Tasting Nora-Pleasing Her Stepbrother Mates #Tasting 361 - Read Tasting Nora-Pleasing Her Stepbrother Mates Tasting 361

Tasting 361

361-Burning Them All In My Own Hell

Nora:

"Why are you telling me this? I can't even smell his scent on you," He muttered under his breath.

I found it odd that Ryker had requested we take a stroll. But the unspoken truth was that the brothers had been taking turns speaking to me alone, trying to extract some information. At this point, I felt like they might be missing the attention I used to give them. Why wouldn't they enjoy the attention of their girlfriends? They were as clingy as I was.

"Because I took a shower after the fight," However, the minute I told Ryker I had been having sex with Brody, his face fell.

"You're lying," he hissed, but it was with such a confident tone that for a moment, I feared he could read my mind.

"You don't have to believe it. We don't do it every day, thinking Ryker must know about this," I joked, but his frown persisted, so my smile. vanished. He seemed more hostile than the others.

"I asked you to wait for me," he nearly shocked me with that statement.

"What are you talking about?" I'm not sure why he's lying like that, but I know how it went last time. I messaged him on phone and he told me to get over him.

"Nora, when you spoke to me on the phone, I told you that if you wanted. to prove your love for me, you would stay with Brody and not give him a chance." The moment he clarified what he was actually referring to- asking me to wait for him–I couldn't help but recoil.

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you think, after you insulted me so badly, that I would wait

for you? And what kind of twisted demand is that?" I could no longer remain calm, at least not with him. He was the one I had lost my virginity to and the one who was

always there for me, making me believe he was so obsessed with me that he would never leave me. But then he started dating my friend, thinking he could still make demands.

"Really? After you told my father you wanted to stay away until you were certain I was safe to be around? I couldn't ask you to stay and be afraid of me," he hissed, and my heart shook a little inside my chest. I almost didn't have a response, and the rising guilt needed to be quelled.

"Well, I failed to express my love for you. Okay?" I shrugged, and his eyes widened in shock.

"No! It's not okay. You're not allowed to back down." However, Ryker instantly grabbed my hand and tried to pull me closer. When I freed my hand and stepped back, he looked hurt.

"You're standing before a married woman now, Ryker. I would not wish to cheat on my mate," I hissed back, quickly looking away.

"Besides, that wasn't our only conversation. You had chosen April over me long before, and then you believed I was this evil person who was playing those girls. And not only that-" I stopped abruptly when I saw Brody appear with Janet.

Shock hit me then. I had told him I was pregnant. Why wasn't he asking about my pregnancy? The text I sent him from Mrs. Fisher's phone must have been why he felt guilty.

It confused me, "and you didn't shun me away when I texted you." I scoffed, shaking my head. I badly needed help that time.

"What? What texts?" He didn't even acknowledge Brody's arrival, but my

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entire attention was on Brody now.

"Babe!" I avoided Ryker and rushed to Brody, holding his left hand while his right was occupied by Janet, who gave me a secretive, annoyed glare.

"I hope your stroll is over. This is the time I spend with my dear wives," Brody said with a tight– lipped smile. Ryker seemed to remain frozen in place ever since Brody appeared.

His eyes were on me, observing me and darting questions at me. But I could tell even after trying so hard, I was unable to impress them.

"Goodnight," Ryker said curtly, not saying much more.

But before he could leave, I decided to take one last opportunity to provoke Janet. I just wanted to get under her skin and watch her and Brody fight the whole night. I needed to take advantage of Ryker's presence.

"Tonight is my night, right Brody?" I asked, my finger lightly touching his chest. His heart raced so much that when I pressed my finger against him, I felt his heartbeat.

With my simple statement, I managed to provoke a reaction from all three of them. Ryker slowed down, while Brody looked shocked, and Janet seemed so enraged that she began glaring at Brody.

It's always fun when we are not at the receiving end of pain.

Tasting 362

362–One After Another

Nora:

"You didn't answer me, babe," I mimicked Janet's tone and how she calls him "babe." Brody gulped and quickly nodded his head.

"Of course," Brody attempted to respond but his voice got stuck in his throat so he decided to rely on bobbing his head again. Ryker sped away, while Janet jumped to confront Brody.

"What are you nodding your head for?" She slapped his chest, and his mood soured,

"Janet, behave yourself," Brody warned, his eyes shifting to me, "I am an alpha of the pack, fucking show some respect." he hissed at her while noticing the sad pout I faked on my lips.

"Oh, I'm so sorry. I forgot we were just acting," I said with a fake sad smile. That same smile was enough to make Brody turn to face me.

"No, don't be. You're always welcome to make any demands," his soft voice made Janet hiss from behind him.

