

The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 85

Chapter 85

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 85 – Bond

Natalia

It takes every ounce of strength I have to hold myself back from proclaiming my mate, but now is not the time to be proud. I have to buy Rionna and Vanessa time to get my Kota out of here safely. “Who. Marked. You!?” Jack snarls again, his hand wrapping around my throat as he invades my space. It does not escape me that I feel no sparks when he touches me, relief washing over me that there is not a chance in the world Jack and I will ever be bonded again.

Jordan instinctively growls at Jack for touching me, but I lightly kick him to back off so I can execute my plan. The look of pure rage in Jack’s eyes reminds of the night he rejected me all those years ago, but this time, I will be in complete control.

gently place my hands around Jack’s arm and lightly tug at his hand. Forcing tears to my eyes, I put my plan into action.

“Jack,” I gasp when he squeezes my throat. “Jack, my love, please! Please, let me explain!” “What are you going to explain?” he snarls back. “That you were whoring around while I waited for you?”

I almost laugh in his face but manage to keep my composure. This f*****g prick... Devina growls. “No! No!” I sob back. “No, I would never! I—I was marked by force by a wolf who took me.” “You expect me to believe your bullshit lies!?” he growls. “Kota told me all about his new daddy.”

Goddess, I love my little boy but why is he so damn stubborn! Isnap. Gee, I wonder who he gets it from? Devina snorts. “I—It’s not a lie!” I wheeze, struggling to get air into my lungs as he crushes my windpipe. “I—I love you, Jack.

I-I was just hurt by what Christian did to me so I left. I didn’t think you loved me anymore,” I cry. “I ran into some wolves not too long ago and their Alpha became obsessed with me! He made me believe he loved me but he didn’t.

Not like you. He hurt me, Jack! He forced his mark on me! But I know in my heart, I belong only to you. I turned so I could get rid of his mark,” I sob.

“But it didn’t work! It didn’t work and I was so disgusted with myself that I didn’t want you to see me because the honor of marking and turning me belongs only to you. I’m sorry Jack! I’m so sorry for being so weak.

I just love you so much and I was afraid you wouldn’t take me back if you saw what I became.” “You love me?” He asks with a softness in his voice.

Got him...

“Yes,” I nod. “Of course I do,” I whisper, pushing against his hand to lean in closer for a kiss. “Can you forgive me, Jack?” I ask, standing on the tips of my toes so that my lips graze against his when I speak.”

Please,” I beg. “I just want to spend the rest of my life with you.”

Something flickers in his eyes but before I can decipher what he thinks or feels of my story, he loosens his grip on my throat and pulls me towards him, pressing our lips together in a hot, wet kiss.

Jack tastes of vinegar and salt, nothing like my Zane, whose lips can soothe the turmoil in my soul with just one kiss, and I resist the urge to gag as I wrap my arms around his neck.

Forgive me, Zane, I whisper to myself. Please forgive me for not claiming you. Jack swipes his tongue along the seam of my lips and despite Devina’s protests, I part my lips and let him taste me.

Savor me, Jack, I snarl with disgust. Because it’ll be the last kiss you ever have.

I pull away breathlessly, blinking my eyes innocently at the wolf still holding my throat hostage in his hand.

“Take me home, Jack,” I whisper, Jack nodding in response. “Take me home.”

He looks behind me with a gentle smile. “Where’s our pup?” he asks, my heart nearly skipping a beat as I search for an explanation. “How did you know to come here? I didn’t mention the cabin.”

Jordan comes to my rescue. “I brought her here. Vanessa was furious about the divorce and threatened to hurt Kota unless Natalia backed off so we raced here to meet her but she was already gone by the time we arrived. We were in the middle of searching for clues when you arrived,” he explains.

“Is this true?” Jack asks, almost with relief. “Did Vanessa threaten to hurt our son?”

I can't bring myself to say yes for fear of what he might do to her if he finds her, but my silence seems to only verify Jordan's story.

"Don't protect her, Tiny," Jack snaps. "She has our pup. Goddess forbid she hurts him!" He turns to his men and points to the house. "Search the house! Check the tunnels! Leave no stone unturned and bring me back my son!"

"I'll lead the team," Jordan volunteers, my body relaxing knowing Jordan will keep Christian's men away from my pup. "I'll make sure your son is safe, Luna," Jordan adds, getting down on one knee and bowing before me.

I haven't been able to trust Jordan since he failed me but he's the only hope I have now to ensure Jack never finds Kota again.

"Thank you," I whisper, praying to Moon Goddess that Jordan finally lives up to his title.

Jack approves of Jordan's plans, his eyes fogging over as he assigns 10 men to his command via mind link.

"Don't worry, baby," Jack soothes, pulling me to his chest and stroking my hair. "I'll bring our son back to you."

Inod silently, nuzzling against his chest while wishing I were in Zane's strong arms instead. Jack slides his hands down my waist to the back of my legs and lifts me up, carrying me away from the cabin.

"So I have a question for you." Jack says sheepishly. "Yes?" I ask. "Will you marry me again?" he asks, his cheeks flushing in blush. "Tonight?"

The blood drains from my face but I smile happily at him. "Of course!" I squeal, leaning forward to kiss him again as Devina howls with rage.

No the f**k we won't! She snaps.

Shut up!

"Let's get you home, Tiny," he murmurs. Jack shifts and to my confusion, carries me to the pack clinic.

"I just want the doc to check you over," he says as he shifts back to his human form. "You've been away for so long at the mercy of a crazed Alpha and turning must have taken a huge toll on your body," he murmurs as he kisses the back of my hand. "I just want to be sure you're completely healthy for our pups."

“Our pups?” I ask and he nods enthusiastically. “Yes, our pups,” he smiles. “After our wedding tonight, I plan on putting two pups in your belly.” I shiver with disgust but keep the smile of delight on my face.

“B—but what if I have issues again?” I ask, trying to make myself seem small and weak. “Will you hate me if I struggle?”

“You just need to relax,” Jack snaps. “You’re a wolf now. You’re better. If you think you’ll fail, you will.”

“But—”

“Enough!” Jack snarls. “Do you not want my pups?”

“I—I do but—”

“Then stop making up excuses!” he shouts, all the memories of our arguments racing back to me.

Zane would never blame me for my fertility issues, He would hold me and shield me from my fears with his love.

“Yes, Alpha,” I reply with a small smile. “I’m sorry for questioning you.” Jack sighs and pulls me into his arms to kiss my forehead. “You are forgiven,” He murmurs. “Now let’s go.”

Dr. Lila is already waiting inside for us and she leads me to a private room for her examination.

“It’s nice to see you again, Luna,” she says quietly as she works. “We’ve missed you around here. You look good.”

I don’t know how to respond and simply smile back at her as I sit on the edge of the bed and hold out my arm for her. She performs a full physical and at the end, has me prepare for a blood draw.

“How is your child?” Dr. Lila asks as she ties the ligature around my arm. I study the doctor carefully, trying to make out if I can trust her or not. “Did you know Christian was cheating on me?” I ask, the question catching her by surprise.

She works silently for a moment before finally sighing out an answer. “Yes, Luna.” “So you betrayed your Luna to save your Alpha,” I reply. “I was protecting my family!” Dr. Lila snaps as she pushes the needle into my arm.

I wince from her aggressive stab and look away from Dr. Lila’s cold gaze. “Would you betray me again?” I ask.

"In a heartbeat," she says with conviction. "And I suggest you think about your child first before doing anything stupid unless you want to have more blood on your hands."

"Blood on my hands?" I snap. "You left," she retorts. "You left us and our Alpha went mad without you." "He rejected me!"

"But you had the truth in your hands!" she cries. "He wouldn't have pushed you away if he knew the truth. But you were human and humans are selfish creatures who don't understand pack life."

You swore to put the pack needs above your own and we lost a lot of good people in your absence. Now you're back after all these years to resume your role? HA! Don't expect a warm welcome."

Knowing where I stand with this b***h and likely all the other pack members, I rethink my plan. The pack itself won't help me, but perhaps I have allies among the elders and even Alpha Christopher himself. I just need to tread carefully from now on.

Conversation is pointless so I let Dr. Lila collect her specimens in silence while I scan the room for a possible solution for me.

"Wait here for 15 minutes," Dr. Lila instructs once she's finished. "I'll go turn these samples over to the lab and then you can leave."

I don't respond and watch as she strolls out with vials of my blood in her hands.

b***h, Devina mutters as I swipe a pen from the bedside table. Tignore my wolf and slip out of the room, looking both ways as I hurry down the hall. Tlike your plan, Devina hisses.

I tip toe down several corridors, hiding behind walls and in janitor closets until I find the room I'm looking for; the med room. It's locked with a passcode and badge scanner.

Spotting Dr. Lila walking down the hall, I hide behind a wall and from the corner of my eye, watch as she enters her passcode and scans her medical badge. As she opens the door, I rush at her, shoving her inside and closing the door behind us.

I pin her against the wall with my elbow pressed across her shoulder blades and hold the pen to her back like a knife.

"I'm not a human anymore, Doc," I hiss in her ear. "Mindlink anyone for help and I'll cut out your tongue and force feed it to your family."

"What do you want?" she snarls.

“Wolfsbane, silver, or a tranquilizer,” I snap, pulling her by the collar of her lab coat to the locked pyxis containing all the medications.

“We don’t keep silver or wolfsbane in the clinic,” she mutters. “That’s kept in the warrior compound.”

“Then get me a tranquilizer,” I growl.

She nods silently and selects Ativan from the list of medications. As she lifts her hand to the fingerprint scanner, she jams her elbow back into my stomach, turning around and punching me on the side of my head. I groan as I stumble back on my feet and crash against a shelf.

“Do what you want, Luna,” she sneers as she rushes to the door. “But I will not be your accomplice.”

Trace after her, grabbing her by the hair and slamming her forehead against the door twice before tossing her across the room. She scrambles to her feet, reaching into a jar of syringes and pulling the caps off all of them before pointing them at me.

She swings her armed hand at me and I time her movements carefully to dodge her blows until I see

an opening. When she lunges forward for a stab, I hook my arm around hers and step behind her, using my momentum to slam her against the wall. She retaliates and swings her arm at my head, landing a blow.

Shifting my feet, I kick her behind the knee, and slam my fist into her stomach so that she doubles over before slamming my elbow down on the back of her head.

She collapses on the ground and I climb on top of her, slamming my elbow over and over again on her head until I’m sure she’s passed out.

“We could have done this the easy way but you had to be a b***h,” I mutter.

I’m huffing and puffing as I get to my feet and I drag Dr. Lila’s limp body to the pyxis machine, grabbing her thumb and pressing it against the scanner.

The machine unlocks a drawer and I grab a vial of medication, loading it up in a clean syringe and shoving the cap back on before slipping it into my pocket.

I take a few moments to catch my breath and look into the glass shelves to make sure Dr. Lila didn’t

leave a mark. After fixing my hair and my shirt, I carefully open the door and peek into the hall to make sure the coast is clear.

Once safe, I step out into the corridor and make my way into the main clinic waiting room when I suddenly double over as a pain spreads across my chest.

Vanessa

It's very cold in the tunnels, my breath visible in the light of my phone and the ground is uneven.

"So who is Nonna?" I ask, Rionna chuckling as Kota gives an answer. "She makes cakes," he replies, peeking at me through the blanket he's wrapped up in. "And Egg-ness?" I ask.

"She makes cookies," he smiles.

