

# The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 91

## Chapter 91

### A Fair Trade

\*\*\*Zane\*\*\*

King Author glares at me as Talia and I take our seats at the table, neither one of us bowing before him. "So you are the child Sebastian kept a secret all these years," the King says in a low voice. "The true heir to the Scarlett Haven Alpha title." I do not feel the need to give an answer and remain silent, much to the King's annoyance.

Luna Sara's eyes bore into me with seething rage while her brother, Alpha Richard, looks at me with bemusement. "Well, considering you called this meeting, I presume it wasn't to waste my time," the King snarls.

"You've killed your father according to witnesses, which means by law, Scarlett Haven now belongs to you. I'm glad to hear the rightful heir has taken over," he says, Luna Sara clenching her jaw at the King's comment.

"I've brought the Elders so you can take your oath-" "That won't be necessary," Toran interjects. "Alpha Zane" "Did I say you could speak, mutt!?" The King growls, Toran's face calm and unfazed. I'll have to remember to ask him how he manages such composure at all times.

"I did not come all this way to listen to you spew your filth!" the King snaps as he turns back to me. Enter title... □ "Now, boy. The Oath is quite simple. As Alpha of Scarlett Haven, you will swear allegiance to the Kingdom of Crescent Mane and take over your father's debt to Onyx Stone.

They require an heir and it will be your responsibility to produce one with one of their wolves. Alpha Richard has made a selection of eligible brides for you to choose from."

I steal a glance at my mate, who is doing her best to hold back her laughter, though the look in her eyes is anything but amused. "It's alright," I murmur as I open a connection between us.

Noticing the tremor of rage rippling through her, I place my hand on her knee and caress it with my thumb to calm her down. "I belong only to you." "I see that you are marked and mated," the King continues.

“No offense to the lady, but that simply won’t do. You will have to take back your mark and reject her before you take the oath.” Grayson bursts into a murderous chuckle, and even I cannot help but laugh.

Just who the hell does this man think he is? “Is something funny?” The King asks, his teeth gnashing together as he glares menacingly at me. I notice a little smirk of pride on Toran’s face, and it’s enough to give me confidence in my voice.

“Very,” I reply, attempting to make my voice strong and confident like Toran and I practiced. “I-it seems y-you’re under the impression that I-I take orders from y-you.” Luna Sara suddenly bursts into laughter at the sound of my voice, her whole body shaking with each cackle.

“Oh, how delicious! He has a stutter!” she squeals with excitement. “So that’s why Sebastian hid you all these years!” she laughs. “He was ashamed to have a son like you! Oh, goddess! I can’t believe it! This is the new Alpha of Scarlett Haven? A stutterer?” She claps like a seal, laughing hysterically to herself.

Surprisingly, I do not mind her hurtful words and I am able to maintain my cool despite her ridicule. Talia, on the other hand, is seething, her fists clenching and unclenching at her sides.

I can almost smell the rage pulsating through her, and I place my hand over her fist, curling my fingers around her small hand. “It’s okay, Talia,” I murmur through our connection, but it seems my words do little to soothe her.

Slamming her fist on the table, a black mist spreads from her hand, growing darker as it condenses into what appears to be a large black vine with thorns.

Gasps erupt across the room as the vine slithers over the table and wraps around Luna Sara like a cobra around its prey, squeezing her tightly until she’s almost blue in the face.

King Arthur and Alpha Richard are on their feet instantly, staring in fright at the black vine as it pulls Luna Sara out of her chair and towards Talia. “What the hell is the meaning of this?!” the King snarls, the room becoming humid as he activates his power.

“Let her go!” he demands, a white mist forming at his fingertips. Talia ignores the King, rising from her chair and bringing Luna Sara close enough so that they are at eye level. “Such pretty eyes you have,” Talia whispers, her voice calm yet dangerous.

“Would be a shame if someone were to pluck them from that pretty little head of yours,” my mate smiles innocently. Luna Sara’s eyes widen in shock as a two-pronged spear aimed at her eyes grows from the vine and she opens her mouth to scream, only to be silenced by a vine that covers her mouth.

“I SAID LET HER GO!” the King commands in his royal voice, flicking his wrist towards Talia and flinging icicles at her. Talia raises her hand to shield herself, the black mist mimicking her movement and forming a large black shield to protect her from the ice. Taking a chance, I rise from my seat.

“SIT DOWN!” I snarl and, to my shock, a black film glazes over the King’s eyes as he obeys my command and sits. Alpha Richard can only stare at me in shock as his own King follows my commands.

“I’m not as weak as y-you think I-I am,” I mutter, turning my attention to my mate. Talia leans into Luna Sara’s right ear and hisses her menacing threat, “Are you fond of your tongue? Because if you are, I suggest you shut the f\*\*k up.”

Luna Sara only whimpers in response and nods her head before Talia releases her; scrambling to her feet and running to the other side of the room to hide behind her brother.

Talia smiles with satisfaction before walking back to me and perching herself on my lap, her arms draping around my neck. That’s my woman! Grayson purrs, his tail wagging so violently, I can almost hear it thumping as it hits the imaginary ground he is sitting on.

‘SA la gran puta, Malparida!’ Talia mutters under her breath. “It’s the audacity to come to MY PACK and insult MY ALPHA,” she huffs, her breath ragged with rage as she throws more Spanish curse words at Luna Sara that I do not understand.

I’ve lost count of how many pups I’m putting inside her at this point, Grayson yips. □ But I am putting all of them in her tonight.

EVERY SINGLE ONE. Grabbing Talia by the chin, I turn her face towards me and kiss the tip of her nose, the rage in her eyes melting away as she looks at me. Her fists still clench at her sides and I feel the pain in her soul as she fights back tears.

