

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 181

Chapter 181

Lucianne immediately got up and inspected her tom bra and underwear as she said, "Remind me to undress before we let them do that again next time."

Both their animals were chuckling at her remark, and Xandar pecked a kiss on her bare waist as he commented, "He was a little brutal to her, don't you think?"

Xandar ignored his animal's protest, and waited for his mate to answer, to which she said, "Hm. She seems to like it rough."

His animal gloated and bragged, which made Xandar mutter, "And he seems to be happy to hear that." His hands snuck around her waistline and he said, "Since we're both already naked, how about we give it a go?"

Lucianne's eyes left her tom-up bra and met her mate's flirtatious gaze. He seemed to know her weak spot because he emitted that dangerous and alluring growl that turned her on, and when she smirked coyly and guided his hands to her breasts, Xandar pounced on her and sucked on her neck, teasing her mark. Lucianne spread her legs before wrapping them around Xandar's waist as he went in and out of her. She moaned in ecstasy as Xandar increased his speed. He emitted that deep, alluring growl again as he said, "Come for me, baby." 3

He then went even faster than he did before. Within seconds, Lucianne came and locked him in. The product of Xandar's own orgasm dispensed in her, and he admired her rising and falling breasts. When her lock came

loose, he remained in her as he started pecking kisses on her breasts, enjoying Lucianne's whimpers when his tongue teased her nipples. After that, he moved up north, gazing at the mark he made on her in pure bliss.

His tongue extended, and he licked over it ever so slowly and lovingly as Lucianne moaned, "Ohh..."

Xandar's lips curled into a smilk before he moved to Lucianne's lips to kiss her slowly, enjoying every lick, every brush, and every sensation as his hand continued kneading her breasts. When their lips released each other, his nose touched hers as he whispered, "I love you."

Lucianne met his euphoric eyes, and muttered, "I know. I love you, too."

Instead of a moring run, they decided on a moming walk after all the exercise they did in bed.

###

After showering and getting ready, they walked to the dining hall. Christian and Annie got out of the car when they saw Xandar and Lucianne enter through the gates.

As Lucianne and Annie embraced each other, Christian offered his cousin a brotherly hug, and placed the small jewellery box he collected in the morning into Xandar's ready hand. The Duke's eyes glistened in joy as he linked, 'I'm really happy for you, cuz.'

'She hasn't said 'yes' yet, Christian.'

Christian scoffed and linked, 'I doubt she'll say 'no'.'

‘I hope you’re right. Still, if she wants more time, I’ll give it to her.’ He looked at his mate, who was complimenting Annie’s dressing before he continued, ‘I’ll give her anything.’

Christian patted him on the back and linked, ‘Yeah, we all know that, cuz. C’mon.’

They joined the ladies’ conversation just in time for Lucianne to ask, “Is this for a special occasion? Is it someone’s birth day and I wasn’t let in on the secret?” Her eyes went briefly to the Duke before returning to the Duchess.

Annie stammered, “W-Well, uh...it isn’t anyone’s birthday. We’d tell you if it is, and uh...I just wanted to dress like this for..fun.”

Lucianne pressed back a smile before she said, “Annie, you’re not very good at lying.” Both cousins burst out laughing, and Annie’s narrowed eyes directed at her husband drew him closer to her before he pecked a sweet kiss on her temple.

Lucianne decided to spare Annie from her questioning. She assumed that it was a private matter between the Duke and Duchess, so she didn’t pry. Xandar slid his hand around her waist, and the four of them entered the dining hall together. Right after everyone stood from exchanging bows, the murmurs and chatters soon started. Everyone was staring at Lucianne. Was there something different about her?

With Lucianne’s sharpened hearing, she caught the whispers and started blushing. Xandar pecked a kiss on her temple, and asked, “Well, my love. How should we tell them?”

Lucianne’s affectionate eyes met his own as she said, “Why tell when we can show?”

Her hand went to her hair covering her mark, and she pushed it gently to the back, showing the pinkish smear made by her mate the previous night. The second her mark came into view, the entire dining hall erupted in excitement. Xandar pulled his collar

slightly to the side to show everyone his mark made by her, and the crowd got crazier. Christian squeezed his best friend's shoulder as a way of congratulating him.