"Kota is well fed, clearly," Rionna chuckles, giving Kota a kiss on the forehead. "I am his Daddy's biological mother. Egg-ness is his adoptive mother," she explains.

"I see. And you all live together?" I ask. "No, I only recently came into their lives," She sighs. "It-it's complicated." "Right," I laugh nervously. "Complicated." "I take it you and Talia haven't spoken in a while?" Rionna asks. "Not in years, no," I reply.

"I can't say I blame Talia. I broke whatever 'family bond we had.'" "But would you like to be a part of her life again?" Rionna asks. "H-I would," I sigh.

"Well I won't pretend to know what happened between you or the severity of your issues but my advice? Give her time," Rionna shrugs. "Sometimes people need space to heal before they can move on and forgive. Don't pressure her. She'll come around when she's ready."

I find Rionna's words a little comforting as we continue our walk and pray to Moon Goddess that I don't completely lose my sister. Kota plays with Rionna's shirt in boredom, tugging at her collar and walking his fingers along her shoulder.

"Nanessa, what's your family like?" he suddenly asks, my heart sinking as I realize I don't have one anymore.

"They—" "Shhhh!" Rionna suddenly snaps, both of us going still to listen.

Kota whimpers and hides his face in the blanket when we hear howls and pounding feet echoing behind us.

"I don't think that's Talia," I hiss, pushing Rionna forward. "Run!"

We break into a full sprint, our phones barely lighting the way as we hear the howls getting closer. In our panic, I fail to see the hole on the stone path and trip, falling onto my knees.

“Nanessa!” Kota screams when from the shadows, a wolf pounces on my leg.

I let out a scream and dig my nails into the floor as the wolf bites down on my ankle and drags me back into the darkness. Rolling on my back, I kick violently at the wolf’s snout in hopes of breaking free, but the wolf only bites down more viciously.

Suddenly, a second wolf appears and I recognize him almost instantly as he slams my attacker into a wall.

“Jordan!” I cry, watching the two wolves claw and bite at each other’s throats. We hear more paws storm towards us and I scramble back onto my feet, crying when I step on my wounded leg.

st!” I whimper as I limp forward. Knowing I’ll only hold Rionna and Kota back, I shake my head at them and urge them to keep running. “Keep going without me! I’ll catch up!”

“No! Nanessa!” Kota sobs.

Two more wolves attack Jordan, one slamming its head into his ribcage and the other grabbing onto his tail.

“Take Kota and get on me!” Rionna shouts, handing me the kid and shifting into her wolf. As she lowers herself to allow me to climb on, five more wolves come rushing down the tunnel.

“There’s too many!” I sob, two of them pushing past Jordan towards us. Rionna reacts and pounces on one of them, both of them rolling on the ground in a fight of claws and canines. I turn around and try to run, my leg screaming at me to stop as pain shoots up my spine.

The remaining wolf slows down and glares at me, cornering me like prey against a tunnel wall. He leans back on his hind legs, ready to pounce and attack.

“Please, he’s just a baby!” I plead, turning my body towards the tunnel wall to shield Kota. “Don’t hurt him!”

I close my eyes and brace myself for impact when I hear a loud growl, looking up in time to see

Jordan take the blow. His wolf whines but despite the many gaping wounds on his body, he charges my attacker.

Kota wails in my arms and I look around at Rionna and Jordan fighting for our safety, a feeling of anger and ineptness washing over me.

"I don't want to be useless anymore!" I snarl through gritted teeth into the shadows. "I don't want to lose anyone else!"

My little wolf howls in rage as my shadow morphs into tendrils that crawl along the surfaces of the walls and tunnel floor toward Rionna. The tendrils wrap around her attacker's shadow, and to my shock, pull the wolf off of her by its shadow.

The shadow tendrils stab and attack the wolf's shadow, real wounds appearing on the wolf's body until it falls dead.

The shadow tendrils attack the other wolves' shadows, each wolf yelping and barking at their own shadow before dropping dead from their wounds.

From the corner of my eye, I see Jordan and a wolf still locked in battle. The wolf pins Jordan on a wall and clamps his jaws around his throat.

"No!" I shout, the shadow tendrils racing to Jordan's aid and stabbing his attacker's shadow.

The wolf falls dead on his side but I still feel a painful surge pulsate through my chest.

"Jordan!" I wail, feeling our bond begin to crumble. I limp to his side, gently putting down Kota to cradle Jordan's head in my lap. "Jordan!"

"I—I'm sorry," he wheezes as he shifts into his human form. "Tell— tell Talia, I'm sorry I failed her."

"Jor—" "I—I'm sorry I failed you too," he whispers as he coughs up blood. "It's okay," I whimper as I wipe the blood from his mouth. "It's oka—" A sharp pain burns through my chest as Jordan's body goes limp in my arms.

"We have to go!" Rionna shouts, shifting back into her human form and collecting Kota in her arms. "We don't know how many more there are here."

I let her drag me away, all the while hearing a little voice whisper in my head.

I'm here now...

The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 86

Chapter 86

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 86 – Silver Crest

Vanessa

The adrenaline pumping through my veins numbs the burning of my leg as we rush down the tunnel and I use the cold walls as support to limp onwards. You're doing great," Rionna whispers. "We're almost out of here." I can't tell if she's trying to soothe me, Kota, or herself, but regardless, I find comfort in her words. We speed walk down the tunnels for what seems like an eternity until finally we see a bit of light peeking in from a distance. "Dear Goddess," Rionna sighs in relief as she throws my arm over her shoulder. "Come on, let's get you out of here."

She lets me lean against her and helps me limp my way through until we reach the end of the tunnel. As Jordan promised, the exit is hidden within an old hollow tree and after climbing out, we find ourselves somewhere in the forest. Though it is late in the evening, the sun is only just setting, the light burning our eyes as we gather our bearings..

"Do you know where we are?" Rionna asks as she shields her eyes from the sun.

I look around with uncertainty and a bit of guilt. Luna Kay had been adamant I memorize the map of the territory but I had never paid much attention to her lessons.

"I don't know," I mumble sheepishly. "This doesn't look like the Silver Crest pack territory anymore."

"That's alright," Rionna says as she watches me struggle to recognize anything. "We'll figure something out. Come on," she says, setting Kota down. "Let's see how that leg is doing."

It's only then that I notice the bites and claw marks on her shoulders and chest. "You're hurt too!" I gasp, feeling guilty that she helped me while she was hurt too.

She waves me off however and finds a large stone for me to sit on. With a little effort, she manages to tear open my pant leg to reveal an already healing bite wound on my ankle.

"Uh—oh! That's a big ouchie!" Kota cries as he peers over Rionna's shoulder. "Does it hurt?" I shake my head, though I still wince when Rionna ties a strip of my jeans around my ankle.

"It looks like your wolf is healing the wound quite nicely," Rionna says, helping me to my feet. "I take it you are a Silver wolf?"

I stare blankly at her. "A Silver wolf?"

"I guess not," she laughs awkwardly. "They are wolves with special abilities. Gifts granted by Moon Goddess. I had a Silver wolf once but I lost mine."

“You lost your wolf?” I ask.

“It’s complicated,” Rionna replies. “But I am still a wolf, just without a gift. You, however, appear to have a very interesting gift,” she adds curiously. “The shadows. They followed your command didn’t they?”

We are not a Silver wolf, a voice whispers in my head, startling me. “What’s wrong?” Rionna asks. “Nothing,” I reply. “I just thought I heard someone.” You did, the voice chuckles. Me.

“There it is again!” I cry out, grabbing either side of my head.

Rionna studies me carefully before bursting into laughter, Kota laughing with her, though I don’t think he knows what the joke is.

“You must be hearing your wolf,” She giggles. “Has she never spoken to you before?” She smiles when I shake my head. “Well, why don’t you start with an introduction? Maybe she knows what you are.”

Before I have time to think, however, we hear rustling in the trees behind us and I instinctively push Kota behind me, the shadows around us gathering into little tendrils ready to attack.

Aman and young she-wolf step out from the trees and Rionna visibly relaxes, Kota running up to the man for a hug.

“Micah!” he squeals.

“Little dude!” the man named Micah replies as he crouches down on his knees to pick Kota up. “Little dude, you had us worried sick!” he scolds the little boy. “You just disappeared on us!”

“Boo!” Kota shouts, the man laughing with the child.

Micah finally notices us and immediately removes his t-shirt and hands it over to Rionna, turning around to give her privacy as she dresses.

“Vanessa, this is Micah and Nikki. They are Talia’s friends. Guys, this is Vanessa, Talia’s older sister,” Rionna introduces us. She looks around and a worried look washes over her face. “Where’s Brody?” she asks.

“Knocked out cold,” Micah replies with a smirk. “He was annoying me so I shut him up. He’s behind that tree over there,” Micha says, pointing to the distance. “So where’s Talia and Jordan?” he asks, Kota leaning over his arm to pet the she-wolf.

“Jordan didn’t make it,” I reply quietly as I fight back tears. “And I don’t know where my sister is or what she’s up to but I’m afraid. 1–1 have to go back and get her.”

“Vanessa, you can’t!” Rionna snaps, reaching for my arm to hold me back. “You’re hurt!” “It’s all my fault,” I whimper, shaking her off. “None of this would have happened had I not gotten in the way. I have to help fix my mess.”

“But you are helping,” Rionna retorts. “You helped protect Kota from those wolves and you got us out of the tunnel with your gift!”

“And now my sister needs my help,” I reply, scanning the horizon. “There should be a town to the west of the territory,” I add, holding up my hand when Rionna begins to protest.

Nearby, we hear howls break the silence of the forest, Kota squeezing Micah’s neck tightly and hiding his little face in fear

“We’ve taken too long,” I mutter, nudging Rionna towards the sunset. “Jack must have sent a patrol

after us,” I hiss, hearing the sound of paws stomping towards us. “You promised Natalia you would keep Kota safe. Go! I’ll only hold you back! Just go!” I urge limping in the direction of the howls.

From the corner of my eye, I see a patrol wolf hiding in the trees and I shove Rionna out of the way as he leans on his hind legs.

“Run!!” I shout, the wolf pouncing on me and pinning me to the ground.

Nikki tries to help me but a second wolf appears and attacks her.

The shadows quickly gather around me and form tendrils that stab and hurt my attacker’s shadow, the wolf collapsing on top of me. I struggle as I push the wolf off of me and look up to see that Rionna has shifted, Micah climbing on top of her while holding Kota to his chest.

Our eyes meet and I nod silently for her to go on without me. There is a sadness in her eyes but she begins to sprint away to take Kota to safety.

Beside me, Nikki struggles against her assailant, getting pinned to the ground with a loud yelp and I send my shadows over to help. They stab and slice into her opponent’s shadow, pools of his own blood gathering at his paws. I dust myself off as the wolf collapses dead on the ground and I instruct Nikki to follow and protect Rionna and Kota as they get to safety.

A questioning look flashes in Nikki’s eyes and I answer as simply as I can.

“Go,” I snap, limping in the direction that the wolves came from. “I have to help my sister.”

Natalia

Once safe, I step out into the corridor and make my way into the main clinic waiting room when I suddenly double over as a pain spreads across my chest.

Jordan... I whimper, the pain intensifying as I lean against the wall to catch my breath. On goddess, I groan, clenching my fists. He’s.... He’s....

I breathe in through my nose and out through my mouth, tears springing to my eyes that I forcefully blink away.