"I thought it was just an act," she said, trying to step between us. Was I used to being desperate like her in the past too? I hope not, because damn, it seems so weird.

"Janet," Brody warned her, "she is helping us so much. At least be nice to her."

I knew Brody wouldn't care if anyone was helping him. I knew him well enough now. He was all about gluttony. He always wanted more; nothing

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was ever enough for him.

"Really? So does that mean if she asks for your dick, you'll hand it over to her?" Janet's comment made Brody look over at me with a helpless expression, probably wondering if I would ever ask for his dick.

"Janet, I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to piss you off," I said. I wasn't scared of Janet or Natalya anymore. But I had learned a lot from them and realized that if you can manipulate someone, why fight them?

"Oh, cut the crap. I know what an evil bitch you are," Janet said as she advanced toward me. I stepped back, and Brody grasped her arm, pulling her away from me, almost dropping her.

At that moment, I saw my old self in her, and the secret pleasure I was getting from this situation faded away. It felt like I was watching myself being dragged around and pulled away from Natalya, April, and Daphne. Wasn't that how I felt whenever I spoke about those mean bitches?

I quickly looked down to shut out the harsh memories.

"What the fuck is wrong with you? Just because she is being nice doesn't mean she can't tear you open right now. And I will not let you disrespect my mate like this again," Brody hissed at her. I raised my head in shock.

Our eyes met, and whatever he was going to say next didn't come out. He seemed shocked to see me in tears. Now he was realizing I was being disrespected?

"What are you saying?" Janet asked, surprised by his words.

"She is your mate?" she inquired, making me wonder if he had ever told her he had accepted me back when I had left my pack for his.

"I mean-" The way Brody stuttered cleared up the suspicions. He had forgotten to tell her, huh?

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I guess I had been working as a maid for so long that everyone forgot I was the real Luna, the first Luna of the pack. Eh, I wasn't really proud or happy to be one, but I could use it just to irritate people. Somehow, I had developed this odd habit of taking pleasure in others' miseries, especially those who wronged me.

"Don't be sad–look what you've done, Janet!" Brody pushed her aside, even though she was waiting for him to explain his statement to her.

"I want to know what you meant when you said she is your mate. How and when did that happen?" Janet grabbed his arm and pulled him away from me before he could come any closer to check on me. I managed to take a deep breath, and just like that, I was honestly fine again. Nothing saddened me for more than a few minutes.

"Enough! We are in public, and I am the fucking Alpha of the pack. You cannot grab me and push me around," he yelled at her, making her tear up while I was left standing there.

"I will head back home," I clicked my tongue. Despite Brody's concerned look, I began my journey back to the mansion. I was missing my children so much now. They must have been wondering why their mother didn't get to hold them tonight. But the night was far from over as I reached the mansion and was intercepted by Cain standing in the doorway.

I should have seen it coming.

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363–Shame On You, Cain

Nora:

I took a deep breath and walked past him, even though I knew he wanted to have a word with me.

"You don't even have time for me now," his comment certainly stopped me in my tracks.

I had so much time for him in the past that I sat on a stool without moving. while he painted me. The same painting that he burned down afterward.

It was much harder for me to speak to him or even look him in the eye. I felt so uncomfortable remembering how foolishly I had acted in his studio last time. I had asked him to take my body and do whatever he pleased with it. It upset me so much that I had objectified myself like that and still got rejected.

"No, I'm paying attention. What's up?" I stopped, not even looking at him. I kept my eyes on the trees as we both stood in the entrance and stared at the garden ahead.

"You're quite strong now. Fighting mutants and acting all confident and in love with your husband," he commented.

"Acting? I'm confident and very much in love with my husband," I shrugged.

"Aha! What about the mate bond and your mate?" He didn't even refer to himself by name, just mentioned it vaguely.

"I don't know what you're talking about," I recalled how he had warned me not to tell anyone about it.

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"Hmmm, I know I wasn't a very likable mate, so I understand you had to lie to me, but I didn't expect you to not even act like it hurts that we're not together," he said with such confidence that it made me burst out laughing.

His body tensed, and his gaze became intense.

"I'm so sorry. It's just that-do you not feel ashamed of yourself for bringing it up? You shut down that topic months ago. So, what's the point of talking about it now?" I smiled, and I'm sure he could see the pain behind it.

The minute our eyes connected, I recalled the way I had offered him my body. My confidence crumbled, and I felt guilty and ashamed of myself. I had truly made a fool of myself.

"I had no choice," he uttered.

"Okay, I respect that. So, how are things with Natalya?" I asked, making it very clear that I had no interest in whatever excuses he had to give me.

"You're not going to ask me what I mean by 'I had no choice'?" He turned to me, but I didn't turn to him.