The alliance and several Lycans were coming forward with smiling eyes to congratulate them but before they reached the King and Queen, their footsteps came to a halt when Xandar held Lucianne's small hand and got down on one knee.

Lucianne's bright eyes widened in shock when Xandar took out a small jewellery box from his trousers, the one his cousin handed to him earlier that morning. The squeals in the room came from both men and women, Weaver's being one of the loudest. 3

Lucianne stopped breathing, and gaped when Xandar opened the box to present a princess-cut black diamond adored with smaller lilac diamonds all around it, held by a band which seemed to contain some kind of engraving.

Xandar's voice commanded the attention of the room when he spoke, "Lucy, my love. You've caught this beast's attention long before we were bonded, and you've stolen my heart on the very first night we met. I've never seen a more beautiful creature, nor have I come across a more amazing one. Your grace is breathtaking; your bravery is incredible; your nobility is astounding; and your strength is simply mind-blowing. If—" He was forced to pause when a loud applause burst from everyone around them.

When it died down, Xandar continued, “If I were to be completely honest, I wasn’t sure if I could ever win your heart.” There was a short laughter from the people around them before he proceeded to say, “All I could hope for in the beginning was a chance – a chance to be with you, to show you that I’m not like the mates from your past, and a chance to make you happy.”

After pecking a kiss on the back of her hand, he said, “You’re so...whole, Lucy. It somehow felt like you didn’t need me, and I’m sure that your brother and Christian can tell you how the mere thought of losing you scares me to death, and the mere suspicion that you might reject me shatters me to pieces.”

His eyes glistened at the memories where he thought Lucianne was going to reject him in the Jewel Pack, after the Kyltons’ debacle and after the incident in Forest Gloom. Lucianne’s own eyes glistened as her free hand reached out to stroke his cheek.

Xandar allowed himself to lean into her touch before he continued, “Thank you for giving me a chance to love you, baby. I promise to be better everyday, to be more, because you deserve nothing less. You have no idea how happy you make me, and I hope you’ll keep letting me show you how much you mean to me, how much I love you.”

His voice turned gentler when he lifted up the box in his hand and asked, “Lucianne Freesia Paw, will you allow your indecent beast the honor of taking your hand in marriage?” 2

Lucianne was so moved that she couldn’t speak, and she nodded without hesitation as tears spilled from her eyes. Her non-verbal response made the entire hall erupt in a second round of excitement. Xandar’s nerves eased, and he slid the ring into his mate’s finger before getting up to pull her into a deep kiss.

When their lips parted, Xandar whispered, “Thank you so much, baby. I love you. I love you so, so much.” 1

Lucianne’s tears continued to stream down her face as she said, “I love you, too, so much.”

The news of their engagement reached all comers of the Kingdom in less than an hour, and there were people who were not happy about it

Kelissa’s bedroom was filled with feathers from all the posh pillows she tore up when she read the latest scoop with the headline” SHE SAID ‘YES!”, accompanied by photos of Lucianne and Xandar showing off their marks; Xandar down on one knee before a very shocked Lucianne; Xandar grinning broadly as he slid the ring into his mate’s finger, and Xandar and Lucianne sharing a kiss.

Lord and Lady Kylton told the maid to leave them alone, and went to sit on either side of their precious daughter on the couch. When Lady Kylton was close to offering her a hug, Kelissa pushed away her mother’s arms. Despite being hurt by her daughter’s reaction, Lady Kylton understood why her little Kelly was fuming with rage.

“How could he?” Kelissa hissed in a small voice as she continued to breath heavily.

“It’s his loss, dear.” Lord Kylton said, and realized he said the wrong thing when his wife’s and daughter’s glare scared him and his animal. He cleared his throat and muttered, “Sorry about that. That wasn’t the right thing to say.”

“No sh*t.” Kelissa hissed with no remorse. After another moment, she said, “Not all is lost. I can still win.”

Lord Kylton was about to ask how but chose to remain silent when his wife gave a slight shake of her head. Lady Kylton cleared her throat and asked gently, “What do you want us to do now, Kelly?”