What about my baby? I wonder, the dark thought making my heart sink to the pit of my stomach. Is he hurt too? Did they get him?

A wave of anxiety washes over me and my wolf quietly tries to soothe me. Don’t let your thoughts wander, she scolds. Dakota is a strong pup and he needs you to be just as strong. You’ve made it this far. Finish the job.

I nod silently to myself, taking deep breaths until the pain and my thoughts fade away. Once calm, I walk out into the waiting room where I find Christian waiting for me.

“All done,” I say through a forced smile as I approach him. “I’m perfectly healthy.”

“Good,” he replies, rising to his feet and pulling me into his arms. “Now, I take you home,” he whispers, kissing the tip of my nose.

He leads me outside, shifting into his wolf and allowing me to climb on his back. Jack carries me towards the pack house, stopping by a tree to let me climb off and he finds a pair of shorts to slip on.

Taking my hand, he walks me through the front door of the pack house where we find the Omegas already waiting for us lined up in a single file. Their heads hang in a low bow and their hands are clasped tightly together as they await orders.

“Welcome home, Luna,” they say in unison, not an ounce of enthusiasm or excitement in their voice.

Even as they hide their faces from me, I notice the forced smiles on their faces. Olga, the head Omega of the house brings me a vase with large white lilies.

“I remembered that these were your favorites,” Jack smiles as I take the vase and find a small white box among the flowers.

Pink sword lilies are my favorite, you j**t, Iscoff but smile in appreciation as I open the box.

Inside, there's a glittering diamond ring with tiny stones on the band and a large diamond in the center. Despite its beauty, I prefer the little blue bead Zane gave me instead.

Jack gets down on one knee and slides the ring up my finger, kissing my hand as he stands back up.

"I knew you would say yes so I had your ring made for you," Jack murmurs in my ear. "Your dresses are upstairs in your office and the room has been prepared for you to freshen up.

We'll have a small wedding tonight, just you, me, our son, and the elders and then tomorrow, a full banquet and reception," he adds, nibbling on my ear lobe. "Goddess, I can't wait to make you mine again, Tiny," he says, inhaling the smell of my hair. "Your scent still drives me crazy."

He peppers kisses along my neck and jaw, when suddenly the front door bursts open behind us.

"Where the hell have you been!?" Alpha Christopher roars as he storms in. "I have been calling you all day and came looking for you only for the Omegas to tell me you weren't here and they haven't seen you since last night. Where the hell have you—" He stops abruptly when he finally notices me.

"What the hell is she doing here!?" he snarls before his eyes go wide with realization. "She's—" "She's a wolf," Jack finishes for him. "And after all these years, she's finally home where she belongs."

"Is that what you've been doing all day? Getting her?" Christopher snaps. "Yes, I had to fly to California and fly back," Jack explains. "Our son is being picked up as we speak but

he'll be here momentarily. Then Natalia and I will be able to get married aga—"

"Marriage?" Christopher bursts into laughter. "Your mother is missing and that's what you're

concerned about? Marriage?" he growls.

A calm smile curls on Jack's face, his green eyes studying the elder Alpha closely before answering.

“My mother isn’t missing,” Jack chuckles, the sound making my skin crawl. He snaps his fingers and an Omega comes running in carrying an envelope which she hands to Jack. He flicks the envelope between his fingers before holding out to his father. “She left this for you.”

Christopher eyes the envelope and hesitantly takes it. He tears it open quickly, reading the content before crumpling the page with rage.

“You’re lying!” he growls, lunging at Jack who moves faster and counters his attack by slamming him against the door.

“It’s a hard pill to swallow when your wife doesn’t love you anymore,” Jack snickers as he holds his father up against the wall with his elbow across his collar bone. “But Mom has been looking for a way out for years and Derek gave her one,” he sneers. “He found her a spirit witch to break your little bond and they left together.”

I watch in shock as Alpha Christopher thrashes violently against Jack to no avail.

“You f**king

“What? Don’t believe me?” Jack laughs, pulling out a slip of paper from his back pocket. “Here’s the f*****g address to the witch house Derek took her to. Ask them where your wife is,” he scoffs, shoving the

paper in Christopher’s hand.

Christopher glares at his son. “I want to speak with Christian.”

“No can do, Pops,” Jack chuckles. “Your son is kind of a f**k up so I’m going to make sure he doesn’t screw up my marriage a second time.”

Christopher’s eyes fall on me and I instinctively lower my gaze, remembering how Luna Kay had once advised me to never look an Alpha in the eye when angered. They take it as a challenge.

“Just because she has a wolf,” He snarls. “Doesn’t make her one of us. She’ll always be human scum.”

“So what does that make you?” Jack smirks, Christopher swallowing in displeasure.

“You and Mom have always had problems, even if you tried to hide them from the pack. Don’t act so shocked. It’s not my fault Mommy left you,” he whispers before letting his father go.

She didn’t leave me,” Christopher snarls as he turns towards the door. “I’m going to find her and when I do, I’ll show you what a real Luna looks like,” he says over his shoulder before storming away.

A satisfied smirk hangs on Jack's lips as he watches his father leave and it frightens me, but I pretend

to take no notice and smile at the lunatic.

"You should get dressed," Jack says, leaning down to peck my cheek as I try to process everything that just unraveled before me. He snaps his fingers at Olga and she rushes over to us. "Is everything ready?" he asks.

"Yes, Alpha," she replies softly with her head bowed.

"Perfect," he says, turning to me. "Go upstairs to get ready, my love," he says, taking my hand and kissing it. "I'll go double check on our son's status and make sure the elders are ready to make you my wife again."

"Thank you," I respond quietly, allowing Olga to pull me away while I panic internally. Kota's going to be okay, Devina murmurs. I'm sure Rionna and Vanessa kept him safe.

I hope so, I mutter to myself, taking long and deep breaths to calm myself. "How does it feel to be back, Luna?" Olga whispers as she leads me to my old bedroom.

Awful, Devina purrs sarcastically.

Given Dr. Lila's reaction to my return, I decide to play it safe around Olga and the other omegas.

"I'm nervous," I reply timidly. "It's been so long since I've had to lead a pack. I just hope I don't disappoint anyone."

"You won't," Olga says bluntly. "Anyone is better than our previous Luna, even you," she says curtly, opening my bedroom door for me.

Well f**k you too, b***h, Devina mutters.

Several memories come flooding back as I look around my old bedroom and see all our old photos still hanging on the wall. There is one near the bed where we are both smiling as we celebrate our 1st anniversary at a picnic but I vividly remember crying myself to sleep that night when my pregnancy test came back negative for the 8th time. It was the first time Christian didn't come home to sleep with me.

Olga gives me a bit of privacy to shower and I change quickly into a robe, slipping the syringe in my pocket and concealing it with a washcloth.

A few Omegas enter the bedroom after I'm done dressing, bringing with them hair wands, makeup, nail polish and a black garment bag with my wedding dress.

“The Alpha wants to keep things simple for the wedding ceremony tonight,” Olga instructs the other girls. “Natural makeup, soft curls, and minimal jewelry. Get to work ladies.”

The Omegas do as they’re told, curling my hair like I used to and they’re applying minimal make-up with a bit of a winged eyeliner and some soft blush. I pray silently as they work, hoping my baby has made it safely out of pack territory and is resting in Rionna’s arms while drifting away into beautiful dreams.

When I look at myself in the mirror, I see the old Natalia staring back at me with her shattered soul masked by a perfect smile. It takes everything in me not to burst into tears upon seeing my reflection and I ask the Omegas to leave me while I get dressed.

Jack selected a short form-fitting dress made of ivory satin with thin straps and a square neckline. While elegant, it is nowhere near what I plan to wear at my wedding with Zane.

I want to look like a princess on that day, I smile to myself. His princess.

As I slip on the dress, I begin to panic when I don’t see any pockets for the syringe. Ultimately, I conceal it within my bra and pray to Moon Goddess it doesn’t fall out.

To my annoyance, the zipper of my dress gets stuck halfway up and I call in Olga to help me with it when Jack suddenly storms into the bedroom, his green eyes flickering with rage. “You’re pregnant!?” he snarls.

The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 87

Chapter 87

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 87 – Tale of two Lunas

Vanessa

The forest comes alive with shadows dancing between the trees as I rush through, the sounds of howling wolves echoing all around me. I can do this... I can do this... I repeat to myself as I put weight on my injured foot. It doesn’t hurt as much, but I can’t tell if it’s the adrenaline or my wolf healing it. Both, the little voice whispers. I stop dead in my tracks when I feel a presence nearby and listen to the rustling of the trees. Danger... my wolf murmurs. Duck!

I don’t question her and drop to my knees, a large wolf pouncing over me and narrowly missing me. I scramble to my feet and face my attacker, recognizing the wolf as he shifts into his human. “Brody...” I gasp, stumbling back against a tree.

“Luna,” he snickers. “Or should I still call you that?” he scoffs, looking behind me. “Where are your friends? I woke up all alone.”

“You must be used to that by now,” I mutter, Brody’s smirk morphing into a snarl.

He doesn’t seem to notice my own shadow shifting into sharpened tendrils but a group of wolves emerge from the trees behind him, and I stop moving them to get a better sense of what I am dealing with.

“You know, I was going to go easy on you as a courtesy for being Luna all these years...but now?” he shrugs. “I think I’ll have some fun. Let’s see how good that p***y really is.”

My wolf growls with disgust as the men circle me and I feel her anger coursing through my veins.

No more games, she snarls. Our sister needs us!

Pain suddenly radiates from my temples, slowly spreading across my face and down my neck. The agonizing tingle shivers down my spine and I collapse on my hands and knees, my back arching as I let out a painful howl.

My skin burns and itches as tufts of soft brown fur sprout across my body and my fingertips sting as claws and paws take the place of my hands. I shake with fear as I hear the cracking and shifting of my bones and once again howl in agony.

“She’s shifting!” Brody shouts, rushing at me.

At the sign of danger, my wolf takes over completely, and I feel myself drift back as she pounces on Brody.

Her paws pin him to the ground and she buries her canines into his throat. Before the other wolves can strike, my shadow tendrils take form and attack, the wolves howling in shock as wounds appear on their bodies.

One by one, they all fall at the hands of the shadows, leaving my lone wolf standing in the wake of their destruction. I stare down at my furry body, in awe of my new form.

Do you like what you see? My wolf giggles sheepishly. I am sorry I am a little small. I am a runt.

You’re perfect, I whisper, climbing off of Brody’s corpse, the feeling of walking on all fours both strange and exciting. I can’t believe it! I’m a wolf!

T—thank you, my wolf says timidly, her giddiness and relief contagious. My name is Paloma, my wolf adds quietly, shaking the blood from her fur. It's so nice to finally meet you.

A distant howl brings me back to reality and a feeling of dread washes over me.

I have to help

Natalia.

Then there's no time waste, Paloma murmurs, taking off in the direction of the pack house.

Let's

*** Jack***

...A few moments earlier...

"Have you acquired the pup!?" I snarl at my patrol men.

"No sir," a patrol wolf replies. "But it seems you were right to suspect Jordan was working with Vanessa, Alpha," he adds. "We just finished scanning the tunnels and have found the bodies of the soldiers and the Gamma.

It looks like Jordan fought them off and let Vanessa escape with the kid. The patrols are combing the territory and the tunnel exit as we speak."

"Well, find them now!" I growl back. "My Luna is anxious to have her pup back and will not marry me without him here. Use every available soldier if you have to but find me my son and bring him home!"