"No! It doesn't matter anymore, Alpha King Cain. I am happily married and-" Before I could finish, his scoff interrupted me.

"And your husband is taking a second wife. I know you, Nora. You would be so jealous if you were truly in love," he hissed, coming closer, but I had to step away.

I used to be so fascinated by him. His presence would turn me on so much. And he used it to sleep with me and then ditch me the very next day.

"You know me?" Finally, I turned to face him. "You do?" Oh Goddess,

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reminded me of how he used to paint, wearing only suspenders and pants. ith suspenders

"If you did, why did you never believe me when I told you I was innocent?" I gave him a sarcastic smile. Did they have any idea of the shit I went through here? My pregnancy was so painful and lonely. I used to imagine them one by one every night to comfort me. I would imagine them telling me stories and joking to make me laugh. Where were they then? Enjoying their lives with their girlfriends until they realized the silly mate of theirs wasn't obsessed with them anymore, so they came back. They only enjoyed my craziness for them.

"I knew it all," his statement shook me back to reality.

"Huh?"

"I said I knew you were innocent," he looked me straight in the eye and grunted. I didn't know if he truly expected me to open my arms and jump into his lap or what, but it didn't help. It only made me angrier. If he knew, why didn't he tell anyone or act otherwise?

"You knew those girls were lying?" I watched him frown as he realized how I was interpreting his words.

"But I had a reason to-"

Oh, I was so over the brothers repeating themselves. I didn't fucking care anymore and was even adamant about shutting them out of my life rather than accept that he knew yet let me be played around.

"I'm tired. You should rest too. Goodnight," I cut him off. He seemed choked by my words.

Tasting 364

364–Stealing Her From Brody

Cain:

I couldn't believe she was acting as if she didn't care. I had been upset with her and even felt betrayed before. But to see her treat me the same way was just terrifying. I don't ever remember being afraid of losing someone or something like this for so long.

"I have ended things with Natalya," I hoped that would make her happy. I wanted to see her act like herself around me again. It's not like I didn't appreciate the new, confident her–I did. But her indifference and lack of affection were breaking my heart. I wanted things to return to normal.

"Oh, I'm sorry!" she shrugged, briefly pausing, but I didn't let her slip away. I stepped into her path quickly. "I did it because I never loved her." I watched her nod her head, purse her lips, but avoid looking at me.

Why? Why was she avoiding me?

I noticed her body language and felt it was forced. It had to be because of our last encounter in my studio. I've thought about it every day since. I remember it word for word. She offered me her body– was that why she was so upset and couldn't even look me in the eye?

I have imagined accepting her offer after that day so many times. I accepted not only her body but her too. And those dreams were the best.

"Okay! It happens. Don't worry, you'll find someone better," I didn't expect her to be so indifferent.

"Nora! What has gotten into you? I know you're pretending not to care, and I understand why. I messed up, but-" Before I could explain myself,

364–Stealing Her From Brody

her little chuckle interrupted me.

"But you had a reason. Yeah, I get it. It's just that–I feel sorry for you and Natalya, but that's all I can offer. Sympathy! Everything else I have to offer is for my husband. Now, if you'll excuse me," there was not a hint of love for me in her eyes.

I felt like the sky was collapsing on me. My head started spinning, and I had to rush to the kitchen to grab a glass of water.

I'm heartbroken!' my wolf uttered.

'She doesn't love us anymore,' I was still in disbelief.

Nora used to be so obsessed with me. Her possessiveness made me feel alive and special.

'Remember how she used to make us feel like we were all she wanted?' I asked my wolf, feeling my heart skip beats.

'I think that's why she's so indifferent to us now. She gave us her all while we offered her nothing. Of course, she got exhausted with us,' I thought. My wolf didn't need to say it out loud; I already knew. What we did was simply brutal to her.

But she was my mate. She was supposed to be hurt or at least complain to me. She didn't even care about the reasons I hurt her or why I ended things.

'Did you did you feel anything?' I asked my wolf, since we should be

you-did able to sense more than I could on my own.

'Nothing. I felt nothing,' he replied, which shocked me further. I knew her wolf was out, so my wolf not feeling anything was a bad sign. Maybe she was right. She was genuinely over me and didn't even want to think about us anymore.

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'Are we just going to leave?' Since she had been loudly proclaiming that she was happy and didn't want us to interfere in her life, it was clear she wanted us gone. Did that mean I would leave her here?

'No!' I grunted. 'I don't fucking care about why I ended things with her in the past or why I was upset with her anymore. I'm going to make her come home with me.' Only a fool would think I'd let her go.