She had taken Sara’s insult personally, and she would never forgive her for mocking me. “I’m okay,” I smile, but Talia can only shake her head at me. “I am I promise.” “Your pack?” the King interrupts, his voice reminding me that Talia and I are not alone.

I help Talia into her seat, her anger still visible on her features, before I turn back to the King and the Alpha. “That’s what I was trying to explain, your Majesty,” Toran sighs. “I am no longer the Alpha of Ravenstone. Zane is.”

The King eyes me for confirmation and I nod back at him. “I-I...will not be t-taking any oath tonight,” I announce, the King growling in indignation. “M-my father promised an heir. I-I did not and since I-I am now Alpha, only I-I decide Scarlett Haven’s fate, not y-you.”

"Butlam King-" "But y-you are not m-my King," I retort. "I-I was cast out as a r-rogue and became Alpha of Ravenstone before claiming Scarlett Haven. Scarlett Haven is now ppart of Ravenstone, which means I-I don't fall under y-your jurisdiction, y-your Majesty."

The King rises to his feet, pointing a disgruntled finger at me. "How dare you-" "No, how dare y-you come into m-my territory, insult m-my mate with y-your foolishness, and expect m-me to obey y-your demands?" I snarl back.

"I-I am not m-my father and y-you are lucky I-I won't continue this war fueled by nothing but I-lies!" "LIES?" The King snarls. "My daughter is dead. Do you have any idea what that wolf beside you did?" "H-he loved his mate," I reply, the King's eyes widening with rage.

"You imbecile!" "T-The only imbecile I-I see here is y-you, y-your majesty, for believing in the lies of Cyrus W-White without first verifying the facts," I retort, Talia snorting with laughter.

Ift had hands, I'd be eating popcorn right about now. □ Grayson snickers. Roll that film! "Cyrus was n-not Bre's mate," I explain. "She was Toran's.Y-Your daughter's true murderer was none other than m-my uncle and the man y-you fought alongside with."

Before he can protest, I project Toran's last memory of Princess Bre so he can see for himself who Breanna truly loved.He watches in silence as his daughter takes her last breath in her mate's arms before the memory fades away on the table.

"I- I am sorry for y-your loss, y-your Majesty," I sigh. "But the true killer d-died many years ago...And I- I am sure y-your daughter would be at peace knowing her father and her mate were no longer at war with e-each other."

"This...This can't be possible," the King mutters under his breath. "Well it is," Toran snaps. "I tried to tell you so many times, but you choose to believe Cyrus instead of me," he scoffs.

"You were so blinded by rage, so willing to kill, to wage war for her...and I cannot blame you; I sought the same thing. "It enraged me to see you take Cyrus's side, but I fought alone to bring Breanna the justice she deserved! I watched the life leave Cyrus's eyes, and I thought that would bring peace into my life...but it didn't.

Then Sebastian did the unthinkable and you let him! You let him...and for that, I will never forgive you...and Ravenstone will never bow down to you again!" It is the first time I ever see Toran lose his composure.

His always calm eyes now filled with tears of rage and anguish. My mother takes his hand in hers, her touch reminding him of what love and peace feels like. □ "But Bre..."

King Arthur whispers to himself as he sits down. "Breanna...she felt the mate bond with Cyrus.She told me that herself..."

"Cyrus u-used magic to falsify a bond with Bre and m-mask her true bond with Toran," I explain. "Breanna fi-figured it out and rather than ac-accept his treachery, Cyrus killed her, blaming her death on T-Toran." "So all these years..."

King Arthur mutters to himself. "You've been chasing the wrong man," Toran snaps unapologetically. "You failed her...and I hope to Goddess you rot in hell for the pain you've caused me." King Arthur growls in anger and watches in disgust as Rionna once more attempts to soothe her chosen mate, kissing him tenderly on the cheek. "failed her?" he scoffs.

"You remarried a woman you had killed!" he snarls. "How are you even alive, Ellie? I watched Sebastian grieve for you.He felt your death, as did your Gamma." Rionna can only shrug in response. "I will not pretend to understand the intentions of Moon Goddess.

All I can do is accept her gift of a second chance with someone who makes me happy." "And you didn't once think to see your child again, Elenore?" the King asks, Toran growling at the mention of Rionna's dead name.

"My name is not Elenore anymore," Rionna corrects him. "I don't have any of her memories and I don't remember what it was she was like.I only know what I've been told and can only hope she was kind."

"S-she was," I whisper, Rionna smiling in return. "S-she was very kind." Aloud clapping noise draws our attention from the far side of the room and we turn to see Luna Sara mocking us with a slow clap. "What a lovely family reunion," Luna Sara snickers.

"A dead mother and her stupid son.How wonderful," she snarls. "Meanwhile, my son was murdered in cold blood and no one has offered to correct this crime! I demand justice for what was done to him!" She snarls, pointing an accusing finger at me and threatening me through gritted teeth.

"And You! You don't deserve the title of Alpha of Scarlett Haven!" □ "Y-You're right," I shrug after coming to this conclusion. "I- I don't...and that's why I-I want no part of Scarlett Haven." King Arthur and Alpha Richard stare at me in confusion and I carefully explain my stance.

"M-My father was in-indebted to Onyx Stone for their help in the war, and I-I plan to pay them back in full.I-I will hand over the title and te-territories of Scarlett Haven to Alpha Richard and the Onyx Stone pack.I-In exchange, Ravenstone and mmy family will be left alone to live our lives in peace and Onyx Stone will p-pledge neutrality with Ravenstone," I explain.