Without hesitation, Kelissa said in a low voice, “We have to kill her. It’s the only way to make Xandar available again. It’s the only way I can mark him after he marks me.”

Lord Kylton nodded in understanding and asked, “Would you like me to call them, on...”

The heiress’s onyx eyes burned into her father’s careful lilac ones as the heiress shouted, “DO I REALLY SEEM THAT INCAPABLET

O YOU ?! DO YOU THINK THIS WOLF IS MORE CAPABLE THAN ME, TOO?”

“No! Of course not! The wolf is a scum!” Lord Kylton defended.

Lady Kylton then helped her husband by saying, “We just want to help, Kelly. You don’t have to do everything alone. We know you’re strong, dear, and you do so much. We just want to help you.”

Kelissa took in her mother’s words, and within a few minutes, she managed to get a hold of herself. “It’s okay. I’ll just give Jake a call and see if we can improvise something. Maybe mixing Oleander with some other poison to make sure it kills the wolf instantly, so that Xandar doesn’t suffer.” 1

Lady Kylton smiled warmly and said, “That’s very thoughtful of you, Kelly.”

With a hard expression and a murderous glint in her eye, Kelissa said, “This doesn’t mean I’ll let him off that easily. Once we are mated and marked, and I’m crowned, I’m going to make Xandar BEG for my forgiveness for all this hurt that he is causing me.”

Kelissa dialed Jake’s number immediately without a plan in mind, hoping that the rogue Alpha would be able to help her out. The call didn’t go through. She tried again. Nothing. Impatient, she tried a third time as she complained, “What do rogues have to do that requires their Alpha with them anyway? Why wasn’t he answering his phone?”

Her parents convinced her to give it an hour. Perhaps Jake was conducting a task for another client and wasn’t near his phone at the moment. The task she herself gave him was in a couple of days time. Perhaps he was preparing for that? Her original instructions to him were simple: lightly scratch Xandar with a non-lethal concentration of Oleander when the King was in the process of protecting Lucianne.

Kelissa would then send her people to make anonymous phone calls to the press, twisting the story to blame Lucianne for the King’s injury. Her private instructions to Jake the other day was for him to mark Lucianne. It was so clear that the rogue Alpha wanted her but it took ten minutes of persuasion from the heiress before he agreed to forcibly mark her. Kelissa did not just waste ten minutes of her life to not get the results she worked for! 1

Of course, the Kyltons didn’t know that the Alpha of the company they owned was already killed...that was until a second big scoop popped up on Kelissa’s screen, with the headline: 47 Rogue Lycans and 10 Rogue Wolves Arrested in Mass Infiltration into Rogue Headquarters by the Monarchs, Lycan and Wolf Warriors and Police Force.

Lord Kylton's face turned white. It couldn't be his company, could it? When Kelissa opened up the article and scrolled through it, seeing Jake's photograph which was captioned as 'the deceased leader suspected of running the corporation', Kelissa threw her phone at her full body mirror and screamed in madness. In his room, Greg cursed and immediately took his earpiece out as he muttered, "Crazy bitch."

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 182

Chapter 182

The Duke's animal was still covering its ears from the deafening scream. Implanting a device in Kelissa's room was tricky but the idiotic heiress actually believed that Greg knocked on her door the other night just to ask for the Wi-Fi password.

By leveraging the heiress's need to flaunt in just about everything, Greg complimented her room when he was at her door, and he instantly received the invitation to enter to have a look around before he stealthily stuck the device behind her nightstand.

He read about the infiltration, and was actually impressed that his cousin managed to keep Lucianne safe for once. With the rogue corporation now gone, Greg could safely send out his long-awaited, final order to Alivia and Ivory since the Kyltons won't be able to send any rogues to slaughter the inhabitants of Blue Crescent anymore. 2

Greg slit the second and last paper clip gadget taken from his shoe onto his wristband. When it emitted the faint green glow, he linked Alissa, '0187, Phoenix Road. Send a message to the Queen Tell her I'm here with the founders of Wu Bi. Be discreet. You don't want to get caught. Keep watching her. Link Hailey and Desmond if you and Ivory need help.'

“That won’t be a problem, your Grace, but uh...Ivory and Llost her for a few hours when she took flights two days ago and yester

‘Did she come back hurt?’