I went straight back to my room to meet up with my brothers. They were all huddled together, waiting for my arrival. Now we were going to discuss everything, share what we had learned from her behavior, and talk about the whole situation with Brody and his other mate.

"I don't care if she's happy here or not. If it means causing trouble between her and Brody, I'll do it," Ryker declared confidently and loudly, not even noticing the looks we were giving him.

"I think they are hiding something," Silas uttered.

"Of course, Brody seems to be attentive when we are questioning Nora. That asshole did something," Nash hissed.

I was watching them share thoughts, slowly trying to get a hold of this situation and how to resolve it.

"But how would we ever find out? She is being so stubborn and whenever we are able to make her show any emotions, Brody shows up," I uttered under my breath, gently touching my chin. "There is only one way, we must take her away from Brody. The farther she is from him, the easier it is for us to get information out of her," I decided and everybody seemed to agree with me.

Tasting 365

365–Sneaking Into My Bedroom

Nora

I sped up and ended up in my room, a new one for me. I'd be sleeping here for the night. Even though it was the most comfortable place I'd been in months, I would be restless mentally. That small room where I could curl up with my babies was still the best one for me.

'Did you see their audacity?' I asked Akira as I paced around angrily. The nerve of them to try to get information out of me one by one. Why the heck were they back now?

'I couldn't feel much because you were hiding me behind your ring, but I heard them. What the hell is wrong with them?' she sounded furious too. It was nice to be on the same page with her for once.

I reached the small fridge, and a distant memory made me lose myself in thought for a moment. I remembered how Brody had filled it up

for me when I first arrived at his mansion.

'Nora!' Akira pulled me out of my thoughts with a gentle whisper.

'Ugh! I'm so tired,' I said as I opened the fridge and grabbed a soda can.

'Can I ask you something?' Akira questioned while I sat down and started drinking the soda.

'Sure,' I replied, taking a break from drinking to respond.

'How do you feel about them, and the fact that Nash and Cain have broken things off with their girlfriends, how do you feel?' she asked, surprising me that she even remembered it.

'Shocked. I wonder if the girls will try again to get them back again,' I shrugged as I rummaged through the fridge for some snacks.

'Okay! And how do you feel about it?' she pressed.

I told you. I'm shocked,' I frowned in confusion. Then I found macadamia nuts and, well, I stopped worrying about anything. These were my favorite kind. I grew up eating these, well fighting for these with my brother. He would always eat his first and then take mine too.

'Nora! Didn't it make you feel anything more toward your mates? Happiness, or sadness because they left us for them and now they've left them too?' I didn't understand why Akira was pushing so hard to get a reaction out of me.

'Ugh!' I rolled my eyes at her attempts to make me open up.

'And you didn't notice anything else? Like anything they particularly said. about you and their feelings for you?' she continued to question while I zoned out.

'Umm!' I was honestly not pretending anymore. I tried to remember what else they had spoken about, but I couldn't recall a single thing. I guess I was so busy with my acting that I didn't focus on the words being spoken by them.

'Not really. Did they say something new?' I asked, and she groaned.

'Nora! What is happening to you?' Her concern seemed a bit dramatic. There was no reason for her to panic like that.

'Nothing. I just don't care anymore, Akira. I have my children on my mind,' I snapped at her, my tone harsher this time, before I went into the bathroom to take a shower.

The water was so warm, and the nice tub made me relax my muscles after

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365–Sneaking Into My Bedroom

months. These kinds of luxuries had never excited me before, but now they were inviting. However, I noticed that my wolf had suddenly gone silent.

Maybe she was upset with me. But I wanted to rest and maybe talk to her when she wasn't acting like a counselor.

After everything was settled, and I lay down in my bed, a knock on the window behind me jolted me out of my thoughts. For a moment, I couldn' t process anything properly.

'How many times do I have to tell Ryker I don't like him sneaking through the window?' I muttered as I woke from a brief slumber and complained, until I realized what I was saying. Slapping my forehead for getting stuck in the past, I kept my gaze fixed on the window.

Maybe I had imagined it or dreamed about it. However, it wasn't just a dream when I heard the knocking again. My body shuddered at the persistent sound.

"Did Ryker-" I knew it was his habit to sneak into my room, but why? Didn't I tell him to leave me alone?

Getting off the bed and walking towards the window, I debated whether to answer or not. Finally, mustering enough strength, I pulled back the curtain to reveal the most shocking sight ever.

"What the heck are you doing here?" I mouthed, as the words became too dry and stuck in my throat at the sight of the man outside my window. I just couldn't understand why he was here.

Tasting 366

366–Everything Is Fair In Love And War

Ryker:

"But what about her husband? How are we going to get rid of him?" Thankfully, Silas was on my side. We were already making plans for the worst case scenario. The best case was that she was only pretending but if she was indeed in love with Brody, I was ready to ruin her relationship so get her back.