"Yes, Alpha," the wolf replies, cutting off our connection. Your plan is falling apart, Christian snickers, rattling his cage. Let me out and I'll help you.

Funny man, I laugh. But I knew that b****t*rd Jordan was plotting against me and I have every man searching for the pup. I'll have Dakota soon enough and then I'll finally have my mate and my pup together again.

You think Kota won't tell Natalia what you did to him?

Christian argues. She'll never forgive you for touching the kid.

That's why I am blaming you, I laugh, Christian falling silent. Natalia still hates you. I can sense it and I'll use that to my advantage. You so graciously gave the kid your name, not mine.

I'll just say you lost control and hit him and before you could take it too far, I stepped in and protected the boy from you. I'll be a hero in my Tiny's eyes and she'll love me even more for keeping you locked away.

She'll see right through your lies, Christian shakes his head. I don't think so The notification bell on my phone dings and I look down to see an email from the LAB waiting for me.

I open it up, my eyes scanning the document to see that my Tiny is in perfect health. My heart beats faster, however, when I reach the bottom of the document.

Reference Range: Non–Pregnant: NEGATIVE

Pregnant: POSITIVE

Pregnant? I snarl as I read the lab notes.

Alpha,

Luna Natalia is pregnant and in good health. She is very early in her pregnancy and cannot be more than 3 weeks along. You can discuss your options with Dr. Lila.

If you have any questions regarding the results, we are more than happy to explain them to you.

Timmediately call Dr. Lila but her phone sends me right to voicemail and she doesn't answer her mind–link. Seeing red, I storm out of my office and down the hall to my bedroom where I find Natalia getting help zipping up her dress.

“You're pregnant?” I growl at her, her body tensing at the sound of my voice.

“W–what?” she whispers, her face paling. “I'm what?”

“Pregnant!” I spit through gritted teeth, infuriated that I have to repeat those wicked words.

She looks down at her flat stomach and places her hand against her belly. “But I can't...” she whimpers in utter shock. “I thought I was.”

Tears spring to her eyes and I feel a pain in my heart to see her in so much distress.

She didn't know... I mutter, feeling guilty at having accused her of lying to me. Of course she wouldn't lie to me...

"Natalia, my love," I whisper, closing the space between us. "W-we can fix this, okay? We can fix this!" I murmur as I cup her cheeks in my hands. She trembles with disgust at herself and I wipe her tears away with my thumbs.

"We'll get rid of it," I tell her, her eyes widening with shock. "I'll rip out the little mongrel inside you and I'll hunt down that Alpha for ever touching you. I promise, I'll fix you."

"Get rid of it?" She whimpers and I nod at her.

"It'll be like it never existed," I reply in a gentle voice as I kiss her cheeks. "I'll fix it. I'll fix you." "But Christian, it's my baby," she whines, shaking her head at me in protest. "I can't kill my own baby."

I can't—"Yes, yes you can," I murmur, smoothing down her hair and kissing her forehead. "I killed my mother for you." I whisper, pulling her into a hug as I try to comfort her. "You can kill your baby."

****Natalia****

I bury my head in Jack's chest as a cold chill runs down my spine. Luna Kay... but I thought... I thought he said she ran away? I think to myself.

Remember, Vanessa said he killed her mate, Devina reminds me. He killed Derek and her unborn baby. Jack's not bluffing. He will kill our pup! We have to act now!

My heart beats a mile a minute as I realize I am alone, pregnant, and facing a monster who is willing to do anything to get what he wants.

"I'm scared, Jack," I whimper, crossing my arms over my chest as I nuzzle up closer to him and slide my hand inside my dress to find the syringe.

"Don't be," Jack replies as he squeezes me tighter in his embrace, making it difficult to move. "I've got you, Tiny," he murmurs. "I'll protect you."

I manage to slide the cap off the syringe but my hand shakes as I carefully maneuver it under and around his arm to get the perfect angle.

"Alpha, look out!" Olga cries when she sees the syringe in my hand.

You b***h, Devina sneers at Olga's betrayal.

I attempt to plunge the syringe into Jack's arm but he grabs my wrist before I can dispense the medication, slowly crushing it in his hand.

"What are you doing, Tiny?" he whispers with calm rage. "I thought you loved me."

I do my best to wriggle free from his grasp but he doesn't let go of me and instead grabs my other wrist, shaking me violently as he tries to understand my betrayal.

"I did this all for you," he whispers, the tenderness in his voice frightening me. "I got rid of everyone who stood in our way," he adds, his voice growing angry. "How could you throw that all away for some mutt's pup?" he says, raising his voice.

"I've given you everything! My love, my home, my pack! How could you betray me when all I've done is love you?!"

"No," I shake my head as I thrash my arms to free myself. "No!" "You said you loved me!" he snarls.

"I hate you!" I shout, Jack stunned into silence.

Taking advantage of his shock, I slam my knee in between his legs and to my relief, feel Jack's grip on my wrists loosen as he bends over in pain. Finally freeing myself from his grasp, I run for the door, kicking off my heels and picking them up before sprinting down the hall.

"Stop her!" Jack snarls at Olga who runs after me.

I make it to the stairs, taking a heel and chucking it with full force at Olga. She dodges it and lunges towards me, grabbing me by the hair and pulling me back against the wall.

My body goes into overdrive and I slam my elbow into her face while h***king my foot around her ankle. Using my momentum, I turn around and punch her in the jaw, Olga collapsing on the ground with a groan.

Sprinting down the stairs, I push past several confused omegas carrying flowers and vases and make

it to the front door only to hear a growl behind me.?

*Don't let her escape! Natalia! Get back here!" Jack snarls, shifting as he leaps down the stairs.

I throw open the door only to feel a hand wrap around my arm and drag me back. A pain pulsates from my temples down my spine and I spin around to punch whoever it is holding me back. Stumbling through the door, I limp down the driveway, the pain reaching my arms and legs.

Devina, I whimper, feeling myself on the verge of collapsing. Devina what is happening?

I don't make it far before I hear Jack panting furiously after me, several of the omegas quickly catching up and blocking my path to freedom.

Shhh.. Devina murmurs as I collapse on my hands and knees. It's going to be alright.

I find myself surrounded by Omegas and Jack shifts back into his human form. He breathes heavily, his eyes narrowing to slits as he glares at me.

"You are my Luna," he growls, taking two menacing steps towards me while I instinctively shield my belly with my hand. "You belong to me. Christian f****d up. It was him, not me and I swear, he'll never hurt you again. I'll lock him away forever! It'll just be the two of us!"

"You hurt me too, Jack!" I snap, my mouth burning as I feel my canines growing. "You hit me. You rejected me. How can I ever trust you again?"

"No," he shakes his head as his fantasy starts to fall apart before his eyes. "No, I would never hurt you, Tiny," he says with desperation. "I love you! Please, you have to believe me!"

"I do believe you," I murmur, my hands trembling in agony as a burning spreads across my flesh. "But I don't love you anymore."

"No!" Jack snaps. "No, ta—take it back!" he whimpers.

"I love someone else now," I smile quietly through the pain as I think of my mate. "He is kind and gentle with me. He protects me and my heart like his own and more importantly, he loves Dakota. He loves his pup. What could you give me that he couldn't?"

"Everything!"

"No," I shake my head as tears spill onto my cheeks. "You can't give me peace. You can't give me respect. You can't even remember my favorite flowers!"

"I do remember! I—it's lilies!"

"I don't dread coming home to him," I whisper, Jack's forced smile dissipating. "I used to dread returning to you because I knew the only thing waiting for me at home was an empty bed or your wrath. You broke me long before you slept with Vanessa. I was just too blind to see that a mate should feel like home... and you never did. You never made me feel at home. I was always just a stranger you needed an heir from."

"Natalia—"

"I don't love you, Jack," I say, looking up at the man who once broke me. "And I never will."

Several emotions wash over his face before his brows furrow in anger.

“Then I guess no one else will have you,” he says calmly as he gets down on all fours.

His bones shift and crack until I am face to face with a large black wolf glaring down at me. I look around at the other wolves, hoping at least one will remember that I was once their Luna, but it seems have long been forgotten.

Don't look to them for help, Devina snarls, her voice louder than ever before. You have me.

Jack circles me, eyeing me like prey while the Omega wolves watch silently, as if waiting for all of this to be over. My heart pounds against my chest and my fingernails begin to bleed as claws grow in their stead. Agonizing cracks and pops ring in my ears as my bones begin to shift and rearrange.

Devina... I whimper. Devina!

Just wait... she murmurs. The first time is always painful.

I can't wait! I snap, attempting to crawl away only for Jack to grab me by the ankle with his snout and drag me back so that I lay beneath him.

“Co—coward!” I wheeze, my body convulsing as tufts of gray fur grow across my body. “Y—you're a coward!”

Jack opens his snout, showing me a row of sharp teeth that can easily tear through my flesh, his eyes flickering with amusement and rage. Just as suddenly as I find myself trapped, a blur rushes through the circle of wolves and slams head first into Jack's rib cage, knocking him back a few feet away.

Through my tears, I see a small wolf standing protectively between Jack and me, her fur bristled and her ears tucked back against her head. The little wolf turns to look at me, her reddish brown eyes flickering to green for a brief moment and I recognize her almost instantly.

“Vanessa?” I whisper, her wolf nodding at me.

Jack suddenly rushes at her, slamming into her at full speed and pinning her against the ground with his jaws wrapped around her throat.

“Vanessa, no!” I cry, my voice morphing into a howl as Devina takes full control and shifts.

The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 88

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 87 – Daughters of the Night

Natalia

Devina rises to her feet and charges at Jack, sinking her canines into his hind leg and dragging him off of Vanessa. Jack lets go of her and turns his large head towards me to retaliate but Vanessa clamps her jaws on his front paw and tears it open, blood staining her brown fur. Jack lets out a howl of pain and I witness something that leaves me in awe of my sister.

Her shadow begins to crawl along the surface of the driveway, spreading out like little tendrils of rope as they wrap around Jack's shadow and hold him down in place. Jack attempts to move but his own shadow works against him and keeps him hostage to the ground.

Seeing their Alpha under attack by an unknown force, the Omegas jump in to defend their leader, two wolves pouncing on top of me while another three rush at Vanessa. Devina drops down and rolls over, managing to crush one of the wolves and kicking off the second.

Scrambling to her feet, Devina lunges at the second wolf, both of us upright on our hind legs as we claw and bite each other. My wolf's strength overpowers my opponent and I am able to push the wolf back onto her front paws and slam her head into the concrete.

Devina takes advantage and pins her down with her belly up and despite the wolf's attempt to kick me off, Devina buries her razor sharp teeth into her throat. Blood pours into my mouth, the metallic taste making my stomach wretch.

As I finish off the second wolf, the first one jumps onto their feet and bites my tail, dragging me backwards. Devina wastes no time reciprocating, turning her head and ripping off the wolf's ear.

The Omega howls in pain, giving Devina perfect access to her neck. Devina latches onto their flesh and tears their throat open, blood dripping down our snout. Panting with rage, I look up in time to see Vanessa struggling against her opponents, the three wolves attacking simultaneously to not give her any opportunity to think or attack without consequence.

They have her pinned down, her shadow grip on Jack starting to slip. As the moon shines down on us, a cold gust of air rushes through the trees surrounding the pack house.

