I need someone to stay with them until I get to the castle to send more cars to come get them." I glance at the three guards standing in front of me, all of them standing with their hands behind their backs.

"So, who will it be?" I ask, "I'd be happy too," one nods, "Me too," the other mutters, "Anything you need, my King." the last one nods too and I feel very empowered at this moment, "Good, you." I turn all my focus to the last one who answered, "You come home with Stefan and I and the two of you stay looking after them. I want no harm coming to them, understand?" I deadpan and they nod.

They don't wait and turn to the kids, walking to them and the other one goes to the car, "I'll be right back." I tell Stefan and I walk over to the children, "Why don't you guys go sit under that tree and stay with my two guards, JJ and Lucas, I will come back with transportation." I smile and the little girl that was the bravest of them all comes running forward, clinging to my leg and my head tilts down as I look at the top of her head, "Promise?" she asks as she glances

up at me through a hooded gaze, “I pinky promise.” I hold out my pinky and she strangely looks at it.

Awkwardness falls over me and I let my hand fall to my side, “I promise.” I smile down at her and she returns a smile, her little teeth showing and I notice one missing.

“I’ll be back.” I say as she pulls away and runs back to the group that’s walking to the shade of the trees.

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Arriving back at the castle, Roman and Penelope are standing there, their arms crossed and worry covering their faces. I slowly get out of the car, my eyes not leaving theirs once as I open the back door and pull Penelope’s sister out. I watch as my mate’s aunt’s face falls in fear as I tightly hold onto her arm and drag her towards the Castle, “Penelope, help me!” she tries to reach for her sister and I pull her back, clicking my tongue three times as I hold up my finger to Penelope who tried to reach for her sister, “Don’t, she’s a criminal just like her mate.” my wide eyes narrow as Penelope stares at her sister with shock, “I didn’t know!” her sister screeches, hurting my ears. “She didn’t know.” Roman tries to help his mate out and I start to laugh, “Don’t be ridiculous, do you honestly believe that? How could she not know that there were twenty kids in her f*

g basement?” I grit out, seething. I could feel my anger trying to take over, but I was not going to let it win, not right now.

“Aiden, as the former King, I must advise...”, “Exactly.” I interrupt him, “Former king.” I deadpan, “I am the current one and I know family is important that is why I will have a lie detection test set up, if it were someone else, she’d be long dead.” I shrug and pull the woman into the house.

‘I’m home.’ I inform Eleia through the mind link as I head straight for the dungeons.

I freeze in shock when Penelope’s sister freezes, “Margot.” Reece breathes out, his hands holding the bars once more. It smells a lot cleaner in here and I think it’s because Eleia had people come and clean it. I stare at the woman, named Margot.

I feel kind of an i***t for not even asking for her name, but then again, I wasn't there for introductions. I was there on an investigation.

As I try to pull Margot closer, she stops in her tracks after every tug, her eyes filled with fear as her chin trembles. Her eyes eventually meet mine and she shakes her head, "What are you doing with my mate?" Alpha Reece bellows, slamming his hand against the reinforced steel bars. "Shut up." I roll my eyes and look at her, "Don't make me hurt you." I sigh, I might be able to grab her hair and shove her lightly, but never would I hit a woman. I know I shouldn't man handle her either, but I can't come forth as soft either.

"Don't put me in there with him." she whispers, pulling her arm back. "What? Margot, why?" Alpha Reece's voice becomes lower, his eyes growing darker with each passing second as he stares at her. "You know why." she grits out, her eyes swelling with tears and I can't tell if she's acting or if she's really angry with him.

"I don't, didn't you let the King in?" He asks with furrowed brows, "I did." her lips twitch up, even though her mouth is smiling, her eyes are filled with disgust, darkness and anger.