"I say we challenge him to a battle and kill him on the ground," Nash was really hyping up, and I didn't blame him. Watching Nora with anyone else was not easy for us, especially when she was mated to us.

I turned my gaze to Cain, who looked equally upset and disturbed. I remembered Nora had mentioned feeling a mate bond with Nash as well.

My eyes then shifted to Silas, and I felt a little lost. Why would she feel a mate bond with three of her stepbrothers? What made the Moon Goddess spare Silas? Was he not lucky like the rest of us to have her as his fated mate?

'It's not like she gave her heart to us either,' my wolf reminded me, and I grunted in response.

"We should have killed him way before," Silas groaned under his breath, "look how he put her in the arena with a beast. We should put him with a beast too. I am sure he wouldn't even be able to fight them."

"That would be too obvious. If she truly loves him as much as she claims, she would never forgive us for her husband's murder and might even hate us," Cain said, trying to make us understand how risky it could be if we didn't handle this matter carefully. 316 Everything is Fair In Love And War

"Then what can we do?" Silas sighed.

"I say we observe everything first. Brody is already one step out of her life. He has married another woman, an Alpha's daughter," I stroked my chin as I reviewed the information I had gathered on Janet. The moment I saw her, I ordered my warriors to get as much information on her as possible. I saw a potential weapon that I could use against Brody.

"Ryker is right. All we need to do is make Brody mess up," Cain agreed.

"But how are we going to do that? Did you check the message from the council?" Nash pulled out his phone, looking troubled as he showed us the screen.

I hadn't checked anything. My mind had been clouded ever since I came here and saw Nora with Brody. I had stopped feeling better and was back in a dark place.

"What does it say?" Cain asked Nash.

"Yuki has requested us to return. He and the others think that us being in Brody's pack might trigger Brody's trauma. Since-" Nash hesitated, but I knew what this was all about.

"That I killed Christina," I nodded, understanding that Brody must have reached out to the council.

"They also think we shouldn't stay in this pack and that the pack members are not very fond of us," Nash continued, and we all exchanged uneasy glances. That was odd. There was no way the council was suddenly taking this matter so seriously. They had previously told Brody not to mention Christina and act as if the trauma would worsen if we remained in his pack.

"Why do they care suddenly?" Silas asked, getting off the couch. He stopped abruptly and looked at us. "Oh shit. His pack's reputation is

366–Everything is Fair In Love And War

improving."

So that was why the council was suddenly so concerned about Brody's mental health.

"If the pack starts thriving and their warriors are strong enough to fight the mutants, Brody could order them into the mountains to gather precious herbs as well," Cain explained how Brody's rich land could be so beneficial for him. It hadn't been the case before, but suddenly, he was able to train his warriors to go into the mountains and catch the mutants. They must be incredibly powerful to do so. "And somehow, he's able to train everyone. Look how he controlled Nora' s wolf. Brody is up to something. Do you think he got his hands on some magic lamp or something?" Cain inquired, and Nash grunted angrily.

"How the heck can he be so good at everything now?" Silas was also disturbed. Brody was able to challenge our abilities so easily. The training, the fighting, the convincing of wolves, and even controlling them–he was outsmarting us.

"He has a beautiful mate. Of course, he's in a better mental place now," Cain shook his head and grunted again.

"But what about the council? They want us to return," Silas hissed under his breath.

"We will need to find a way," I squeezed my eyes shut, determined to do whatever it took to break Brody and Nora's relationship.

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Tasting 367

367–His Kindness Is Surprising

Nora:

"What the heck are you doing here?" I asked as he waited for me to open the window. In response to my question, he gestured with his hand, signaling me to open the window before he could answer.

"Fine," I said with a frown, opening the window and stepping aside as he walked into my room, brushing off his long coat.

"Rollo! Do you even know what you're doing?" I placed my hands on my waist, staring at his face with a look of irritation. He reminded me of the nights Ryker used to sneak in, and I hated being reminded of it.

"I know what I'm doing." he said, adjusting his collar and then tilting his head as he maintained his intense gaze.

"Brody will be with Janet tonight. She threw a tantrum, and he had to calm her down," he announced, making me shrug.

"And you thought this news would devastate me, so you came here to check on me? Or did you come to gloat about Brody's situation?" I faced him with a harsh look, no longer afraid of what I was saying.

"Actually, I did come here to check on you. But not because I thought you'd be upset about Brody not spending time with you," he said, raising an eyebrow and smirking, which only confused me more.

"Then what brought you here?" I folded my arms across my chest, feeling like he had only come here to bother me.