"Blessed be the daughters of the Night," the wind whispers as it blows through my fur and I feel a jolt of energy and strength ripple through my muscles.

Jack bucks violently against the shadows holding him down until finally, he breaks free and charges at Vanessa, pushing aside the other wolves to get to her. You will not touch her again ! Devina growls, planting her paws on the ground.

Suddenly, a large black mist materializes from the center of my chest, growing larger and darker as it solidifies. To my amazement, the mist takes the shape of long curling tentacles and as I lean forward to touch them, I am shocked to see them mimic the movement of my head.

What is this? I ask as more tentacles gather around me.

Darkness, Devina explains, softening her voice when she senses my fear. Do not be afraid.

Darkness itself is not evil. It is simply a lack of light. There is beauty in it for only in the darkness can we see the Moon and stars that shine above us. Do not fear it.

Devina seems to understand the gift well enough to control it and thrusts her head forward, visualizing the tentacles wrapping around Jack's paws and dragging him away from Vanessa.

Imitating her imagination, some of the tentacles rush forward and grab Jack, pulling him away from my sister. More mist radiates from my body, taking the shape of sharp spears which I aim at the remaining wolves trying to attack Vanessa.

Jack writhes and wriggles in the tentacles but the more he attempts to free himself, the more entangled he becomes. From the corner of my eye, I see Vanessa rise to her feet and shake off her fur before limping to my side.

Jack shifts into his human form in hopes of freeing himself, but the dark mist only follows him, turning into thorny tentacles that wrap around each of his limbs so that he lays flat on his back.

The dark tentacles stretch his arms and legs in opposite directions until he resembles a starfish. "Natalia!" He cries in agony as the thorns tear into his flesh. From the corner of my eye, I see several pack members hiding in the trees, all of them too afraid to step forward but curious enough to stay and watch.

They are all monsters like him Jm utter to myself as Devina circles Jack like prey. Let me face him, I tell Devina. He hurt me. / need to be the one who ends this. She gladly lets me take control and I shift back into my human so Jack can face the pathetic human who has him at her mercy.

"Tiny," he whimpers. "Tiny, I'm sorry," he says in a small voice, tears gathering in the corners of his eyes.

“Please... Please let me go! “You were going to kill my baby, weren’t you Jack? Just like you killed Vanessa’s?” I reply, placing my hand on my belly. Vanessa’s wolf whimpers at the reminder of her lost child, and Jack’s long silence angers me.

“Answer me!” I snap, another tentacle wrapping around his c*** and twisting it. “Ahhhh!” he screams, shaking his head in agony.”

N—Natalia!” “Did Kota scream when you hurt him?” I ask, barely able to keep my voice above a

whisper without losing my temper. Jack says nothing, once again calling my name and begging for forgiveness.

His blubbing apology infuriates me, and with a twist of my wrist, the dark vines tighten around him. “Did he call for me too, Jack?!” I shout as tears spill onto my cheek.

“Did he call for his mommy?! “Natalia!! Stop! Please!” Jack sobs when some spider-like tentacles crawl down his chest to his p***s and wrap around it, squeezing it so tightly, it turns violet.

“Did my sister not beg for you to stop as you murdered her mate and killed her unborn child! Did you stop then?” I shout, the tentacles growing thorns that tear his p***s to ribbons.

“Where the f**k was your mercy? Huh? Where the f**k was it?!” “Natalia,” Vanessa whispers, shifting into her human form and wrapping her arms around me. “It’s okay,” she murmurs, stroking my hair as I lean into her embrace. “It’s okay.”

I shake my head, blinded by pure rage as I face the monster who took so much from me. “Look at me, Nat. Look at me,” Vanessa murmurs, cupping my cheeks in her hands. Her eyes fill with tears and she smiles half-heartedly at me. “He can’t hurt us anymore.

It’s over.” She holds me in her arms like a child recovering from a nightmare, and I peer over her shoulder at Jack as he writhes against the tentacles of darkness. Vanessa’s shadow tendrils crawl along the ground, latching onto the silhouette of his body.

Small cuts appear on his bare flesh and Jack once again pleads for mercy. “Come sit with me,” Vanessa murmurs, leading me towards an empty patch of grass in front of Jack.

She helps me sit down and lets me lean my head against her shoulder as we watch the shadows and the darkness slowly chip away at the screaming wolf. “I want silence,” Vanessa whispers, her shadows tilting Jack’s chin up and forcing open his mouth.

“I want him to know what it’s like to be completely alone in your pain.

To have no one come to save you, because that's what it felt when he took everything from me. I want him to scream and shout with every fiber in his body only for his voice to never be heard."

Her shadow tendrils crawl into the silhouette of his mouth and pull out his tongue, Jack groaning in fear as two delicate tendrils hold his tongue's shadow in place.

"Do it," I whimper, holding out my palm so that the black mist materializes in my hand, solidifying into a dagger of darkness.

"Not yet," Vanessa murmurs, giving me a tight squeeze and kissing my forehead as her shadow takes the dagger from me.

"I spent the last week hiding in fear, knowing that Jack would kill my baby if he ever found me. You spent the past four years hiding Kota, always looking over your shoulder in case he ever took the thing most precious to you. He should know what it's like to live in fear.

To know something is coming for him but never know when it's going to happen." I nod my head but say nothing and turn to the group of fearful omegas, curling my finger at them to step forward.

They timidly approach us, their legs shaking as they bow before us. "Yes, Luna?" one whispers meekly.

"Don't call me that," I snap, the wolf cowering back in fear. "Get me a phone and some clothes for my sister and I," I instruct, losing my patience when the wolves only stare at me.

"NOW!" "Yes, ma'am," they whimper, scurrying off to fetch the things I requested. A few moments later, the wolves return with the items and I dial Rionna's phone. My heart sinks to the pit of my stomach when after three calls, she doesn't pick up. "Call Micah," Vanessa suggests.

"Rionna and Nikki had to shift when I left them. I don't think either of them have their phone anymore but perhaps Micah still does." "Okay," I whisper to myself, taking a deep breath to calm my shaking fingers as they dial Micah's number.

"H-Hello?" Micah's voice calls out into the receiver, my heart nearly stopping as I grab onto the phone like a lifeline. "Who is this? "Micah!" | scream, nearly bursting into tears at the sound of his voice.

"Micah are you okay? Did you get Kota? Is he okay? Is my baby okay?" "Yeah," Micah replies ecstatically, my heart finally relaxing knowing my pup is safe again. "Yeah we managed to escape thanks to Vanessa.

We got to the little town like she told us and found an inn to hide out in. Is she okay? Did she get to you safely?" "Yes," I cry. "Yes, she's right here." He breathes out a sigh of relief. "I'm glad you guys are okay.

Did you... did you get your ex?" i glare over at Jack who whimpers to himself with his tongue still held by the shadows. "He's not going anywhere," I reply dryly. "And I still have some things to settle here."

"Good," Micah sighs contently. "Good... Well, Kota's asleep right now but if you want, I can wake him up so you can talk to him." "No, it's okay," I murmur. "Let him sleep. Just send me the address so I can be there when he wakes up."

"You got it," he replies. "Oh and one more thing. Zane's on his way. Your friend, Rionna, called in for back up." My belly fills with butterflies at the mention of his name and I am reminded of the life growing within me.

"Good," I smile to myself. "I have some news for him," I whisper, gently placing my palm against my flat tummy. "He'll be here soon.

Stay safe, Tai," Micah says. I hang up the phone and scowl in annoyance at the omegas still standing by. Black mist appears at my fingertips, drifting towards the ground in front of Jack before solidifying into what appears to be a large pole with a two pronged spear aiming directly at Jack's eyes.

He looks down at the spear and begins to scream in fear though Vanessa's shadows still hold his tongue.

"You four. Gather the pack, fetch your elders and find Alpha Christopher," I order, the four omegas exchanging nervous glances between each other. "Silver Crest will have a new Alpha tonight.

Rionna

The hours seem to drag on as we wait in the little inn, all of us exhausted but too anxious to sleep. After Vanessa gave us time to escape, we managed to make our way out of the woods and find a place to rest.

It did not take much for Kota to fall asleep, the poor pup exhausted from all the running and chaos he endured. Once settled, I video-called Agnes to let her know Kota was safe and made calls to Tylen who informed me that he, Toran, and Zane were on their way.

It was a huge relief to know we were not alone. Having confirmed Talia and Vanessa's safety, we now play the waiting game. Micah watches a movie on the TV and Nikki can't seem to sit still, getting up to pace around the room or stepping out to walk up and down the corridor of the inn. She must be anxious for Talia, Senara, my wolf observes.

Are you nervous? I know she is referring to Toran's return and in truth, I am nervous to see him again, the divorce papers still fresh on my mind. There is no doubt he will try to push me away again as he has always feared his own feelings.

Perhaps I am naive and it is wrong for me to still want him to fight for me. After all, he did lie to me about my son. Maybe it is best that I let him go. But why then, does the idea of not having him hurt me more than his lie? Why do his hugs and kisses heal my heart every time it breaks and why does his presence always bring me peace?

Why do I still love him with all of my soul? = I accidentally drift off to sleep with these thoughts bouncing around in my head and awaken to the sound of the key card opening the door.

Nikki walks in with Toran, Tylen, and Zane at her heels and I carefully sit up in bed to welcome them. "How did you guys get here so fast?" I ask. "It's a six hour flight from Washington." "We flew to California and had Celina transport into the state," Toran explains as he settles down at the desk. "Figured it would save us a few hours instead of flying directly here."

Zane rushes to my side where Kota sleeps, kneeling by the bed and peering over at the sleeping pup. Tears fill his eyes as he watches his son sleep and he takes my hand to kiss it. "T-Thank you for p-protecting him," he murmurs as he rises to his feet and scans the room. "W-where is Ta-Talia?" "She's still at Silver Crest," Micah responds for me, Zane's fists clenching at his side.

"She said she had something to settle before she came here but she's okay. She's not in any danger from what she explained." Zane leans down to kiss Kota goodnight and storms over towards the door. "Zane, where are you going?" I call after him in a hiss. To find m-my mate," he says with conviction. "I-I'm bringing her home."

Tylen goes after him and the two of them disappear down the hall. I want to stop them both from doing something stupid but Toran blocks the path and shakes his head."

Zane was anxious the entire trip here and felt the pain of betrayal many times. Let him handle this. He needs to see that his mate is alright," he explains. "Talia wouldn't betray him," I retort. "She hates her ex with every fiber in her body.

She was ready to tear him to shreds when she saw what he did to Kota." "What he did to Kota?" Toran asks, his head tilting to the side in curiosity. I pull the covers back and very gently pull Kota's pajama bottoms down to show Toran the bandages. "He hurt him," I whisper, my bottom lip trembling. "I should have never let him out of my sight or none of this would have ever happened-" "Hey," Toran murmurs as he caresses my cheeks gently with his thumbs, and I feel a peace envelop me. "You can't blame yourself for this. You are not responsible for someone else's actions." He stares into my soul with his dark eyes and I know I cannot ever let him go.

"I love you," I whisper. "And I forgive you." "Ri-" "No," I shake my head. "No, you listen to me. I was hurt by what you did but what angered me more than anything was that you simply wanted to walk away without giving me a chance to process all of this."

He doesn't say anything at first and looks away in shame. "I thought it was for the best that I let you go."

"Do you still love me?" I ask, feeling my heart in my throat. He opens his mouth to answer but I silence him with a stern look. "Don't you dare lie to me again, Tor.