"I don't..." Alpha Reece shakes his head in confusion, "Where did that f*g kids come from Reece?" she reaches forward, the anger radiating off her fueling her energy and I pull her back as her hand reaches out to him and he stares at her with wide eyes, "What. what do you mean? What kids?" the slight glance he gives me doesn't go unnoticed and she breaks out into a sob, "You're a monster!" she yells going for his cell again but I pull her into my chest, her hands grabbing my shirt firmly as she starts to shake.

As a person with a heart and that cares for people, it's difficult to see her like this but as a leader, a person who promised those children to protect them, I can't fall for this.

With a heavy heart. I pull the cell door open next to Alpha Reece's and shove her inside, locking it and I slip the key out of the gate and strut off.

I don't have time for their fighting and I could hear them bicker as I walk out of the dark, cold dungeon.

"Aiden." Eleia gasps as I slam the door shut behind me. "What did you find?" she asks as she struts over to me, hugging me tightly like I have been gone for days. My arms wrap around her automatically as a sigh escapes my lips.

“Enough proof.”

I Rejected You, Alpha – Chapter 104

ELEIA'S POV

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After Aiden told me everything that happened while we pulled up the cars, he left once more to go get the children and I was in charge of getting them places to sleep. My heart shattered for those kids more than I was angry with Alpha Reece and his mate, my aunt's sister, Margot.

Aiden told me about her acting like she didn't know anything, but how could she not? It was her home, the place where she lived and was daily. Did she not notice the random children?

Did she not hear their cries or giggles?

Aiden said they had no sign of malnourishment or bruises, but that's only what he saw from a quick glance in a mission.

I quickly called all women to the patch of grass in front of the castle and I paced impatiently as everyone arrived in drips and drags. It was less than ten minutes before everyone arrived and I was thankful that they all came in such a hurry.

These people have lives, chores and jobs, yet when I asked for help, they all came, supporting me.

“My family.” I announce as I climb onto a chair, “I am so thankful for all of you gathering by my request.” I smile as my eyes flick over the hundreds of faces, “I know not everyone can help with what I am about to ask, but I only need at least twenty open homes to orphaned children. You don't need to adopt, just foster until we find a home, but these children are up for adoption too. They were found in a pack in a basement and we are yet to know their conditions. I know this is a big ask, but I believe we can all help. I too recently took in an orphan, I think you might have seen her, Cleo.” I smile at the thought of that precious girl.

“Please come forward or raise a hand if you can help, this is not compulsory, but the help would be appreciated.”

My eyes start to sting as more than enough women raise their hands and come forth and my hands press together against my lips.

I suck my lips into my mouth, blinking away the unshed tears in my eyes as I let out a shaky breath to control my feelings.

“Thank you, if you who can help please hang around here, that would be great and please, the women who can’t help, don’t feel guilty because you don’t have the space. I appreciate you all for coming and the rest can go.” I climb down and the whispers and talk get louder as the rest of the women leave.

I would never judge someone for being unable to take a kid in, not everyone can do it and not everyone has the space to do it either. It’s a rough life, but I am grateful for those coming.

“Can we move to the shade under the tree?” I ask as I start to walk and a group of about fifty women follow me. It’s honestly overwhelming to see how much they are willing to help and I love it, I love every bit of it.

“Please, have a seat.” I stand in the middle and they all surround me before sitting down. Most of them are young women, and the rest are in their forty or fifties, but none the less, we as wolves stay in great shape and they could easily sit down and get up. Hell, most of these older women can beat these younger ones in a fight.

“So we’re waiting for Aiden to return with the children, he first brought the luna into custody along with their alpha that’s already here and we have a few tests to do before we decide on a punishment.” I gulp down the lump of my throat as Penelope walks out, staring at me as I said that. Her eyes are glistening with unshed tears, her jaw tight and her lips pursed into a thin line.

My heart breaks for my aunt, especially because she is so kind and loving, yet she didn’t know what her sister was involved in.

They seem close, but I can’t let family overrule my judgment- but then again...what if it were Rosie?