“W-We will not wage war against e-each other ever a-again.” Alpha Richard smiles in satisfaction with the trade, but it seems neither Sara nor Arthur are pleased with this transaction. “You cannot just hand over a pack under my command!” King Arthur snarls.

“It is not yours to give away!” “I-It is and I-I can!” I snarl back. “Scarlett Haven became a free agent once Sebastian died and I-I have yet to swear allegiance to y-you! If I-I so please, Onyx Stone ma-may have Scarlett Haven, its territory, and its p-pack members!” “It’s a deal,” Alpha Richard smiles triumphantly.

“I have no objections to a fair trade.” “But brother, my son!” Sara protests, tugging at his arm like a brat. “Enough!” Alpha Richard snarls, pulling his arm away from his sister in distaste.

“Your son was a fool who could not defend his own honor! If he was not Alpha enough to defeat Zane, he did not deserve the title!” Angry tears spill onto Luna Sara’s cheeks, and she suddenly lunges at me, my instincts kicking in.

“Sit!” I command Luna Sara, and she is unable to resist my order. Alpha Richard watches curiously as I approach his sister until I tower over her figure. She grinds her teeth angrily at me, but I remain unfazed, lowering my walls to see what more lurks inside her head.

Memories of filth flood my mind, but I come across something that piques my interest. Digging in a little further, I hear a truth that appears no one but my father knew, one that could easily change her tune.

“I know your secret,” I whisper in her head. Sara’s eyes widen in shock when she hears my voice in her head. □ “I know what you’re hiding from your brother, and unless you want Richard to know the truth about you, you will not bother my family again.

I also know it was you who sent Caine after me and his death is on your conscience, not mine.

You are a greedy w\*\*\*e, but all those plots you have in that twisted little head of yours, you better bury them or it will be you who! bury next.” Luna Sara narrows her eyes to slits at my threat, but the look on my face lets her know I mean business and she nods despite her displeasure.

Turning my attention to the King, I make my argument as clear as possible. “Y-you are upset at the loss to y-your Kingdom,” I sigh, knowing well that with this trade, Crescent Mane is about to lose a very powerful ally in Onyx Stone.

“But y-you should be very grateful I-I’m being so lenient.” “Grateful?” The King snarls. It seems he understands that in Onyx Stone agreeing to be on neutral terms with Raven stone, they can no longer offer financial or physical support to Crescent Mane if the

King decides to wage war over this. Crescent Mane's power is already weakening, and this trade would be the final blow to them.

"Y-yes, grateful that I- I am not demanding reparations for the war y-you helped perpetuate," I reply. "F-For all the lives y-you helped destroy by defending m-my father and his brother. Ravenstone is small...a-and in a single day, m-my father wiped out an entire generation of wolves with y-your blessing.

Twenty six pups, y-your majesty. Ages four months to three years. Gone.I-I can see it all in y-your memories," I whisper, disgusted by what I see. "Y-You knew what m-my father was planning...and y-you turned the other cheek.

Perhaps y-you thought if y-you didn't look, y-you wouldn't have to ac-accept that it happened. But they were innocent, Arthur, and y-you let m-my father take them.

Y-You should be thanking m-me for handing over Scarlett Haven to the Onyx Stone wolves and if y-you try to retaliate against m-my pack for m-my decision, just know y-you will suffer a far greater loss than I-I.I-I am not the weak man m-my father once claimed m-me to be and I-I will make you bleed, Arthur.

I-I promise y-you that." I turn back to my seat, my mate gazing up at me proudly. "I-I've made m-my intentions clear. Y-You should g-go now," I sigh, settling down in my chair. Toran hands me a file and I slide it across the table to Alpha Richard who carefully inspects it.

"T-That's the contract of neutrality. S-Sign it and Scarlett Haven is y-yours for the taking." After skimming the pages, the Alpha signs the documents, thus cutting off Crescent Mane's resources and ending this war. King Arthur slowly rises from his chair, his eyes black with anger and he storms out of the room without looking back at me.I heave a heavy sigh knowing it will not be the last time I see him.

Luna Sara and Alpha Richard also rise to leave, Richard leaving the signed files on the table. I try to listen in on Sara's thoughts as she storms past me but she is only repeating the same message in her head like a mantra.

"You haven't won yet," She snarls. She's gone before I can probe any further. "What a fascinating gift you have there," Alpha Richard observes. "Such a gifted Alpha and Luna."

He walks away without another word, but his smile feels like a threat and leaves me uneasy.I lean back in my chair once they're all gone and let out a long tired breath, Talia walking up behind me and massaging my shoulders.

"You did it," she whispers, leaning over me to kiss my lips. "You ended this war." "B-But did I-I just start a new one?" I sigh, turning to Toran for guidance. "King Arthur is vindictive," he shrugs.

“But you should celebrate that at least for now, Ravenstone is at peace.” I smile half-heartedly and Talia tries to cheer me up. “Come on, Alpha,” she murmurs. “Our pup is waiting for us and tomorrow...” she adds with giggle. “We start planning for our wedding.”

## The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 92

### Chapter 92

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 92 – The Fire Tree

\*Four Months Later\*

\*\*\*Natalia\*\*\*

Life has changed drastically for my little family over the last four months. For starters, upon her return from

France. Zane asked Queen Aurora for an alliance and she made an offer that Zane and I did not expect.

At first, I thought she was joking but the serious look on her face made me realize not only was she serious, but

this was very important to her.

\* Flashback

“There are luckily very few people in this world who understand the life these girls were forced to live... but that also means very few people have the patience and compassion to handle the pain they’ve endured,” she explains. “I’ve spent months working with them, training them, rebuilding their homes into a sanctuary, but they need leadership and guidance, things I cannot offer to them exclusively without neglecting the rest of my kingdom,” she sighs, her face grim. “Things didn’t go as well as I had hoped in France and I suspect Alpha Jacque and Benoit are already plotting their next moves. I need help with Amethyst Lake while I start finding more allies, so if you are willing, I would be most honored to offer you Amethyst lake and its territory.”