‘No, but she did look tired.’

‘As long as she’s safe, you did your job.’

Alissa hesitated before she linked in concern, ‘I heard that there isn’t a timeline to come get you, your Grace?’

‘There isn’t. I’ll get out when I need to. Just do as I say

‘As you wish, your Grace.’

After ending the link, he heard a knock on his door, and hurriedly hid the used paper clip in his shoe before going to see who was bothering him. The second he saw Livia in a see-through lingerie that left nothing to the imagination, he slammed the door shut without a word. 1

The silver lining for the Duke was that he was going to be out of this prison soon...probably only to be put in another prison. Then again, anywhere was better than staying with these dim people. He chuckled as he thought about how the Kyltons’ contingency plan is now blown to bits. Greg would admit that the family’s back-up plan to destroy Blue Crescent was a...wise Plan B if one were on their side but putting all their eggs into that one basket of counting on the rogues to get everything done, so sure that they would never get caught, was their downfall.

“Idiots”, Greg chuckled darkly as he thought to himself. If he learned anything, it would be that having Plans C, D, E and F were mandatory.

All he had to do now was wait for Alissa's message to get to Lucianne, so he'll be out by tomorrow, at latest. He could stay in his room until then. He had a big breakfast this morning, and still had some snacks he stole from around the house to keep him alive for a few more hours.

With that in mind, he decided to take a nap.

###

Alissa linked Ivory about Greg's instructions, and while Ivory watched Lucianne, Alissa headed to a bookstore. She then picked out a plain card and an envelope with her glove-covered hands. After paying, she headed to the pen section to scribble the Duke's message. That was the easy part.

In the cloudy early afternoon, Alissa made her way to the King's residence as a random jogger. Ivory had already sent her the approximate time the mail would reach the King's home, so when Alissa saw the van pulling to a stop, she bent down to tie her shoelaces before getting back up when the mailman stepped out with a small stack on envelopes about the same size as the one she had in her hand.

She continued jogging, and 'accidentally' bumped into him, making all the letters scatter over the ground before she apologized profusely as she helped him gather up his mail, sneaking in her own envelope into the stack. The mailman thanked her, and asked her to be more careful before dropping off the stack of letters with Xandar's guards.

###

Everyone who was in Xandar's office to plan the infiltration was now back in his office to discuss the issues arising from the infiltration. The good news was that there were no casualties from their side, although several Lycan warriors and policemen were still in the hospital as the doctors monitored their bloodstreams to make sure that there weren't any traces Oleander left in their systems

Chief Dalloway was given the floor first since everyone wanted to know what information that he and his police force managed to get in the last 24 hours when they went through every inch of the headquarters. “Every rogue confirmed that the one you killed is the leader of the corporation, my King. However, the leader is subordinate to a higher authority, one unknown to any of the rogues we arrested.”

As Xandar pulled the standing Lucianne onto his lap and wrapped an arm around her abdomen, he asked the Chief, “Did any of them say who may know their superior?”

Dalloway reported, “That would be the two who restrained the Queen before the leader attempted to...” since everyone around him knew what was going to come out of his mouth next, and Xandar’s eyes were turning onyx at the memory, the Chief chose to say, “Well, the three of them were the only ones who have met the superiors of Wu Bi Corp, your Highnesses.”

As Xandar smelled her hair, Lucianne asked, “Have the rogues given anything useful, Chief? Is there anything we don’t know yet?”

“Only bad news, my Queen.” All ears perked up as he continued, “They told us about their database. Our people scoured through it but it’s empty.”

Christian muttered, “They must have deleted everything while we surrounded their hideout.”

Dalloway nodded in agreement and proceeded to say, “As for their confessions, we are told that hundreds have escaped through an underground tunnel before taking their own submarine to flee from the island.” 2

Almost everyone groaned. They thought they were done. They thought they got all of them. Dalloway's statement made Lucianne's eyes widened, and Xandar's grip around her tightened before it loosened again when Lucianne's thumb started stroking his lap.

Dalloway then said, "There is some good news that I should mention: the tunnel is small, so only wolves could go through it one at a time. Our own people had to break the concrete around it to enlarge the passageway during our investigation."