I don’t have a real sibling, not by blood, but Rosie is my sister, my soul sister. We are tied by a bond that’s unbreakable and not even I know what I would have done if it were her.

“Kill them!” a woman yells, a few agreeing by loud screaming of a “Yeah!” and my heart wants to sink.

I can't tell these women who they are, just because I want to protect my aunt from everything, because killing someone is one thing, but abusing children is another.

Not even I can understand how she can plead innocent, it is her home...She's lying, but a part of me does want to believe her. For my aunt.

I want to believe that she's innocent, I want to believe she didn't know and she's a victim too, but as Aiden said, we'll have to do a lie detection test and I will have to speak to my aunt about this.

“No, we have ways to deal with this. I know the frustration, I was one of those kids too, and I hate it.” I say all while staring at my aunt, “But they will get what they deserve, I promise.” I force my gaze away from my loving aunt and glance around, “Please stay here while I get food made for the children and discuss under yourselves if you want to back up, because there's only twenty children and you all are more than enough. Thank you.” I walk out of the circle, carefully stepping over each person as I walk up to my aunt, “Can we talk?” I ask and she stares at me, the white of her eyes red from how much she cried and I hate myself for making her cry.

I know it's not my fault, but then again...we were the ones who took her sister into custody.

She whips around and storms off and I take that as a no.

I don't blame her for hating me at this very moment, I would hate the person who took Rosie too.

I sigh and make my way to the kitchen, ordering twenty ham and cheese sandwiches for the children before I go check up on my own.

“I sit with Arlen for a few minutes while Felix and Cleo play cars in front of me, bumping into each other while making car noises. I smile as Felix has his car jumping over Cleo's and even though it's impossible, I love how possible it is in his little mind.

The door slowly opens and a maid sticks her head in, "You said to call you when they arrive." she mutters in such a low whisper that I barely hear her over the noises Felix is making.

"Oh." I stand up, "Come on kids." I smile and Felix frowns as he looks up at me, "Where we going?" he asks, slurring his words as he speaks quickly. "To meet friends." I smile and he sighs as he drags his body to his feet and Cleo takes my hand before he could, "I want to hold mommy's hand!" he yells, his tiny hands fisted beside him. "Felix, you can hold my hand on the way back in, how does that sound?" I ask as I squeeze Cleo's hand when she tries to let go. I could feel her anxiety, I could smell the sourness of her mood.

"Okay." he sighs, tossing his head back as he drags his feet lazily over to the door.

I smile down at Cleo and she finally glances up at me, "Don't be afraid, he won't ever hurt you." I smile and we walk down the stairs, Felix already forgot about the issue and he was running up and down, making noises as he held his arms stretched out. "Felix, calm down." I yell as he darts out of the house, "Felix, slow down!" I jog after him, Cleo's little legs barely keeping up and I let go of her hand for a split second, running after my son. I scream when he runs in front of a car, my heart stopping as I freeze and my tense body relaxes when the car screeches as it breaks just in time.

Felix starts to cry and the door swings open, Aiden jumps out, not bothering to close it as he runs to the front of the car, bending down onto one knee as he grabs Felix, not aggressively, "Are you okay?" he asks as I finally take in a deep breath, "Are you hurt?" I glance back and look at Cleo staring at them with big eyes, "He's okay." I mutter and rush down the few steps before kneeling down next to Felix and Aiden brings him into a hug as he just cries.

He's not hurt, the car did not even touch him, but I think he's frightened and in shock. The car was inches away from driving over him and if it were someone else, I bet they would have hit him.

"He's okay." Aiden mutters as he rubs Felix's back.

Aiden's eyes are locked on mine, his orbs are filled with fear and regret, guilt and anger, hurt and confusion and most of all, relief.

"Come on baby." I pull Felix out of Aiden's arms while mind linking the nanny. I thought that it would be good for them to meet other kids since they weren't

going to school and they needed to socialize, but right at this very moment, I could not handle sorting these children while mine almost got hurt.