I immediately like the idea as I had come to enjoy working with the girls. They deserve the very best Alpha and I

could not think of a greater man than Zane for the job.

“B-But Ravenstone, your Majesty,” Zane asks in disbelief. “H-ow?”



“Amethyst Lake is being built to house 600 wolves with the idea being that it will become a sanctuary for strays and rogues escaping abusive packs or war,” Aurora smiles proudly to herself. “It currently only has about 200 wolves and Ravenstone isn’t very big. I’m sure the land can accommodate all of your pack and the girls just fine”

“But would integration be a good idea, your Majesty?” I ask her. “I’ve spent time with those girls and while I adore them, many are still frightened of men and even people. I’m not sure they are ready to be in a pack with

strangers.”

“That is a valid concern,” the Queen replies. “But integration wouldn’t be immediate,” Aurora explains. “I’ll admit, this task isn’t going to be easy but I wouldn’t be asking you if I didn’t think you could handle this. The pack grounds are still under construction but it’s almost finished. Ravenstone could move in first while the girls continue

their therapy and training until we’re sure they can live peacefully among other wolves. It may take months or even a

year before your pack would be whole but if you’re up to the challenge, this could be really good for Ravenstone and Amethyst Lake.” Her lips curl into a gentle smile. “I don’t need an answer right away. Just think about it. Regardless of what you decide, I will respect your decision and will gladly set up an alliance if that’s all you seek.”

\*End flashback

Zane was very nervous to present the idea to Toran and the rest of Ravenstone, but after weeks of deliberation, the Ravenstone wolves voted in favor of the move.

Things began to move quickly after the vote and I officially moved out of my little house in Poulsbo to live with

my new pack. Zane didn’t want me to become overwhelmed with traveling between the packs, so he urgently

suggested that I stay in the River Moon guest house with Kota, Agnes, and Nikki to keep me company.

While in River Moon, I have worked closely with Aurora to plan out the layout of the new pack, organizing housing arrangements and representing the pack in Alpha meetings on Zane’s behalf. We have set up a small commercial center for our pack members to establish their own trades, built community gardens, parks, and even a

new elementary school. Construction of the last buildings was completed last week and Zane has been helping our pack members settle into their new homes and setting up

our very own pack house. I want to help but after witnessing some false labor contractions, Zane has refused to let me anywhere near the movers.

After my first month of pregnancy, I stopped being able to use my powers and I can no longer shift safely without risking the life of my baby. In Zane's eyes, I am now the same human he met all those months ago and he worries day

and night for my safety. It's adorable but a little suffocating at times.

To please him, I've stayed home with Agnes, Nikki and Rionna checking up on me every 20 minutes but I'm on the verge of losing my mind after being confined within these four walls for the past 2 days. This morning after Zane left for work, I began to feel contractions and have busied myself packing my bags for the hospital. I forget, however, that mates feel each other's pain and soon receive a worried mind-link from Zane.

"Talía, are you okay?" Zane asks and I explain it's nothing to worry about. "Are you sure?" he asks.

"They've been pretty far apart, "I sigh." There's no need to worry just yet. I'll let you know when it's time. Okay?"

It takes a little convincing but Zane finally relents and lets me handle my business. As I fold the baby's clothes into their bag, I feel a rather strong contraction and decide to lay down for a few minutes, closing my eyes to rest.

"Talía, my darling little b\*\*\*h, are you resting?" I hear a familiar voice call out from the stairs and I burst into laughter as Gwen pops her head into my bedroom.

"Is that a witch I hear climbing up the steps," I chuckle, rubbing my large belly. "Have you come to steal my children and bake them into pies?"

"Ugh," she groans, gently pushing me off to the side to lay beside me. "I have enough with the little gremlin growing inside me to be eating more children." she mutters, placing her hands on her little round belly.

"Oh, but you do look amazing, Guinevere," I smile, a tiny smirk curling on her lips. "I look like a f\*\*\*\*\*g potato with an extra bud sprouting on my stomach," I laugh.

"Oh, eat horse s\*\*t, you c\*nt," she scoffs as I burst into laughter. "You look like a bl\*\*dy princess with all your ..." She gestures to my entire body and grumbles.

"You didn't say anything!" I giggle.

"Yeah well I'm tired and ran out of words," she mutters, curling up in my arms and kissing my belly. "You've been in there for quite a while, little one," she murmurs to my

baby. "Any plans on coming out soon? Your aunty Gwen would like to meet you so I can teach you how to terrorize your mummy."

anks," I mutter, Gwen smiling like a fool. "I'll be sure to return the favor in two months."

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"Oh goddess, don't remind me," She mutters. "I'm already over being pregnant. I don't think I will last another two months. These cravings are awful and my gods, the hormones! Last night, I burst into tears when Salavador ate one of my fries. I bl\*\*dy offered it to him in the first place!" she cries. "I scared him half to death because I couldn't stop sobbing! Poor b\*\*tard just sat there shaking like a leaf bringing me all kinds of snacks. I'm an awful person," she

laughs. "I thoroughly enjoyed his fear!"

"Pregnancy just makes me horny," I sigh, Gwen rolling her eyes at me. "I just see Zane and jump him like a starved wolf. He could come home exhausted from work and I will literally tear off his pants and climb on him. No foreplay, no kisses, just ride him until I've had my fill so I can roll over to sleep. It confuses the f\*\*k out of him."