That was definitely a relief for all the worried faces in the room. Lucianne turned to the Alphas and Lunas in the room and said, "Alert the pack leaders. Every one of them, especially those around Faint Moon."

Juan then asked, "Should we offer them a chance to surrender first?"

It was on the tip of Lucianne's tongue to say 'yes' but she remembered how offering Jake a chance to surrender played out. She was conflicted, so she locked eyes with her mate and asked, "What do you think, darling? Should we?"

Xandar thought about it, well aware of the conflict she was experiencing. After a moment, he declared, "One chance. Only one. Get them to surrender and detain them until our people get there to bring them back here. If they try anything funny, kill them."

"Understood." Juan uttered with a smile, and the other pack leaders of the alliance nodded in compliance.

Dalloway then went on to explain that the rogues they arrested didn't know anything about the suppliers of their weapons and poisons because Alithia was the one who handled these things, and Toby slammed his head on the table for killing her.

Lucianne looked at her best friend rubbing his forehead and said, “Chill, Toby. She deserved to die.”

Toby retorted, “No, Lucy. She deserved to be tortured with whips and an electrocution chair. She didn’t deserve to die.”

Knock. Knock Knock.

The room was filled with furrowed eyebrows and inquisitive eyes thrown at Xandar. Even his own mate was giving him a puzzled look. Was he expecting someone?

“Come in!” Xandar was equally lost but if his guards saw the need to disturb his meeting, it had to be important.

The door opened, and in walked Vernon, who bowed before coming to the King’s side to hand him his mail as he said, “Apologies, your Highnesses, but there was one among the stack that seemed important.”

Vernon placed a blue envelope on the top of the stack that had “URGENT” written in red, followed by a line of black-colored words that read: Attn: H.R.H. Queen Lucianne Freesia Paw. The fact that it wasn’t Greg’s handwriting like it was the last time didn’t stop Lucianne from snatching the envelope and ripping it open. 1

She took out the white card and read it with Xandar. Xandar’s eyes darkened, and Lucianne’s neck stiffened before her friends noticed the homicidal glint in her black and onyx orbs. After a short moment of pin drop silence, Toby got tired of waiting.

So, he groaned as he got out of his chair and strode to his best friend’s side while complaining, “Lucy, you and your mate have got to learn to…” he started reading the card in her hand and his brain paused for a moment before he cursed, “Sh*t.”.

‘0187 Phoenix Road, my Queen. I’m here with the founders of Wu Bi Corp. Greg.’

After that, it didn’t take long for Dalloway and Laurent to find out who the registered owners of the residence were. A plan was hatched within thirty minutes, and they left the villa to head for the location Greg sent them.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina’s Pen Chapter 183

Chapter 183

Greg only woke up when another knock on his door came. If that was Livia again, he didn’t know if he could restrain his animal from scratching her face and tearing out her organs. As he thought about the endgame drawing near, he walked to the door and opened it.

To his relief, it was only the heiress, who invited him to have tea. Greg played dumb and asked, “What did I do? I left the toilet seat up this time.”

Kelissa rolled her eyes and said, “It’s just a grateful gesture for your years of supporting our business, your Grace.” Liar. But not a bad one, actually

“Fine.” Greg groaned. So much for wanting to stay in his room until Lucianne came and break him out of this sh*thole. He still found it hilarious that the Kyltons gave him access to Wi-Fi without considering that he would use it to pinpoint their location Maybe it was because they didn’t know that he could still mind-link without detection to send out orders.

As Greg walked with the heiress, he muttered, “I’m impressed to see you so composed after the news all over the internet, Kylton.”

That was definitely the right thing to say for someone who didn’t hear the heiress’s mad scream. Kelissa’s rage showed again as she replayed the news in her head. But instead of throwing a fit, she simply smirked and said, “Well, I learn from the best.”

Greg prayed that she didn’t mean him. He didn’t want this failure to be his student. When they entered the tea room, the Lord and Lady paused their discreet chatter and smiled at the Duke. Sasha and Livia stopped their gossiping, too. Tanner looked like the most left out one there.

‘What the f*ck do these losers want?’, Greg thought as he returned everyone’s fake smiles.