I will castrate you." He chuckles to himself but after a long silence, whispers his reply. "With all my heart." "Then I will not divorce you." I murmur. "But I will set some new rules. The first being that you never keep me out of the loop again.

You do not get to decide what I know and don't know about myself. It's my life, Tor. My decisions." "I'm sorry," he says quietly, his small voice making me laugh. In all our years together, Toran has never raised his voice at me. It always pisses me off that he's so calm and sensible.

"You annoy me," I mutter, a small smile curling on his lips as he pulls me into his arms. "But I still love you and I choose you every day so long as you choose me." He smirks and nuzzles his face in my neck. "I will always choose you."

Zane

Tylen and I shift as soon as we reach the woods, Grayson sniffing the air for Talia's scent. On the plane to California, we studied the map of the region and now know Silver Crest is the only pack to the North of the river. We expect resistance as we approach the territory, but to our shock, there's no guards patrolling the pack's border and we slip through with ease.

Can you go any faster!? I ask, Grayson muttering in response. Be my guest. I'm only running on all four legs at full speed, he retorts with annoyance. I just want to see her, Treply quietly.

I just want to hold her again. Grayson says nothing, likely feeling the same way. We slow down when we reach the pack house gates, noticing a large crowd gathering in the middle of the driveway.

"What do you think it is?" Task Tylen as we hide in the nearby trees to plan. "I don't know," he shrugs when we suddenly hear a loud howl of pain coming from the crowd. (

A/N: To clarify: Talia's gift is Darkness Manipulation and Solidification. Vanessa's is Reverse Shadow Puppetry.]

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The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 89 Goodbyes

Zane

Fearing the worst, I throw caution out the window and race towards the pack house, Tylan running

after me and begging me to

rethink this.

I, however, burst through the gates and don't stop until I reach the crowd, snarling at the wolves to

step aside. Whimpering with

fright, the wolves jump out of my way, revealing a black mass of tentacle like things holding a bleeding

man hostage. I recognize him as Christian, Talia's ex and I snarl instinctively at him. There are cuts and

bruises all over his body and a mass of torn tissue hangs between

his legs.

Jeez, that thing was small, Grayson squints at the mess of flesh. I think a shrimp would have been

bigger.

The sound of a pained growl draws my attention to a man fighting against his own shadow. His teeth

are bared at Christian and he

thrashes violently against his invisible restraints until his face and neck are bright red with rage.

"How could you!?" the man snarls. "Your own mother, you ungrateful bastard! How could you do this

to me? How could you kill her?"

Answer me, you sick f**k!"

Christian only sobs and shakes his head. "I needed my mate..." he whimpers.

His reply only seems to enrage the man and Talia scolds him to pipe down. Her melodic voice makes

my heart skip a beat as I see her standing beside her sister, the fierceness in her stance making my

spine tingle.

"Christian Hart, in front of your entire pack, you have openly admitted to the murder of Luna Kay Hart,

the murder of Beta Derek

Mitchel, and the murder of countless omegas over the past four years. In accordance with Silver Crest

Law, piece by piece, you will lose

that which is most precious to you," Talia snarls, Grayson howling with pleasure.

I watch in awe as black mist pours from my mate's chest, forming two black tentacles that pry

Christian's mouth open and snake

inside. The tentacles wrap around each of Christian's canines and in a swift motion, pull them out as

Infobagh

inside. The tentacles wrap around each of Christian's canines and in a swift motion, pull them out as

Christian screams.

I'm putting a pup in her when we get to the hotel,

Grayson purrs, his tail wagging with excitement. On second thought I'm putting

several pups inside her tonight. She'll need a wheelchair by the time I'm done with her!

I can't even argue with him, unable to take my eyes off our sexy mate as she takes Christian's Alpha

power.

"Without your venom, you are nothing more than a waste of space," Talia sneers.

Grayson's purring must be incredibly loud because the entire crowd turns to look at us, including our

mate.

A small smile curls on her lips when she sees us and her cheeks become flushed as Grayson wags his

tail proudly. Turning on her heel, she slowly approaches us and from the corner of my eye, I see the

delicious look of horror on Christian's face when she murmurs, "Mate,"

under her breath.

"Natalia!" Christian calls after her in desperation as she wraps her arms around Grayson's neck. "Tiny,

you can't... I-I'm your

mate!"

Talia ignores his pleas, cupping Grayson's face in her hands. "You came back to me," she whispers, tears

filling her eyes as leans her

forehead against his. "You came back."

Needing to feel her in my arms, I shift into my human form, my hands wrapping around her waist and

pulling her into me.

"I-I had to," I whisper in her ear. "W-we have a we-wedding to plan, remember?"

Talia giggles against my neck, her hot breath making my stomach do somersaults. In front of everyone,

she stands on the tips of her

toes, tilts my chin down, and kisses me. Pain and fear melt away with her lips, my mate claiming me

with such confidence before her

former pack, her sister, and her ex mate.

"I'm sorry," She whispers as she pulls away. "I had to play into Jack's delusion in order to-

"I-It's already forgotten," I reply, pressing my lips against hers for a second kiss, this one softer and

gentler.

Behind her, I hear Christian lose his mind, berating Talia and insulting her for loving me instead of him.

"My father was right. You are a f*****g w***e!" he snarls, Grayson taking control and storming towards

the useless wolf.

He wraps my hand around Christian's throat, Christian gasping for air as he crushes his windpipe.

"Wanna run that by me again!?" Grayson snarls in a menacing hiss.

Christian only trembles in my hand, the look of fear in his eyes satisfying my wolf.

He knows who the true Alpha is, Grayson smirks.

"You don't get to be angry with me, Jack," Talia snaps as she stands beside me. She places her hand

over my own and I slowly release

the bastard from my grasp. "You divorced me. You rejected me. After everything I did for this pack, all

the bastard from my grasp. "You divorced me. You rejected me. After everything I did for this pack, all

of you turned your back on me!" She huffs, her chest rising and falling defiantly as she glares at her

former pack. "I moved on. You should have done that too instead of

becoming this monster living inside a fantasy. Own up to what you did, Jack. You killed your own

mother, your pack members, your Beta

"I did it all for you!" he snarls. "Because I love you."

Jack's eyes suddenly widen and a small gasp escapes his lips as he lowers his gaze to his stomach

where we see a gaping hole

pouring blood onto his pale skin. Turning to his shadow, we see Vanessa's silhouette impale her fist in

his abdomen.

"That was love?" Vanessa whimpers, gently pulling her hand from his shadow. "You call what you did to

my baby love?" she

snarls.

Curious to know what exactly went on in my absence, I let his demented thoughts slowly flood my

mind and I quickly realize Jack

has locked away his human, the wolf now in complete control of Christian.

Rage fills my body when the first memory I see is that of him beating Vanessa, the memory projecting

out on the pavement for all to

see. Her pleas haunt me as they beg Jack to let her baby live. Beside me, Talia watches in silent horror

as the man she once loved kicks

her sister and slams her against the floor in front of our son.

The memory switches to Dakota sobbing in the car, my heart shattering as he calls out for his mommy

and daddy to save him. I was

supposed to be his hero, and I failed to rescue him. My fists clench at my side as Jack relentlessly beats

Kota with a belt, leaving Kota's

little legs bruised and swollen.

Talia's low snarl startles me and the look of pure anguish and rage in her eyes both terrifies and

amazes me.

Before I can tear Jack apart, Talia shifts into her wolf, Devina pouncing on Jack and tearing out his

throat. Vanessa quickly joins her,

shifting into a much smaller brown wolf and burying her canines into his arm before ripping it clean

off. The two wolves almost fight over

Jack, tearing him limb from limb as the entire pack watches. Some pack members even jump in to

avenge the deaths of their beloved

omegas until all that's left is a mangled mass of flesh in their wake.

As Devina steps out from the bloodbath, I admire her beauty, her gorgeous gray fur stained with the

blood of the demon that once

haunted her. Her fiery blue eyes resemble sparkling sapphires and her cute black nostrils flare as she

pants with fury. The beautiful wolf quietly approaches me, everyone behind me stepping back in fear.

My silence seems to worry my mate and Devina becomes timid, her blue eyes staring at her own paws

and her tail hanging low

and her tail hanging low

between her legs. Knowing she must think I fear her too, I tiptoe towards the pretty wolf and gently

rest my hand on her snout.

Devina leans into my touch and I kiss her furry face until her tail wags violently with joy.

“Y-you are so perfect, D-Devi,” I murmur, petting her fur. “And I can’t wait to sp-spend the rest of m-

my life with y-you.”

Devina shifts in my arms and Talia once again takes control, burying her face in my chest and inhaling

my scent to calm herself down.

We take a moment to enjoy each other’s presence but there are still several matters we must take care

1. Having killed Jack and

Christian together, Talia and Vanessa are now the rightful Alphas of Silver Crest.

Talia tries to step out of my arms to address the terrified crowd of wolves watching us, but I do not

want her to address the pack in

the nude and instead search for some of the tattered remains of her clothes and wrap the scraps of a

shirt around her breasts and waist.

She chuckles as I work, her eyes scanning my own nudeness.

“Ooh,” I mutter, my hands quickly covering my dangling member.

“Thank you,” she whispers, standing on the tips of her toes to kiss my cheek before stepping around

me to address the pack. “I have

no desire to be your Alpha,” she announces to the pack. “And as you, Christopher, love to remind me

at every given opportunity.” Talia

laughs coldly at the man named Christopher. “A human cannot lead a pack. My son is half human so I

hereby forfeit his claim to the title

on his behalf.”

“I too, forfeit my claim to Silver Crest,” Vanessa whispers, her eyes glued to her hands. “After tonight, I

never wish to set foot in this

place again.”

Whispers and murmurs of concern erupt among the crowd, the future of Silver Crest uncertain.

“You cannot leave us without an Alpha!” Christopher snarls, Talia laughing in response.

“Well given that the previous Alpha is dead and my sister and I refuse to take on that role, it seems as

though the position falls back

to you,” Talia smiles. “I’ve requested the presence of every pack member and the elders to make this

transition of power easier. Decide

amongst yourselves who deserves to be your next Alpha. My mate and I are going home to our pup.”

“You can’t do that! You don’t get to just walk away from your mess!” Christopher growls, lunging

forward at Talia.

A cloud of black mist instantly blocks his path to my mate, large black spears sprouting from within

and pointing towards him.

“It was never my mess to begin with,” Talia says calmly. “And if I were you, I would be more concerned

with funeral arrangements and

finding your Luna’s body than with your son’s ex-wife.”

finding your Luna’s body than with your son’s ex-wife.”

Oh, what I would do to bend her over right now, Grayson howls. |

I ignore him and take my mate’s hand, pulling her into a hug. She, however, steps away and turns to

her sister who seems

nervous.

“Do you have anywhere to stay?” Talia asks.

“Oh, don’t worry about me,” Vanessa replies quietly with a forced smile. “I’ll figure something out.”

Talia hums to herself as she tries to decide what to do before taking her sister’s hand and bringing her

to me.

“Vanessa, this is my mate. Zane, this is Vanessa, my sister. She’ll need a room for the night,” Talia

explains.

I hardly have time to process her request when Tylen, who had been very quiet during this entire

ordeal, answers for me. “I’ll have

my father arrange it, Alpha.”