Gwen chuckles to herself. "Men. They truly are at our mercy, aren't they?"

"Indeed," I laugh, caressing her belly. "Are you nervous at all? The first pup is always the scariest."

Guinevere returned from her trip not too long ago and to my pleasant surprise, came back with a baby growing in her belly. She's been staying in Lluvia Blanca for the time being and despite loving her mate, i know she's afraid of

settling down and being a mother.

I'm terrified." she admits in a whisper. "I never thought I would ever have a child," she shrugs. "Much less with a

wolf."

"It's alright to be afraid," I reply, "Just take it one day at a time. You have me and Salvador, and this entire

kingdom at your disposal, okay? You're not on your own anymore no matter how much you like to think you are

"I know," she smiles. "But I-

“Mommy! Mommy! Look what I made!” Kota squeals as he bursts into the room and pounces on the bed to show

me a string of pine cones. “Look, Mommy! It’s for Baby!”

“Oh how lovely,” Gwen says, taking the string from Kota’s hands. “These will look wonderful in Baby’s room. Do you know what tree they’re from?” she asks, the pup nodding his head proudly.

“The Koyah tree,” he smiles, Guinevere bursting into laughter.

“It’s Sequoia, Kota,” she corrects him. “Like this. SEH-KOH-YAH. It’s the biggest tree in the world and one of the strongest,” she explains, Kota crawling onto her lap and petting her belly as he listens. “They are so powerful that their cones can only open with fire!”

“Woah!” Kota gasps, examining the cones with his fingers.

“Pretty cool, huh?” Gwen smiles. “The heat makes their cones dry out and POP! Out come the little seeds to grow

into new trees.”

“The cone has babies?” Kota gasps with delight. “Mommy-”

I feel a trickle between my legs and Kota looks down at the growing wet spot on my bed.

“Uh-oh Mommy! You peed on the bed!”

“Talia?” Gwen asks, pulling Kota off to keep him dry. “Was that.”

“Yeah, my water just broke,” I groan, feeling another contraction ripple through my abdomen and across my back. I breathe in and out slowly and force myself to sit up. “I should have shaved my legs,” I sigh tiredly, throwing my legs over the bed.

“Tal, I think that is the least of your worries, love,” Gwen chuckles nervously.

“Just because I am a wolf, doesn’t mean my legs have to have fur,” I mutter, turning to my pup and looking for an excuse to get him out of here. “Kota, go downstairs and tell Nonna to call Daddy, okay?”

He nods and runs away while Gwen checks my dilation and helps me into a new dress for the hospital. Within

minutes, Zane bursts through the door in full panic mode, Agnes, Rionna, Kota, and Nikki flooding the room.

"A-Are y-you okay?" Zane asks. "W-where does it h-hurt? I-is the baby okay? Should y-you even be s-standing? W-where are the baby's things? I-I knew I shouldn't have left."

"Zane," I laugh, cupping his cheeks to calm him down. "I'm fine," I murmur, breathing in and out slowly with him. "It's okay... We're just having a baby," I whisper, kissing the tip of his nose.

"W-We're just having a b-baby," he repeats, his panic slowly melting away as he smiles.

"It's going to be okay," I add. "But I'm going to be in a lot of pain very soon and today."

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"N-not be an Alpha?" he asks in confusion.

"Exactly," I shake my head, Just be my Zane today because I am going to hate you for the next few hours and I

need you to love me through it all, okay?"

"O-okay," he agrees, though I still hear the nervousness in his voice

Gwen agrees to watch Kota while the girls accompany Zane and I to the hospital for the delivery. We are checked

into a room and given gowns to change into. Almost immediately, the contractions grow in intensity and I know Zane can feel all of them.

"Zane, put up your walls so you don't feel it," I insist when I notice him grimacing in pain as I brace for a

contraction.

"N-No," He shakes his head. "Y-you're in pain... So I-I'll endure it with y-you," he whimpers.

I almost want to laugh at him but the sincerity in his voice makes me feel bad.

"What good would that do?" I mumble, Dr. Meghan stepping into the room to check my dilation. "Goddess, I hate you for this," I groan, the doctor chuckling to herself as a number of nurses bring in equipment for the delivery.

"I-I'm sorry," he whispers, tying my hair up into a ponytail for me.

"Alright, Luna," the doctor smiles. "It looks like it's time to push. I need you to hunker down now,

She says. "Atta girl, that's right."

The nurses get into position and Zane stays by my side to hold my hand.

"Okay, Momma. Time to start pushing," Dr. Meghan instructs and I squeeze Zane's hand as I push with all my might.

"O-oh f\*\*k," Zane whimpers, squeezing my hand in return.

"Zane, if you pass out, I will actually kill you," I mutter, glaring at him. "Put your walls up!"

The seriousness in my voice frightens him and he finally puts up his wall to block out our connection.

"Okay, now take a deep breath and we'll go again," Dr. Meghan explains.

Zane and I take several breaths before I once again hunker down to push. Zane grimaces as I crush his hand for the next three pushes and I curse him under breath for impregnating me in the first place.

"Okay, Luna, I see the head here," Dr. Meghan sighs. "Give me a big push. Big Push. Come on, Momma."

Zane wipes away the beads of sweat on my forehead and I let out a loud scream as I push, feeling as though my \*\*\*a is on fire.

"Do it again," Dr. Meghan instructs as I throw my head against the pillow in exhaustion.

I can hardly say a word as I push again, pain ripping through my body as I gnash my teeth together and

scream.

"Okay, momma breathe," Dr. Meghan says in a soothing voice. "Take a few breaths. You're almost there." "I-I can't," I whimper, Zane kissing my forehead. "C-come on, T-Talia. Just one m-more. Y-you can do this," he murmurs.