After he was seated and given Earl Grey, Kelissa got to the point, ‘Well, your Grace. You’ve read the news. It seems that our plan has gone down the drain, and things are...complicated now.’

“No, sh*t. Is that why I’m here? To whine and complain with all of you?”

“No, your Grace.” Lord Kylton began before his daughter’s scowl made him lean back for her to continue speaking.

The heiress turned back to the Duke with a less hostile gaze and uttered, “We’re not here to complain. We’re here to talk about what could have gone wrong, and, if possible, to find a solution together.”

“Ah, that’s not so bad.” Greg leaned back into his seat and crossed his legs before he asked despite already knowing the answer, “So, who’s starting?”

Kelissa, as the leader, said, “I think I should go first. I propose that we come up with a Plan B as soon as possible, and execute it with all immediacy. The plan we sent to the rogues took too long to execute. Had we brought the plan forward, the rogues would’ve gotten the work done before the... infiltration...happened. We were hoping that you’d have some form of connections to get the job done, your Grace.”

Livia then asked, “The plan is to kill the wolf now, right?”

Greg’s hand supporting his chin balled into a tight fist, and he kept picturing Lucianne in his head to restrain his growling animal that was trying to push itself forward.

Kelissa glanced at Greg before she showed her cousin a fake smile and said, “Let’s leave death aside for now. We were hoping that you’d have some kind of resources, your Grace. We could consider something less—”

Livia butted in again, “I don’t get why death should be left aside. The wolf is marked. The only way to get to your end goal now is to kill her. Do you need her alive for some reason?”

The Duke thought this was a perfect time to start a front-row seat soap opera, so he turned to Kelissa and asked with a taunting smile, “Are you going to tell her?”

Livia’s eyes widened when she asked, “Tell me what?”

Kelissa scowled at Greg but the Duke was not going to take back what he just said. Livia repeated her question, louder and fiercer this time. She earned a glare from her uncle and aunt but she couldn’t care less.

Next to her, Sasha smirked when she caught on, and she said, “You were promised the wolf, weren’t you, your Grace? That’s why the heiress is also pinned on keeping her alive.”

Greg was impressed that, of all people, the dumb blonde got the answer. “So, there is a brain in that head of yours, Cummings. Bravo.”

Livia’s eyes turned onyx, and her hard stare was on Kelissa when she gritted her teeth and said, “You promised that he was MINE.”

Kelissa was unperturbed as she responded, “If the circumstances change, our plans have to change with it. The end goal comes first, Livia.”

Livia scoffed darkly and added, “You think you can just overrule everyone and sweep away what the rest of us were promised when we decided to help you? You think you can make us fall in line and you think you know everything? Well, let me tell you something you don’t know: Sasha already bought Oleander from the rogue Alpha, saying that it was to kill Seb when it is actually to kill YOU after you tore the wolf away from the King!”

“LIV!” Sasha exclaimed in shock at her secret coming out from her confidant’s mouth.

Greg muttered in amusement, “Ooo...plot twist.” Well, not for him since he eavesdropped on everyone’s conversations in the house. 3

Kelissa hissed, “Shut up, your Grace! Just because my promise to you remains intact, it doesn’t mean you have to flaunt it.”

Greg’s sharp hearing picked up something not far away from the other side of the door but from the blank looks on everyone else’s faces, he concluded that he was the only one who heard those sounds. So, he played dumb and responded to the fuming Kelissa, “Flaunt? Heh! Kylon, get real. You’ve already decided to kill Lucianne. And you already backstabbed me when you sent the rogue to forcibly mark the Qu-”

“Wolf.” Kelissa insisted, her eyes showing some onyx shades despite her parents’ surprised looks when Greg mentioned things that were not discussed with any advisor.

Greg raised his eyebrows at the heiress’s interruption, and reminded himself that he was going to be there for only another few more minutes at most. The Duke gritted his teeth, and said in a low voice, “If you read the news properly, Kylton, you’d know that she is one of us now. She’s a Lycan. She’s the Lycan Queen.” At that very moment, the door fell off its hinges as it burst open.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina’s Pen Chapter 184

Chapter 184

Kelissa, Lady Kylton, Sasha and Livia screamed as everyone got up and backed away from the door. In walk Lucianne with black and onyx orbs in a white, knee-length dress. How did she find them? And where were their guards?! 2

Policemen stormed in and pointed guns at the people in the room, making the Kyltons and the others raise their hands above their heads as they trembled in fear and shock. They were still stunned when they were being cuffed. Only Greg was spared.