I feel my body freeze and I want to beat Tylen over the head for letting my title slip. Of course, I plan to

explain it all to Talia soon, but

not while she's dealing with her sister. Luckily, it doesn't appear Talia hears Tylen's mistake.

"Nat, it's fine," Vanessa begins to protest but Talia hears none of it.

"It's just a room, Ness. I'm not ready to forgive you just yet. I'm still healing as it is," Talia explains,

Vanessa nodding quietly. "But,

Kota deserves a proper goodbye from his friend before we leave."

Having no other options, Vanessa reluctantly accepts the room and the four of us make our way to a

cabin so Vanessa can grab the

few belongings she has left and her purse before we head back to the inn. To our surprise and relief,

Toran has already made sleeping

arrangements for everyone and our flights have already been booked for the following day.

I video call Agnes to let her know we all made it out safe and collect Kota from Rionna's and Toran's

room while I wait for Talia to

finish showering. The poor pup is so exhausted, he doesn't even stir when I pick him up, his little

snores continuing as I carry him to our

room. His little wolf is stuffed safely in my bag and I bring it to him, Kota curling up with it in his sleep.

I lay down beside my sleeping pup, my mind wandering to my mate. I have so many questions about

her wolf and her powers but

they can all wait until morning. Right now, I just need her and our pup safe in my arms.

It's not long before Talia finally steps out of the shower dressed in one of my t-shirts and my boxers

and in the moonlight, her beauty rivals that of a goddess.

"Zane, we need to talk," she says timidly, standing at the foot of the bed as she twists my shirt around

in her fingers.

I don't know what we did, but I swear it wasn't me,

Grayson replies defensively. I blame the hooman. He took the title. It was him. /

told him not to but he wouldn't listen.

told him not to but he wouldn't listen.

Seriously? I mutter.

My wolf only shrugs in response and my palms become a little sweaty as I sit up to face Talia.

"D-did I do something wrong?" I ask, Talia softening her tone as she speaks.

"Not necessarily," she laughs. "But... I heard what Tylen said. You took the Ravenstone Alpha title, didn't

you?"

I feel my heart rate rise and stumble through a response.

"H- was going to te-tell y-you but I-I ... I didn't-"

Talia settles down on my lap, kissing my cheek to calm me down. "I'm not angry with you," she

whispers, cupping my face in her

hands. "I just wanted to know what the title of my baby's father is."

"I-I know y-you don't like the idea of being Luna again but I-I'd give it all up if it means I get to sp-

spend the rest of my life with

y-you," I reply quickly. "Nothing is worth losing y-you."

"I'm not asking you to give up anything for me," Talia smiles, twirling a tuft of my hair between her

fingers. "But I do wonder where

our baby is going to live?"

"I'm sorry. I hadn't realized this was a big move for K-Kota," I sigh, trying to come up with a solution. "I-

I know K-Kota loves River Moon so perhaps we can talk to Her Majesty about an alliance."

I go off on a tangent explaining possible alternatives to a big move in Ravenstone, Talia smiling like a

fool at me and twirling my

hair.

"W-what is it?" I ask.

"Nothing," She giggles. "I'm just... not sure an island is a good place to raise a baby," she sighs.

I raise an eyebrow at her in confusion. "T-there's plenty of pups on the i-island," I explain. "K-Kota

wouldn't be in any more danger

than he would at River Moon."

Talia heaves a heavy sigh, a big hopeless smile still on her face.

"P-perhaps we s-should wait to speak with Her Majesty about this," I suggest, patting the space beside

me so she can climb off of me.

“W-we can talk more in the m-morning,” I add, pulling back the covers and turning on my side to

sleep.

I feel her stare on the back of my head as she remains standing and I roll over to face her again.

“D-did y-you want to sleep on this side?” I ask, wondering why she hasn’t climbed into bed yet.

She slaps her forehead with her palm, her shoulders moving up and down as she holds in her laughter.

Giving up on whatever it is

she’s trying to say, she climbs into bed, pulling Kota to her chest.

Do you know what she’s trying to say? I ask my wolf, hoping Grayson can shed some light on the

subject.

The thing about she-wolves is... they make no sense,

Grayson explains. Just smile and nod. Everything will be okay.

Grayson explains. Just smile and nod. Everything will be okay.

For my sake, I hope you’re right, I sigh.

Natalia

He’s kind of an i**, Devina purrs. And I’m sure the wolf is no better.

You’re right, I sigh contently as I finally get to hold my pup in my arms. But they are our idiots.

Settling into bed, I let myself plan potential pregnancy reveals until I exhaust myself and fall asleep.

I wake up when I feel Kota suddenly sit up in bed and I open my eyes to watch him as he wipes his tired

eyes and climbs out of bed. Curious to see where the pup goes, I pretend to be asleep and listen to the

sound of his tiny footsteps until I hear him open the door. Afraid he may be confused and get lost, I

hurry to the door and peer out into the hall where I see him waddle his way to Vanessa's door to

knock.

How did he know that was her room? I wonder, watching as Vanessa opens the door, her face fully

made up and her bag slung over

her shoulder

"Where are you going, Nanessa?" Kota asks, looking up at his aunty innocently.

"It's time for me to go, Kota," She murmurs, crouching down on her knees to hug him goodbye.

"Can I come with you?" he asks, wrapping his arms around her neck.

"No, Kota," she whispers back. "You have to stay here and take care of your Mommy. She's going to

need you. She's growing a baby in

her belly."

"A baby?" he asks in confusion. "Can I grow a baby too for my wolfie to play with?"

She bursts into a light laugh and shakes her head at him before pulling him into a tight hug. "I'm going

to miss you, Kota."

"I'm gonna miss you too, Nanessa," he sighs. "When are you coming back?"

"I don't know," she shrugs. "I have to find something first."

"A dragon?" Kota asks.

"Yes," she whispers, tucking Kota's hair behind his ear.. "I have to save a princess from a dragon."

"Be careful," Kota gasps. "Aunty Gwen says dragons are sneaky."

"I will be," Vanessa replies. "Go back to bed Kota."

"So are you leaving without saying goodbye?" I ask, stepping out into the hallway.

Vanessa rises to her feet with a gasp, Kota running over to me and raising his hands above his head to

be lifted.

"Mommy, is there a baby in your belly?" Kota asks. "Can I have a baby?"

glance over at my sister who shifts nervously on her feet.

"I'll see myself out," She whispers, closing the door to her room and picking up her bag.

"Vanessa, wait," I call out, Vanessa freezing in place as I walk over to her. She lowers her gaze to her

feet, and I notice the tremor in

her hand as she holds her bag. "I hope you find peace, Ness. I really do," I murmur, wrapping my arm

around her neck in a hug.

At first, she seems hesitant to hug me back but seeing that I genuinely wish her well, she returns the

hug with a tight squeeze.

hug with a tight squeeze.

"Congratulations, Nat," she whispers in my ear. "You have a beautiful family."

"Thank you," I reply, my ears perking up when I hear a door open behind me.

I turn around to see Toran fully dressed and ready to go and I give him a questioning look.

"He offered to take me to the airport," Vanessa says as she walks towards him.

Toran nods in my direction before disappearing down the hall, Vanessa lingering back a little longer.

She waves goodbye and I wish

with all my heart that she has a safe journey as she silently walks away.

“I’m gonna miss her,” Kota yawns as I carry him back to our room.

“We’ll see her again someday,” I whisper, kissing his cheek. “Come on. Let’s go back to bed.”

The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 90

Chapter 90

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 90 – Reveals

*** Zane***

I’m up at the break of dawn, Kota poking my eyes and wanting to play. “L-let’s go get M-Mommy some clothes and breakfast,” I murmur, slipping out of bed and dragging the giggling pup towards me by his ankles. “Shhh!” I whisper when Talia begins to stir from the sound of Kota’s laughter. “Y-you’ll wake M-Mommy up,” I scold, Kota covering his mouth as he giggles some more.

I quickly get dressed and throw Kota over my shoulder before tiptoeing out of the room. Kota only has on his set of pajamas so I’ll have to shop for him too. Luckily for me, Rionna offers to accompany me as I have no fashion sense or knowledge of clothes shopping. You have no sense, period. Grayson snickers as we find a small clothing store.

Rionna goes to search for some blouses, bottoms, panties, and bras for Talia and I take Kota to the children’s section. My pup happily skips through the aisles, gasping loudly when he sees a child-sized mannequin wearing a graphic tee with a large howling wolf on the chest.

“I want that one!” Kota squeals, racing to the mannequin to touch the shirt. He strokes the wolf’s fur with his tiny fingers, completely in awe of the image. Luck smiles upon us because we manage to find the last shirt in Kota’s size and he begs me to put it on him immediately. I find him three sets of shorts, some more shirts in different styles and patterns, socks, and underwear. In the shoe aisle, Kota selects a pair of black light up sneakers and it doesn’t take much to convince me that he absolutely needs them.

As we stand in line to pay for our things, I notice Kota staring intently at the man behind us. He tilts his head to the side in curiosity and twists his small mouth as he thinks. I give the man a quick glance and can’t understand what’s so interesting about him. He is just a man in his late 40’s with a large pot belly and thinning hair.

“Daddy,” Kota hisses, tugging at my hand so I can bend over and listen to him. “Daddy, is he growing a baby in his belly like Mommy?” He whispers in my ear.

I do a double take and stare at the pup, unsure if I heard him correctly. Even Grayson seems at a loss for words, his emotions bombarding me like a cyclone.

“A-A baby?” I ask, not wanting to get ahead of myself. “K-Kota, where did y-you....

Where did y-you hear that?”

“Nanessa said Mommy is growing a baby in her belly,” Kota replies with a shrug and lifts up his shirt to show me his tummy. “Daddy, I want to grow a baby just like Mommy! Do you think it will fit?” He asks, tapping his stomach. “Mommy’s worm is growing babies. Mommy’s growing babies. I want a baby!” He snaps. “Daddy, are you growing babies too?”

His lips begin to quiver as he pouts and his eyes fill with tears. His breathing grows heavier and I know he’s going to cry any second now.

Grayson! Grayson, what do I do? I ask, panicking as the pup bursts into tears. Well, did you try putting him in rice? Grayson mutters. GRAYSON!

Well I don’t know! I didn’t think the horse would ever reach its destination, Grayson argues defensively. Let me think!

Seeing that I am on my own, I scoop up the pup in my arms and struggle to balance him and all the clothes in my hands. Fortunately, Rionna finally meets us at the front of the line and offers to hold the clothes while I soothe my son.

“W-why are y-you sad, buddy?” I ask, smoothing back his hair and kissing his head. He buries his face in my neck and begins to wail.

“Because I want a baby!” he hiccups. “W-why do y-you want a baby?” I ask and he begins to cry harder. “Because... because I want someone to play with me and Wolfie,” he cries.

“What baby is he talking about?” Rionna asks with confusion, handing the cashier her credit card.

“Mommy has a baby in her belly,” Kota answers angrily, a small gasp escaping Rionna’s lips. “But I want to have a baby too!”

Tears fill Rionna’s eyes and she wraps her arms around me in a hug. “Oh my! How wonderful! Congratulations, my love! That pup is so going to be lucky to have you and Talia! Oh, I’m just so excited for you! This is so wonderful!” she cries with excitement. “Kota, you’re going to be a big brother!”

Kota stops his crying and stares curiously at Rionna. "I am?" he asks, wiping his tears on my shirt.

"Oh yes, of course!" Rionna answers, taking the bags from the cashier and leading us out of the store. "You will get to play lots of games together and-Oh my! We have to get.