"I'm tired," I cry.

"Y-You can do this. J-Just- oh shit-" he mutters to himself.

"What? What?" I ask, fear gripping my heart.

He shakes his head and blinks a few times, refusing to answer until I glare at him.

“M-my wolf fainted,” he blushes with embarrassment, a small chuckle escaping my lips.  
“S-Sorry.”

Oh, for f\*\*\*s sake, Devina mutters.

“J-Just one more push Ta-Talia and y-you can rest,” Zane pleads.

“O-Okay,” I sigh, once again taking his hand to push.

A thunderous scream rips through my throat as I push until finally, my pain comes to a climax and I hear the baby’s cry for the first time.

“Congratulations, Luna,” Dr. Meghan announces, the nurses quickly wiping and cleaning my baby. “You have a beautiful baby girl.”

“It’s a girl?” Zane asks, his eyes welling up with tears as he looks proudly down at our small pup. “W-we have a BIN? W-We have a girl. O-Oh my goddess, w-we have a girl!”

He kisses my forehead in pure happiness as the baby is placed on my chest and I get to see her beautiful face for

time she screams with life. She has a full head of hair already and her face, while swollen, is among the

À most beautiful I have ever seen.

“Oh she’s perfect,” I whisper, finally breathing with relief. “Hi baby,” I s\*b, finally bursting into tears of joy as Zane is instructed to cut the umbilical cord.

\*\*\*Zane\*\*\*

I didn’t realize pups were so small, Grayson purrs as we stare down at our sleeping pup, his tail wagging happily from side to side. She’s the most beautiful thing I’ve ever seen.

I know, I murmur, completely in awe of her beauty.

I did a good job, he says, puffing out his chest proudly. She looks just like me. She doesn’t look like anyone, I mutter. Especially not you.

You’re just jealous of my strong genes, Grayson huffs. But that’s my baby. Just like Kota. He looks just like me if you squint

Strong genes? You fainted, you j\*\*\*t, I sigh, Grayson growling at me as I get up to check on my mate.

She too sleeps soundly, finally getting the rest she deserves after being bombarded by visitors all day. The room is now flooded with pink flowers, balloons, and gifts for our baby and it pleases me to know she is already beloved by

all.

We have still not thought of a name for our pup but we are in no rush. It'll come when it comes.

"How is she?" Talia murmurs, her eyes still closed as she stretches.

"Perfect," I reply, searching for a chair to rest in.

Talia scooches over and taps the empty space beside her. "Come hold me," she whispers.

I hesitate at first but her pleading eyes are enough to convince me that I fit and I climb in beside her, pulling her to my chest and sweeping away her hair from her neck. Exhaustion quickly lulls her to sleep and I remain awake to watch over my girls as they rest.

I help Talia with nursing all throughout the night, and in the morning, I let her sleep in while I take care of our daughter. There is a rocking chair by the window and I settle down to watch the sunrise with the baby on my bare

stomach.

How about Rose? Grayson asks as he watches the sleeping pup. Or Cherry? She's pink like a Cherry. Can I hold her now? I promise I'll be good.

I don't respond, Talia waking up from her slumber and calling me to bring the baby. Once in her mother's arms, the baby opens her mouth in search of a meal.

"You're a hungry little caterpillar, aren't you?" Talia murmurs, pulling down her gown to nurse the baby. She gently strokes the baby's nose and the little pup slowly closes her eyes as she suckles. Talia then smiles up at me, her voice a gentle whisper, "You know, it's funny. I had a dream last night and-

She doesn't get a chance to finish before there's a quiet knock at the door and Gwen pokes her head in.

"Morning," she whispers. "Sorry I'm early. Kota woke me up at dawn and won't go back to sleep until he's met his sister."



I step out into the hall where Kota jumps up and down in excitement.

“Y-you have to be quiet, K-Kota, okay?” I instruct, putting my finger to my lips. “Y-you don’t want to scare her. She’s sleeping.”

The pup agrees to use his inside voice and I carry him inside the room. Talia has already covered up and she wipes the baby’s little lips before presenting her to her brother. I gently set Kota on the bed and he crawls to his mother’s side, peering over the pup and smiling at her with excitement.

“Hi s\*ssy,” he whispers loudly, the pup opening her eyes and blinking up at him. He leans down to kiss her cheeks and looks up at us curiously. “Mommy, when does Quoia (KOH-YAH) come home?” he asks. “I want to show her her cones!”

“Quoia?” I ask, Talia’s eyes twinkling with delight. “Mhmmm,” Kota nods proudly. “Like the fire tree!” “It’s perfect,” Talia agrees, smiling down at the sleeping pup. “Her name is Sequoia, like the fire tree.”

(A/N: Wahoo! We’re almost done! I have a huge announcement right after the epilogues so hang in there! PS: I think Ravenstone will take on a new pack name once the move is complete. Any suggestions? I’d love to see them!)

## **The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 93**

### **Chapter 93**

Read The Silent Alpha by Stephanie Light Chapter 93 – Horizons

\*\*\*Natalia\*\*\*

My heart flutters as I wait for my cue to walk down the aisle, knowing that in a few short minutes, I will officially be Zane’s wife.

“Talia,” Gwen murmurs, carrying a small gift box in her hands.

“Vanessa had this delivered for you. Toran says she couldn’t make it, but she wanted you to know that she’s happy for you.”

I take the box from her hand, and stare at it for a moment, not knowing how to feel about her absence. I had thought long and hard about sending an

invitation to my sister and finally decided I would leave the choice up to her.

There is a small note attached to the box and I read it to myself.

To my dear sister, I know it is not much, but I hope you and your daughter love it as much as you and I did.