Lucianne scanned their faces, and locked eyes with Greg, who raised his hands with the others as well, and without a word or smile, she gave him a firm nod, prompting him to come forward.

He obliged, lowering his hands and approaching her, utterly relieved that she got here sooner than he expected. Then again, this was Lucianne. His cousins would have been an entirely different story. Strategizing itself would have taken them forever!

Livia grew worried about what was going to be done to Greg but she couldn't find it in herself to move, speak or scream. She was petrified Livia was about to break down in tears when Greg was two steps away from Lucianne but what the bed warmer witnessed next shocked her to the core.

Greg knelt on one knee before Lucianne without being asked or commanded, held his head low and uttered in devotion, "My Queen."

Lucianne asked rhetorically, "You sent word, your Grace?"

"WHAT?!" Kelissa exclaimed before the policewoman behind her nudged the gun against the back of her head, asking her to shut u

With his eyes still pinned to the ground, Greg tried not to be bothered by the fact that Lucianne's scent was now mixed with his cousin's when he uttered, "I did. I apologize that the message couldn't be sent sooner, your Highness."

"No apology necessary, your Grace. Stand." Lucianne thrust out a hand in his way. Literally everyone looked at her small hand in disbelief, including Greg himself.

The Duke took a good three seconds before reaching out and taking it. But before Lucianne could pull him up like she would an ally, he pecked a soft, formal kiss on the back. Only after that, he rose and stood before her.

Lucianne continued to stare at the perpetrators of the crimes she and her people had been fighting off for years. Then, surprisingly enough, she asked Greg, "Is there anything I should know, your Grace?"

With an arm stretched across his chest as a sign of loyal service, he offered her a slight bow and uttered, "I've implanted several recording

devices around the house, my Queen. I'm hoping you'll allow me to collect them for you."

"That would be helpful. Any requests with regards to these people? Anything I should know before I torture an ally that you may have here?"

Greg kept his bow as he said, "I have none here, my Queen. But, with your permission, I'd like her." His head motioned to Tanner before he added when his head motioned to Livia, "And her."

Lucianne took a second before she said, "The one who blackmailed an employee after sending an assassin after a child, and the bed warmer." She scoffed darkly before she asked, "What's the request, your Grace?"

Upon detecting the suppressed anger in Lucianne's voice, Greg fell on one knee again as he spoke, "I plead with you to let me have them, my Queen. This doesn't concern anything related to intercourse, I give you my word."

"Look at me, your Grace."

Greg looked up and locked eyes with her without question. Lucianne studied his eyes, and saw that they were partially onyx as well. Predatory, which matched her own. Not knowing what to expect, Lucianne uttered, "Whatever it is, I need them alive and

conscious when you're done." "As you wish, my Queen." Greg took her hand and pecked another formal kiss on the back before getting up and striding towards Livia

Livia was certain that the onyx in Greg's eyes weren't lust but pure rage! She tried to run but the policewoman behind her held her in place and

told her to freeze. Tears were streaming down her cheeks as she sobbed and whimpered.

Upon the Queen's affirmative nod, the policewoman uncuffed Livia and moved away from her. Greg growled as he pushed Livia's head against the wall, making a distinct crack on the concrete. When Greg started breaking her limbs with no remorse, Livia screamed her lungs out. The sound of bone-cracking made her cousin and the others quiver in fear but Lucianne and every other police person in the room remained emotionless.

After Greg flung her body against the wall a few more times, he lifted her off the ground by her neck with one hand. His onyx eyes bore into hers as his hand fractured her neck painfully slowly. She whimpered but he didn't care. He threw her body to the floor

before he told the policewoman, "Cuff her, please."