The nanny arrives in a minute and takes Arlen, Felix and Cleo with her back into the castle and even though I felt so happy to have them around, it was now ruined. I know he didn't get hurt, but he could have. I know that we can't keep them safe forever, but it is my job. He was just excited, it was just an accident, an accident no one got hurt in and I'm so relieved about it but after this...Aiden and I am going to have to teach them about life, the dangers and fighting because no matter how difficult it is to teach children, it's more important for them to know how dangerous the world is, not the world itself, but the people in it, the people with monstrous souls, broken hearts and some with nothing inside them, no regret, no love, no nothing.

My children will not be like that... they will know how to love, grow and be kind, to feel bad when doing something wrong, to feel happy when helping someone else.

They will have a better life than I will.

I Rejected You, Alpha – Chapter 105

ELEIA'S POV

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“Arlen, stop that!” Cleo grits out as Arlen keeps elbowing her while teasing her about her messy hair. “Arlen.” I clear my throat as we all sit around the table, Arlen is fourteen this year, Cleo is seventeen and Felix is turning eighteen. “Oh come on mom, I'm just playing. Look at her hair, it's like she wrestled a bear or something.” Arlen snorts as he combs his fingers through his pitch black hair.

He has Aiden's soft hair with his raven color, but at least he has my green eyes. They were lighter, more blue when he was younger, but since he got older, it turned green and they say that the eyes are the window to the soul.

I want my children to love like I do, I want them to be strong and they are. Arlen is playing boys hockey this year because he said he wanted to try it out, but he's tall like Aiden too, he's already taller than Cleo, but Felix is the tallest since he is the oldest.

“It doesn’t mean you can tease her, she hasn’t gotten ready for the day yet.” I sigh.

Arlen looks at me, but I’m staring right back with my head c****d and he turns to Cleo, “I’m sorry.” he sighs, playfully rolling his eyes as he turns back to me, “Happy?” he asks and I throw him with a strawberry, making him burst out in laughter.

Cleo laughs too but she falls silent when Felix takes his seat at the table, “Good morning.” he yawns, stretching his arms above his head before glancing at each one of us, “You’re late, again.” I chime, “Let him sleep in, he’s almost eighteen.” Aiden has his back and even though Aiden is not his real dad, he sure does act the part.

We have yet to tell Felix that Aiden is not his father, but I can’t bring myself to do it. We keep putting it off and because he’s not Aiden’s child, he has no right to the throne.

I thought that he would have since he is my first born, but when we discussed it with the elders, they said it wasn’t right. Their exact words were; “The throne belongs to both of your DNA, not just yours anymore Eleia.”

I still dream about it, think about it and replay it in my head because how are we suppose to tell him that he has no claim to be the next king?

It’s heartbreaking and I’m scared he will hate us...

My heart keeps on shattering every time he asks Aiden to teach him more, to train with him more and so forth, and what’s worse is that Aiden is starting to train with Arlen more too.

Aiden and I made a pack to tell Felix after his birthday, since we didn’t want to spoil his eighteenth birthday since he can find his mate then. He’s been hanging out with friends over the weekends and I think he has a secret girlfriend, he’s been very secretive and holding back on chatting and that could only be love.

“I wasn’t asleep dad.” Felix scoffs as he lifts a waffle onto his plate, “I was training and then I took a shower.” he shrugs, “You never blowdry your hair.” I point out, “Well I have plans.” he murmurs, glancing around before taking the ice cream and chocolate sauce.

“Mom, can you take me shopping today?” Cleo asks and everytime she calls me mom, since she first began at eight years old, my heart flutters. She’s older now, but I still can’t believe she started calling me that.

“Of-“, “Your mom and I have a meeting in town, but we can take you afterward.” Aiden chips in and I forgot that we’re buying Felix his car today.

“Thanks.” Cleo smiles, but something about her seems off, “Can I use one of the cars?” Felix asks, “When can I drive?” Arlen interrupts and even though all these questions are overwhelming all at once, I wouldn’t have it any other way.