With love, Nessa.

Untie the ribbon and remove the lid, tears filling my eyes as I look inside.

“What is it?” Gwen asks, pulling a handkerchief from her dress pocket. I pull out the small music box with two little cats sitting on the lid and crank the knob until the song, “Memories,” begins to play and I watch the little cats dance around the lid through my tears.

“When I was little, my mother had this exact music box. She would play it for us to go to sleep every night,” I smile as I wipe my tears.

“She used to tell us a story of the two little cats on the lid,” I giggle.

“They were sisters named Natalia and Vanessa and they loved each other very much.” I stare at the box in disbelief.

“It broke years ago. The music wouldn’t play anymore and I was devastated because I had always dreamt of playing it for my own children.” I shake my head as I wipe my tears.

“I can’t believe she found it.”

“That’s a lovely gift,” Gwen murmurs, helping me to carefully wipe my tears.

“But now we must keep you sane for your wedding.” nod at her and fight to compose myself, carefully putting the music box back in its box and powdering my face.

“Okay, my lovely,” Gwen sighs, cradling little Quoia in her arms and grabbing a small basket of flower petals.

My beautiful Maid of Honor wears a forest green dress with a flowing skirt to accentuate her cute baby bump, and her fiery red hair is tamed within a romantic braid and flowers.

“Are you ready, Talia?” She asks and I give her a bright smile.

“You look beautiful. He is so lucky to have you,” she smiles in return.

“Dakota, are you ready?” she giggles at the dancing pup.

He grins back at her, holding up an empty pillow in his hand.

“Kota, where are the rings?” Gwen asks in restrained panic.

"They kept falling off when I danced," Kota explains as he breaks into a silly dance.

"So! put them in my socks," he grins, Gwen and I both sighing in relief as he rolls his pants up past his ankles where two lumps stick out from his socks.

"Okay, but you need to put them on the pillow so you can give them to Daddy," Gwen chuckles, getting into position to make her entrance.

"Good luck," she whispers as she steps out from behind the curtain with Sequoia in her arms.

Oohs and awws erupt from the crowd as Gwen walks down the aisle with my baby, sprinkling little petals on the floor as she makes her way to the altar to join the rest of the bridal party.

"Okay, you're next," I tell the pup, Kota very excitedly breaking out into another dance.

"How do I look?" I ask, stepping back and spinning for him.

My dress is an off the shoulder ball gown with puffy sleeves and pretty flowers decorating the bodice and my hair is curled and braided with tiny hair jewels decorating the bodice and my hair is curled and braided with tiny hair jewels in it.

"You look like a princess, Mommy," Kota smiles proudly.

"And are you, my handsome prince?" I ask, the little boy shaking his head.

"No, I'm a wolf," he howls, the music picking up in the background.

"Okay, Kota, time to go," I instruct him and he hurriedly gets into position with the empty pillow.

He's happily skipping out from behind the curtain before I can tell him to put the rings back on the pillow. I pull the curtain back enough to watch as Kota skips down the aisle, the crowd giggling as the little boy waves hello to everyone.

When he reaches the middle of the aisle, Kota breaks into a full sprint, racing right into his father's arms.

My handsome .

Mate scoops up the little boy and kisses his forehead, a million butterflies fluttering in my belly at the beauty of their love.

Zane whispers something in Kota's ear and the little boy pulls up his pants to grab the two rings from inside his sock.

The crowd bursts into laughter as Kota proudly hands the rings to his Dad who gives him a high five for completing his mission.

Finally, the music changes tempo and the guests all begin to rise from their seats and turn to face me.

My heart begins to race in my chest and Devina purrs happily as I pull back the curtain to make my entrance.

Several faces smile upon seeing me, but the only face I care to see is Zane's as I walk slowly down the candlelit aisle.

The moonlight illuminates the handsome features of his face, and I see trails of tears glistening on his cheeks.

Afraid I may burst into tears, I look up at the night sky, a million stars watching over me as I walk towards my soulmate.

At the altar, Gwen, Celina, Nikki, and Nadia stand in as my bridesmaids and to Zane's right, stands Agnes as his Best Ma'am with Tylan, Evan, and Micah as his groomsmen.

Dakota stands in the center of the altar, smiling from ear to ear at me and bouncing on his toes with excitement.

In the front row, Rionna and Toran smile proudly at me, Rionna holding Sequoia in her arms.

Zane steps off the altar and holds out his hand to me to help me up.

Sparks tingle up and down my arms as he interlocks our fingers, and I gently wipe the tears on his cheeks with my thumbs.

"Hi," I whisper, Zane's lips curling into a smile.

"Hhi," he murmurs, lifting my hand to his lips and kissing my knuckles. He leads me to the center of the altar, where Aurora awaits to officiate our union. I hardly hear a word she says as I gaze back at my mate and the cool sensation of the ring sliding down my finger jolts me awake.

Zane chuckles to himself when he realizes I haven't been paying attention. I take the ring from Aurora and slide it onto Zane's finger, my mate smiling back at me with joy.

"By the power vested in me by the State of California and by our dear Moon Goddess, I now pronounce you, husband and wife," Aurora proclaims, the crowd holding their silence.

“Zane, you may now kiss your bride.”

He cups my cheeks in his hands and leans forward, our lips meeting for the first time as wolf and wife before our pack, His soothing scent of sage and bergamot fills my nostrils, and the rapid beating of my heart slows down as peace finally washes over me.

A smile curls on my lips as I pull away, and Aurora takes Kota by the hand and presents him to Zane.

The little boy looks up in confusion at Zane, who gets down on his knees to speak to him.

“Hi Kota,” Zane whispers, Dakota grinning back at him sheepishly.