"Because I knew you'd be upset about not seeing your children tonight,"

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he said, causing my posture to waver.

"I'm upset because I fought so hard, thinking I'd finally hold my babies. But instead, I got dragged into some drama to save Brody's neck," I shook my head aggressively, realizing that if my babies had not been in Brody's captivity, I would've told the brothers everything. Not because I planned to go back with them, but to seek justice for what I'd endured.

"I get it. It was a strange sight for me too. I've never seen Brody worry so much. But that's what happens whenever he's around them-he acts completely irrational." Rollo let out a sight similar to mine.

"But I thought you'd be more upset. I figured you had plans to spend time with your babies," he said, showing genuine concern, not trying to make me feel worse.

"It's temporary. The brothers will leave soon, and I'll get to see my babies. again," I mumbled softly.

"What if I told you that you don't have to wait?" he said, raising my eyebrows in surprise.

"What do you mean by that?" I asked, excitement creeping into my voice. His words sounded intriguing.

"I can take you to where your babies are. You can feed them and spend time with them. But we'll need to return before morning, as I'm doing this behind Alpha Brody's back," he explained. I was

stunned for a moment. Nobody had ever done something like this for me out of pure kindness in a while.

Lord Atwood used to, but then I made one mistake, and it was all over.

"What do you need in return?" Of course, I wouldn't just follow him without knowing his intentions.

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That s a good question." He snapped his fingers, sounding a little upset as he answered, "Nothing."

"Nora, I need nothing," he repeated with a more stern look this time.

I watched his face for a moment before I nodded vigorously. "Let me grab a sweater." I quickly threw on a sweater and walked back to him, excited to hold my babies again.

"Let's go," he said, leading me out of the window.

It was cold outside, but that wouldn't stop me from seeing my babies. However, I was surprised by how far Brody had kept them from both the brothers and me. As we walked, I silently followed Rollo, my mind racing with thoughts. If I could gather them all in one place, could I tackle the guards and run away?

But where would I go?

I knew I could survive anywhere now. But if a cluster of monsters attacked me while I was alone with my children, would I fight or protect them? And when I went out to fetch food, who would take care of them?

"You seem lost," Rollo said, bringing me back to reality. I nodded in agreement.

"I am," I answered bluntly.

"Thinking about what, may I ask?" he questioned. Belonging

"About what my life will be like in the next few years. Will it be just this? Or will I get to have freedom?" I wasn't afraid of fighting the monsters, but as a mother, I was sometimes fearful of something happening to me.

My kids would be left all alone in this cruel world, just like I once was.

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Tasting 368

368–Caught With The Royal Beta

Nora:

"They are here," he whispered this time as we entered a grand mansion guarded by numerous sentries. He had to excuse them and guide me inside discreetly while they were preoccupied with him. Once inside the mansion, I was astonished to find it completely deserted.

There was only one room with some light spilling from it, and as Rollo pointed towards it, I realized it was the room where my babies were kept. Rushing to the room, I intended to enter when Rollo grasped my arm and pulled me behind the wall. Our eyes met briefly. I hadn't anticipated being so close to him. His gaze was fixated on my lips, and I had to look away to bring him back to the present.

He snapped out of it by shaking his head, then placed his finger over his lips, signaling for me to stay silent. "Stay here," he mouthed before stepping out from behind the wall and entering the room.

"Royal beta Rollo," one of the nannies said.

"What's happening? Why are the kids crying so much?" Rollo asked in a serious tone. I could hear a lot of noise coming from inside. It seemed none of the babies were sleeping peacefully. My heart began to race, my hands trembling, yearning to hold and comfort them.

It was honestly so weird that I had taken on the role of mother so quickly. My world now revolves around my babies now.

"They are such a nuisance. Every time of the day they aren't with their mother, they act like nothing can comfort them," the nanny complained. I closed my eyes because it pained me to hear someone

talk about my

LOOK

children like that. They were infants; of course, they were unsettled without their mother. But then again, these nannies were not at fault. I cannot hate them even if I want to. They have been taking care of my kids when I am not with them.

"It's alright. Why don't you three take a nap while I bring in someone else to care for them?" Rollo suggested. As he mentioned "three," I realized that it was indeed true that one of my babies was not here. Roman was kept somewhere else. Sometimes I wonder what he might be thinking about me and why I don't spend time with him.

Perhaps he is too young to question these things for now, but when he grows up–no! I am not going to dwell on that. By the time they are older, I will be with them all the time.

"But are you sure? Or should we wait for the other maids to arrive first?" The nanny seemed hesitant to leave. Their voices made me realize they were tired too.