“Of course, son.” Aiden nods, “I will teach you.” I tell Arlen, “I can teach him.” Cleo offers and Aiden snorts, drawing my attention to him, “What?” I glare at him, “She’s not ready to teach since she is still learning.” Aiden shoves a piece of waffle into his mouth.

“She has gotten a lot better since I started taking her.” I can’t help but grin at him with a knowing look, “I am the better teacher.”, “No you aren’t.” Felix scoffs.

My gaze flicks to my eldest child in shock, “I drive like a pro and it’s because dad taught me.” he grins, glancing at Aiden.

Aiden sticks his tongue out to me and I playfully roll my eyes, “Well I’ll still teach you Arlen, the basics. Then dad can take you to drive like a maniac.” I beam sarcastically and Arlen fists his hand excitedly, “Yes!” he beams, making me laugh.

“Well Cleo, go get ready after eating because we are leaving in an hour.”, she looks at me before c*****g her head to the side, “You know I don’t take long to finish up.” she smiles, but I find it strange that she doesn’t look at anyone else rather than me.

We continue to eat, Arlen cracking up jokes while Felix is quiet and so is Cleo, but she at least laughs now and then.

Cleo excuses herself before heading to her room to get dressed and Arlen helps me with the dishes, “Can I go with you as well mom?” he asks as he dries the dishes. “No.” I wish he could, but he doesn’t know how to keep a secret.

Arlen is a sweet kid, he's smart, athletic, funny, but he does not know when to stop saying anything. "But Cleo is going with." he stares at me, "Because I promised her I'd take her to buy underwear." I shrug, "Eww, I didn't need to know that." he snorts, and I mentally laugh because I knew he'd back off. "Can you buy me something too?", "What do you want?", "A new hoodie.", "I will take you shopping next weekend, and we can get food." I whisper and his smile is worth everything I own, "Deal." he whispers back like we're in some secret meeting.

"Cleo!" I stand at the bottom of the stairs as I call for her and she comes running down, looking flushed and her eyes wide, she continues to glance over her shoulder like something's chasing her and I grab her by the arms as she almost trips down the last two stairs.

She shrieks, her eyes wide as she locks them on mine, "Mom." she breathes out and I let go of her. She brushes her blonde hair out of her face, forcing a smile, "I'm done." she mutters breathlessly, "What's wrong?" I ask her, not moving or looking away from her. "I," she blinks rapidly, "I thought I saw a mouse." she blows out a breath and I frown, glancing up the stairs, "Well, we'll have it checked out, come on. Dad is waiting in the car." I hurry her along, glancing up the stairs one last time before following her.

She surely wouldn't lie to me...she probably saw a mouse or a rat...could be anything since we are in the middle of the woods, but I'll have someone check it out when we're back home.

Driving into town, Cleo has been texting on her phone the entire drive, I even heard a grunt escape her lips, but when I asked what it's about, she just said that one of her friends just asked her to come over and she wasn't home.

Even though I told her that she could go to her friend's after we're home, she was very closed off and said "Yeah."

"Did you want to get something for your brother's birthday too?" I ask as we stop at the car dealership and she gawks at the cars, "Are you getting a car?" she beams and Aiden snorts, "It's for Felix." he mutters and the excitement drains from her beautiful sky colored eyes, "You'll get yours on your eighteenth birthday too." I smile and she just nods.

As Aiden and I browse, Cleo's phone rang about ten times and she irritably declined each and every call with a frown on her face, but I don't dare ask

who could be looking for her because it might be Duncan or her best friend, Gizelle.

We call them the two blues because both of them have blue eyes and it annoys them, which makes it funny for me and Rosie to tease them.

Gizelle is a friend from another pack, she too is an alpha's daughter, but Cleo knows she's not a blood alpha and she cries about it everytime because she feels less. It breaks me to see her cry, but there's nothing I could do about this problem.