Talia and the baby a gift! I think I saw a toy store nearby! Oh, there's so much to plan! The baby shower, where the baby will sleep, baby proof the entire islands, the wedding... Oh my goddess and names! We have to think of names! Oh, there's so much to do, we have to hurry!" she cries, breaking into a brisk walk.

We spot the toy store and take Kota in, Rionna giggling as she goes off in search of baby toys.

"S-should we pick the baby's first t-toy?" I murmur, Kota nodding with excitement.

The little boy walks up and down the aisles, carefully inspecting the shelves until he finds something he likes.

"This one, Daddy," he says, pointing to a little black wolf. "So Baby and I can have wolfies together."

I grab the wolf and pay for it, my heart racing as I stare at the little black wolf in Kota's hands.

Another pup, I whisper to myself, feeling tears of joy gathering in my eyes as Kota grins up at me.

"Do you think the Baby will like it?" Kota asks, giving the wolf a squeeze. "I-I think so," I nod.

We wait outside for Rionna and she finally appears carrying a beautiful white mobile with butterflies on it.

"It should fit perfectly over a crib," She says, holding it up for me to see the crystals. "Come on, let's go. We've been gone long enough."

We walk briskly back to the inn, Kota and I giddy with excitement as we approach the room. I wipe my sweaty hands on my jeans and open the door, Talia wrapped up in blankets watching TV on the bed. Her long curls are tousled to the side, her face bare and free of makeup. She looks over at Kota and I and smiles, Kota rushing into the room to greet his Mommy.

"Mommy, look!" he cries, proudly showing her the little black wolf. "It's for the baby in your tummy," he squeals as he taps her belly.

Her cheeks flush as she looks up at me and she nervously fixes her hair. I don't say anything as I slowly approach her, Talia shifting her weight uneasily to face me. The light coming in from the window casts a glow around her head, and for a brief moment she looks like an angel looking up at me with innocent fear. Finally, I reach the edge of the bed and look down at her and our pups, her eyes locking with mine.

"Do you not have anything to say to me?" she whispers, tears gathering in her eyes. "I'm going to have our baby and you're not saying anything."

I silence her with a kiss, gently cupping her face as tears roll down her cheeks and over her lips. Her heart calms down to a delicate flutter and she buries her fingers in my hair to pull me in closer to her.

Kota's excited giggles only sweeten the moment, for I could not be a happier man to have such a beautiful family.

"Y-you're having o-our next pup," I murmur breathlessly when I finally pull away from my mate's kiss.

"I'm having our next pup," she repeats, taking my hand and guiding it over her flat tummy. "Zane..." she whimpers, looking down at her belly. "I-I thought something was wrong with me... I thought Kota was a miracle and that I would never be able to give you that miracle-"

"Shhh," I murmur. "K-Kota is my son and I-I would have been fine with j-just the three of us."

"Okay," she says quietly. "B-but are you happy?" She asks with tears in her eyes. "Because I'm so happy."

"I-I am the happiest w-wolf in the world right now," I whisper, caressing her belly with my thumb.

Grayson steps forward, nuzzling his face in her neck and inhaling her scent. It hasn't changed yet, so she must be very early in her pregnancy. Grayson leans in against her body and gently lays her down on her back while he climbs on top, careful not to squish her stomach.

"Do you think there's still time to put a second pup in there," Grayson teases as he nibbles on her ear.

Talia bursts into laughter before we hear her voice change slightly to that of her wolf.

"First, we need to put a brain inside your head before we add more pups," Devina chuckles, Grayson grumbling in return. "You seriously didn't get the hint last night?"

“Well how was I supposed to know you meant a new baby?” Grayson mutters, peppering kisses along her neck. “I told you, Kota is my baby too. It wasn’t a joke to me. He’s mine-OOF!” he groans as Kota climbs onto my back and straddles me like a horse.

“Horsey, Daddy! Let’s play Horsey in the desert!” he squeals, pulling his shirt over his head.

“Kota!” Talia laughs as the little boy strips down to his underwear. “Kota, put your clothes back on!” she scolds.

“NO!” Kota giggles, climbing off of me to take off his underwear before running out of the room.

“Dear Goddess!” Grayson mutters, running after the boy as he sprints down the hall with no underwear on while chanting “Horsey!” at the top of his lungs.

We manage to catch the little boy and it is only then that Grayson and I both see the bandages still carefully wrapped around Kota’s legs.

“It’s okay, Daddy,” Kota whispers when he notices the frown on my face. “I peed on the bad wolf. Just like you,” he smiles, howling like a wolf for my benefit.

I kiss his chubby cheeks and take him back to the room but deep down, I know both Grayson and I will always regret not getting there in time to save him.

With so many things that I still need to deal with in Ravenstone and Grayson unwilling to part with his now pregnant mate, Talia and I decide to fly directly to Washington for a week to handle the Scarlett Haven situation and manage the immediate damage caused by the war. Talia and Kota would then spend the duration of her pregnancy in River Moon until could ensure that Ravenstone is not going to war with Crescent Mane and Onyx Stone.

With the docks severely damaged, we must travel by helicopter to the islands, and I can tell Talia is very nervous to meet the Ravenstone wolves for the first time. Given her history with Silver Crest, I can’t say I blame her.

“W-we’re going to be okay, Ta-Talia,” I murmur, Talia leaning her head against my shoulder.

Kota squeals with excitement as we fly over the Samish Bay, staring out onto the water in awe. We safely land on the main island and a number of omegas come out to greet their new Alpha and Luna.

“Can I help you with your bags, Luna?” an older omega by the name of Ed asks, his wrinkled smile putting Talia at ease.

Talia nods timidly and as she hands her bag, a group of soldiers arrive with the pack reports.

“Alpha,” they salute and I wave awkwardly at them. “We have gathered all the bodies as requested and will begin preparations for a Moon Warrior ceremony later this week. The docks have been evaluated and here are the supplies we’ll need to rebuild and the expected cost,” says one of the soldiers. “As for food and water, we had enough to feed the entire pack for the next week but with the Scarlett Haven wolves here, we may need to resupply sooner than expected.”

“H-how soon?” I ask, the soldier doing a small calculation in his head.

“I’d say we’ll be okay for about four more days? Five tops if we cut back on food before we completely run out,” the soldier responds. “We’ll need to hurry with the docks, sir. The boats are our main source of transportation to and from the islands to get supplies.”

“Can you use the helicopter?” Talia asks. “I imagine refueling is expensive but we are out of options. Get a list of all the essentials needed and talk to the pilots to get the weight capacity of the bird. We’ll use that information to plan the runs to the mainland and hopefully reduce our costs of resupplying. The lists should prioritize essential food items, medical supplies, and the building supplies for the new docks.”

I gaze at my mate in awe as she assesses the situation immediately and speaks to the soldiers with such ease to help the pack. How stupid the Silver Crest wolves were to ever let her go. Even Toran seems impressed with her quick thinking and command.

“Alpha Zane tells me you have a lot of injured,” Talia says, my cheeks flushing when she uses my formal title. The soldiers give her their undivided attention. “How are they?”

“We Ravenstones are fine,” the soldier replies with pride. “Most of our injured have already recovered or are receiving proper treatment,” he explains. “Our issue is the Scarlett Haven wolves. Many fell into the water and we are low on medical supplies, serums, antidotes for the poisons, and our staff is exhausted.”

Talia doesn’t give it another thought. “Please take me to the medical facilities,” Talia says firmly. “I’m sure I can make myself useful there and get a better understanding of the situation.”

I grab her hand and shake my head at her. “I-I don’t want you near the S-Scarlett Haven wolves,” I whisper. “E-especially not in your state.”

“I’m not dying,” Talia retorts, standing on the tips of her toes to peck me on the lips. “And I’ll be careful. I promise.”

“But->

“Don’t you have a meeting to arrange and some wolves to lead?” she teases me, picking up Kota and sitting him on her hip. “Is there somewhere I can leave Kota while Zane and I work?”

“I’ll take him,” Rionna offers. “There’s a little park here for the children. I’m sure he’ll enjoy spending a little time with other pups his age.”

“Yeah,” Kota nods sheepishly. “I go with Nonna.”

A feeling of dread fills the pit of my stomach at the thought of separating from my mate and our pup, Toran picking up on my concerns.

“Zane,” Toran says, placing his hand on my shoulder. “Do not worry about your Luna. Should the Scarlett Haven wolves even try to disrespect her, they will be handled accordingly by the soldiers. She’s safe. Besides, my colleagues have informed me that King Arthur has agreed to a meeting here tonight. We should prepare you for what you want to say when you face the King and the Onyx Stone wolves.”

I look back to my mate who smiles encouragingly at me.

“I’ll be back in time for your meeting,” she murmurs, standing on the tips of her toes to wrap her arms around me. “A good Luna always.”

“S-Stop it. I-I just want y-you to be y-you,” I whisper back. “T-That’s enough for m-me.”

She smiles up at me before pressing her forehead against mine. “Thank you,” she sighs in relief.

I kiss her goodbye and she is led away to the medical tents by several soldiers eagerly explaining their concerns to her.

“She’s going to make a wonderful Luna,” Rionna says. “S-she already is,” I reply, turning back to Toran. “S-Shall we?”

We spend the rest of the afternoon preparing for the meeting, Toran coaching me through my speech and how to present myself.

“With King Arthur, you have to be direct. He doesn’t like flowery language and is more likely to cut you off if you try too hard to explain yourself,” Toran explains. “You must be firm and not give him the opportunity to try to take control of the situation. Keep control at all times.”

“H-How do I do that?” I ask, suddenly becoming anxious.

“Command the room. Appear confident,” he replies, my shoulders falling with dread. “This is going to be hard but remember, you have earned your titles. You’re not the same

boy Sebastian used to walk all over. You are an Alpha. You earned that title and as Alpha of Ravenstone, you do not fall under his command. You are not his royal subject so don't let him command you."

"R-right," I nod, repeating his words to myself. "B-be direct. B-be confident. B-be an Alpha."

"Now, this is not a normal meeting so protocol will be a little different," Toran adds. "But you won't be alone in there. You'll have Talia, myself and Rionna there to back you up."

"Okay," I sigh, taking deep breaths to calm down.

"Good, now let's make you look like the Alpha you are," Toran smirks, eyeing me up and down. "I think you and Tylen are around the same size."

I gaze at my reflection in the mirror, unable to believe the man staring back at me is me. He is a man in black suit, his hair combed back neatly and his clothes well tailored.

"It's time," Talia smiles, standing by the door of the room. "You look very handsome."

I turn to face her, gazing proudly at my beautiful mate dressed in an elegant red dress.

"Need help with your tie?" she asks, stepping in and taking the tie from me.

She carefully wraps it around my neck and makes the knots, adjusting it perfectly for me and smoothing down the collar of my shirt.

"There," she sighs contently. "You are the Perfect Alpha," she murmurs. "Tylen is on babysitting duty, and Kota is already in bed. It's just you and me against the big bad wolves. We can do this."

She runs her hand along my arm and interlocks our fingers, giving my hand a tight squeeze and warm smile. Walking hand in hand, we make our way to the meeting room where two omegas hold the door open for us. Also standing there is Gamma Wyatt, his face shocked and a bit confused.

"Your mother is alive?" He whispers. "How? I don't understand-" I ignore him and enter the meeting room, coming face to face with King Arthur, Alpha Richard and Luna Sara.