"Yeah, it will be fine. It's not like they can get out of their cribs and run away," he joked, and the nannies began gathering their things to leave. They hurried out, and I got a glimpse of them-hair disheveled and clothes wrinkled. Of course, they had been with the babies all day. Normally, they would rest while I took care of them at night.

After they left, Rollo returned and leaned against the wall. "Go, your babies are waiting for you," he said softly. I quickly sprang up and rushed inside to my babies.

Tears streamed down my face as I kissed each of them, smiling through my misty eyes. It took me a while to get them settled, but they eventually stopped crying. Every moment I spent with them was precious. Rollo remained outside, guarding the area and ensuring no one disturbed me.

I guess I was so happy that I didn't realize three hours had passed before

35.41%

10:31

368 Caught With The Royal Beta

Rollo stepped inside the room. Seeing him was a reminder that my time was up, and I had to return to my room without my children.

"I'm sorry," he said immediately.

"Don't be. It was your decision too," I replied bitterly. I was angry because everyone contributed to the idea that I shouldn't be allowed near my babies. Even though it was early in my pregnancy, it still felt like they disregarded a mother's feelings.

"I know, and I regret it every time I see you cry for them," he said. His words were kind, but they didn't affect me much. He only felt bad now because we had developed a bond. If we hadn't, he would have been fine watching me cry every day for my babies.

"Mommy will see you again soon." With a kiss to each baby's forehead, I left the room. I felt overwhelmed and didn't want to talk to Rollo for a while. But by the time I was back in the mansion's backyard, I had gathered my composure.

"Thank you," I said. As he turned around to respond, I noticed someone behind him.

Tasting 369

369–They Want To Satisfy Me

Nora:

Of course, Rollo didn't see them. Hewas still busy focusing on me and talking to me nicely.

"It was my duty. After all, someone very cute once told me that I'm also a stupid bastard who agreed to-" Rollo continued in a sweet and playful tone before I motioned for him to stop, silently reminding him not to bring up my babies.

He frowned in confusion, then turned slightly to follow my gaze. His body tensed when he saw my 'stepbrothers.' They were all outside, shirtless, as if they had just woken up and caught me with Rollo. I was beginning to realize the severity of the situation and how it was important that they leave soon. They have only been in the pack for half a day and they had caught me literally everywhere.

"You should go back to your room. I'll deal with them," I told Rollo, my eyes fixed on the others, who seemed almost too eager to approach, their stances challenging.

"Are you sure? I don't want to run away like a coward," Rollo straightened his posture, broadening his shoulders.

"I'm sure," I reassured him. "It'll be better if I handle them alone."

He studied my face for a moment before nodding and walking away. I waited for the brothers to approach, and just as I had expected, they did. The four of them walked toward me, with only Silas wearing a sweater over his shorts.

As they reached me, they formed a circle around me, making me slightly uncomfortable.

"What is this about?" I asked before they could say anything, breaking the awkwardness they were creating by surrounding me like that.

"So, you're too busy to talk to us, but you're fine sneaking out with your royal beta?" Ryker had a strange smirk on his face, as if he wanted to yell at me for recreating the scene with Rollo.

"We went for a walk. My wolf needed it," I shrugged casually. Every Time I spoke about someone else, either Rollo or Brody, I noticed that the brothers looked hurt.

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"Oh really? And where is your beloved alpha husband? Why didn't go with him?" Nash mocked, still bitter about the time I told him I was happy with my husband.

"And why sneak out like a thief? Why not just use the door?" Cain asked, sliding his hands into the pockets of his shorts, forcing me to try not to look down.

What the hell were they all so worked up about?

"Well, I do it all the time so that Brody doesn't ruin his time with Janet because of me. He does that a lot–chooses me over her–so I have to make sure I don't do anything that might bring injustice to her," I replied cleverly, though it was clear they didn't believe me.

"But didn't you ask Brody it was your night tonight? Oh! Did he choose her over you finally? Because you seemed pretty excited to be with him for the night," Ryker made me clench my jaw with his comments. I was getting annoyed with them catching on to my lies.

"Oh! Tsk, tsk, tsk. Poor Brody can't satisfy one of his mates, and now he has two," Silas clicked his tongue, and his brothers joined in the laughter.

30.16%

upset over their comments about

Brody.

"Maybe you're talking about yourself," I said as I stood up for Brody. Silas stepped closer, causing me to back down, but my back hit the hard chest of Nash. I glanced briefly at who I had collided with and saw Nash looking down at me with an intense hunger in his eyes.

"You know I can perform as many times as you want, right?" Silas's comment made me shiver, sending goosebumps down my arms.

"Hey!" Ryker complained, frowning at his brother. "Don't talk to your sister–in–law like that." His shameless comment made me gasp. I turned to look at the brothers, bewildered by his remark.