“Hi Daddy,” Kota replies, cupping Zane’s face in his hands.

“Kota, I have to tell you something okay?” Zane asks, the pup nodding his head.

“I know I haven’t been part of your life for very long, but finding you in that bush was the best thing that ever happened to me,” Zane murmurs, Kota smiling in agreement.

“Today, I’m making a promise to your mom that I’ll always love her...but I’m also making a promise to you too. I promise that you’ll always be my son, KKota, no matter what anyone says,” He says, Kota’s bottom lip quivering as tears spill onto his cheeks.

“Oh, baby, don’t cry,” Zane murmurs, wrapping his arms around the crying pup.

“Your mine too now. I’ll always be your daddy, KKota, and I’ll do my best to be your superhero. I love you so much KKota. So, so much.”

Kota can only nod his head as he cries and I struggle to hold back my own tears as my son embraces the only father he’s ever known.

Finally, after years of being on our own, Kota and I have a wonderful husband and father, and our family is now complete.

Gwen takes out a handkerchief and very carefully wipes away my tears while Rionna steps on to the altar to hand me my daughter.

Zane lifts Kota in his arms and helps wipe away his tears and, as a family, we face the Kingdom.

“Ladies and gentlemen,” Aurora announces to the crowd.

“It is my honor to present to you for the first time, Zane and Natalia Ramos and their children, Sequoia and Dakota Ramos. May Moon Goddess always watch over them and may their pack always be prosperous.”

\*\*\*Zane\*\*\*

After the ceremony, it is customary for our wolves to meet in wolf form as newlyweds so Talia and I are led away to separate tents set up in the adjacent woods for a private meeting..

Grayson appears to have the zoomies, sprinting back and forth in the depths of my mind with excitement and I feel myself getting crossed eyed just trying to keep up.

Would you sit still? \snap asl undo my bowtie and unbutton my jacket.

“can’t! He yips, running yet another lap around my brain.

Too much excitement, he howls.

He continues his sprint until I finish undressing and I scold the wolf to calm down enough for the shift.

Grayson begrudgingly stops and he takes command of my body, my bones cracking and shifting into place.

Paws take the place of my hands and feet, and I sit back to let my wolf play with his mate.

He steps out into the forest, his tail eagerly swishing back and forth, and on the opposite end of the clearing, Devina’s gray wolf steps out of her tent, her blue eyes focused on Grayson.

She walks calmly to the center of the clearing, sitting on her hind legs and patiently waiting for Grayson to join her.

He sniffs her fur and playfully tugs on her ears, but Devina remains poised and unfazed by Grayson’s pup-like excitement.

Grayson presents himself in a playful bow before her and she watches silently, tilting her head to the side in mil

curiosity. Hoping to entice her in game, Grayson sprints around the clearing and finds a nice large tree branch, which he brings back and drops at her feet.

Devina eyes the branch for a moment, then looks down at Grayson and his unwavering playfulness with an amused smile.

It seems she finally gives into his charm and she picks up to stick in her snout before taking off, Grayson chasing after her through the woods.

She's incredibly fast and we quickly lose sight of her in the darkness My wolf searches for her scent when, from behind the trees, Devina pounces on us, playfully pinning us to the ground.

Grayson knocks her over and the two wolves fight for dominance, tumbling together across the forest floor. The two wolves play for a while, rushing through trees until Devina grows tired and lays down to rest by the laki shore.

Grayson joins her, throwing himself at her feet and rolling over in surrender.

She climbs on top of him, licking his fur and grooming him, much to Grayson's delight. He allows himself to be cleaned by his mate, laying perfectly content at her mercy. "So, this is married life?" Grayson sighs as Devina licks his ears.

I can get used to this." "I'm just glad you didn't faint at the altar," Devina teases, Grayson grumbling under his breath.

"Aww, is my big bad Alpha afraid of a little blood?" she giggles, Grayson pouting at the slight.

"Tam not?" he huffs with indignation. "Just didn't know...you could stretch that much..."

he gulps nervously, Devina climbs off of Grayson, lying on her side and shifting to Talia's human form. Grayson follows her example and shifts.

"Do you want to know a secret?" she murmurs, and he curls up beside her, resting his head on her chest.

"What is it?" Grayson asks.

"I was afraid," Devina whispers, Grayson peering up at her in curiosity.

"I was afraid you wouldn't like me. It's very hard stepping into a relationship that's already blooming. I was afraid I wouldn't fit in your heart-"

He crashes his lips over hers, her words hanging in the air, never to be spoken again.

"I love you," he murmurs as he pulls away.

"You were the last piece of Talia I didn't know I needed to make me whole and every time I see you, I'm left in awe of you. I could not imagine a life without you in it, Dev."

She holds onto every word, a single tear rolling down her cheek that Grayson wipes away with his thumb.

“I will never be silent about my love for you,” Grayson murmurs, kissing her again.

“And I will always keep your heart safe.”

They hold each other for what seems like an eternity under the stars until our wolves relinquish our bodies back to us and I find Talia safe in my arms again. I walk my mate back to her tent, and when we both dress, we make our way to the reception, where we are greeted by friends and family as husband and wife.

Kota races into his mother’s arms and I feel tranquility fill my heart as I watch my wife dance with our pup.

Rionna brings me my daughter, and the tiny human blinks her beautiful brown eyes at me, completely oblivious to all the love in my heart for her.

Never in my wildest dream could I have hoped for a life filled with so much love, but as I stand before my pack celebrating my marriage, I finally see my own strength.

My name is Zane Ramos. I was once a broken man with no hope for a future, but I broke free from my prison. I am still healing, but I am no longer the Silent Alpha.