Had they already discussed my encounters with them?

"Thanks, brother, for taking care of her," Cain said, patting Ryker's shoulder. Ryker frowned, misinterpreting Cain's gesture.

"And thank you for that too," Nash gave Cain a reassuring look.

"Listen, I don't care how twisted you guys are; I'm going back inside to rest," I tried to walk past them, but Cain stepped into my path, and the others quickly expanded their circle again.

"Are you having an affair behind your husband's back?" Ryker asked seriously, which shocked me.

"No-"I started to respond angrily, but Nash interrupted.

"Is he unable to satisfy your needs?" Nash's comment was driving me to the edge.

"Then why him?" Silas asked. I turned to him, almost ready to argue when Cain stopped me with his own comment.

67.05%

360 They Want To Satisfy Me

"Why not us then?"

57%

Tasting 370

370-So I Am The Bad Guy Now?

Nora:

"Huh?" Cain asked again, as if he really wanted me to comment on that.

"Have you lost your mind? I wouldn't do it with any of you because I am not interested. As for Brody, he's enough for me. Now step the hell out of my way!" With a harsh push against Cain's bare abs, I stepped out of their circle before Ryker stepped in and I accidentally kissed his chest when bumping by accident. Well, it seemed like a kiss because my lips landed on his skin weirdly.

Why the heck were they shirtless and coming in my face?

"Ryker, step away-," I paused when I watched him look down at his chest where my lipgloss had left some mark. A smirk on his lips when he raised his head made me look away. I didn't want to stick around after that and jumped into the room. I quickly shut the window and drew the curtains.

However, I kept staring at my hand that had touched Cain's naked body and touched my lips.

'I hate them,' I twisted the ring on my finger and complained to Wolf.

'But why are they acting like nothing happened? Remember when we thought we'd never get them to be nice to us again? It seemed that way. But they're back, and with much more force this time. They're making comments that could lead to the public

0.00%

10:27

37000 I Am The Bad Guy Now!

destruction of our relationship-' Akira kept pointing out how they had changed.

But she forgot that I had changed too.

'Hmm, I just wish they'd leave soon. If the council had already talked to them, they should be leaving first thing in the morning,' I smiled as I recalled my babies.

It would be amazing to see them again and spend time with them.

'Hmm, do you remember home?' As I lay down, she asked me a rather odd question.

'What are you trying to do?' I inquired in confusion.

'You're turning cold. You don't even remember your mission,' she said in a defeated tone, and for a moment, I felt lost too. What did she mean by that? What mission?

'This is what he said when he was scared of us leaving our home. We would forget everything as their world is full of distractions,' I didn't understand. She was speaking in a strange, incoherent tone before I heard her snore.

As she passed out, I too went to sleep. I was sure she would wake up fine.

The morning was a busy one. The maids were running around, preparing the best breakfast for the Alpha King brothers.

I had changed into a blue dress, while Janet wore a black one. Her swollen eyes told me she must have had a fight with Brody last night.

29.08%

1280 Vouchers

370–So I Am The Bad Guy Now?

The brothers had assembled and joined the breakfast table.

All four of them were eerily silent, and Lord Atwood kept sneaking glances at me.

"Why don't you come sit with me?" he patted the empty chair beside him, offering me a spot.

I felt so compelled, yet I managed to excuse myself. Everyone noticed the awkwardness.

"I need to check on the maids," I said, as if I hadn't heard him offer me a seat beside him. As I left for the kitchen and sighed in relief, I was followed by none other than Silas.

"That's not fair," he made me stop dead in my tracks and turn around, raising my brow in question about his statement.

"Dad has done a lot for you. There was a time when he didn't even listen to us; in fact, he gave you over us. And this is how you're behaving with him now?" He shook his head in disbelief, watching me straighten my spine as I tried to come up with an excuse.

But before I could, he continued, "I understand you're upset with him as well as us. But try to understand the position of a father who heard you say you're afraid of his son, the same son who stepped forward to show his wolf just to draw attention away from you and save you. I'm not saying you shouldn't be mad at us, but at least show some leniency to the poor man."

He stopped talking but kept staring at me while I pondered his words.

"And you think the punishment he gave me for that sentence wasn't harsh?"

\$7.21%

370-So I Am The Bad Guy Now?

289 Vouchers

"It was not a punishment. If only you would let us, we could explain why he had to send you away," he spoke softly, but I refused to let him continue.

I wasn't given a chance, so he shouldn't get one either. If there was a reason, they should have told me right then and there. Kicking me out felt like a punishment, not a solution.

"Oh, hello!" A cheerful voice drew our attention to Carla, whose eyes were shining at the sight of Silas.

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