Greg didn't want Livia to heal completely. Only when Lucianne gave the policewoman a nod to Greg's request did she do just that, and Tanner knew she was next. Despite being held at gunpoint, she tried to make a run for it only to be pulled back by her shoulder. Greg stood before her, and his infuriated eyes burned into her fearful ones while the policewoman uncuffed her. He growled, "I TOLD you to do nothing."

The second the cuffs came loose with the sound of a click, Greg threw her body at the marble coffee table, which broke into two upon the impact. Greg then flung her against the wall before he began breaking her bones like he did with Livia. Like Livia, Tanner's screams and cries filled the room. When he was done, Tanner couldn't even get up. She was cuffed again before she even had time to heal.

At that very moment, Toby, Phelton, Juan, Zeke and Zelena walked in with two elderly men, one elderly woman and two young men in cuffs. Toby then said, “Livia Aphael’s parents and Helena Tanner’s husband and sons, Lucy. Tanner’s husband is acting a little... weird.”

The man had cold sweat and was panting like he was just tortured. Lucianne explained, “His mate was thrashed. He just felt whatever she felt. It’s nothing.”

“Ah. That makes sense.” Toby responded casually

When the Aphaels saw their daughter’s battered body and terror-struck expression, Mrs Aphael broke down and started screaming. like a madwoman as Mi Aphael started shouting at his in-laws, demanding an explanation.

Lucianne walked up to them and asked, “Are you saying that you have no idea what the people in this house have been doing, Mr and Mrs Aphael?”

What are you talking about?! What did you do to my daughter?!” Mr Aphael cried.

Greg growled and said in a low voice, “Watch your tongue in the presence of the Queen. I did this. Your daughter had been warnedt O NEVER hurt the Queen. YOUR DAUGHTER ASKED FOR THIS!”

Mrs Aphael yelled at Greg, “My daughter would never hurt a fly! What have you done to her?!” Greg yelled back, “NOTHING SHE DIDN’T DESERVE! SHE PLOTTED AGAINST THE QUEEN!”

Lord Kylton shouted, “SO DID YOU!”

Lucianne growled, “ENOUGH!” She locked eyes with the Aphaels and said, “Your daughter is far from innocent, and what the Duke did to her was done in service of the Crown. Treason is punishable by death or eternal torture. We are just getting started with her. You’d best pray we don’t find anything showing your involvement as well.”

The Aphaels’ mouths opened but before they could speak again, Greg and Lucianne growled at them in unison before the Queen spat, “Another word, and your daughter would leave this room in a worse condition than she’s in now. Is that clear?”

They sealed their mouths in resentment for their daughter’s sake. Lucianne then stepped forward, and her tone demanded an answer when she asked, “Is. That. Clear?”

Toby extended a claw on each hand, and the tip of both claws touched each of the Aphaels’ throats when he ordered in a low voice, “Answer the Queen.”

The couple gritted their teeth and muttered in Lucianne’s way, “Yes.”

“‘Yes’ what?” Greg asked, and moved closer to the fear-stricken, quivering Livia. He extended his own claws, and pressed them on Livia’s neck.

Like the Kyltons, the Aphaels were never forced against their will. How dare these wolves and that outcast of a Duke make them oblige a small-sized, low-born wolf! But for their precious Livia, they swallowed their pride and uttered, “Yes, my Queen.”

“YOU’RE NOT THE QUEEN! I AM! I AM!” Kelissa’s fear evaporated, replaced with anger when even her own uncle and aunt addressed the scum of a wolf by that title, HER title! Apart from Kelissa’s own crew,

everyone growled at her, Greg being one of the loudest and most barbaric.

Lucianne scoffed as she turned to face the heiress, and asked with an arrogant smirk, “Are you ?” 1

Kelissa then spat, “You will never wear the Crown! You will never be Queen! I will NEVER kneel before you! YOU ARE THE ONE WHO WILL KNEEL BEFORE ME!”

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 185

Chapter 185

When the second round of growls followed, Lucianne laughed hysterically for a short moment before her black and onyx eyes turned sapphire, and her Authority radiated from her being. It was the first time Greg felt that energy from her, and it felt magnificent! In fact, it felt stronger than the late King Lucas's Authority! Everything about Lucianne was just so... different. 1

Lucianne directed her Authority at Kelissa, compelling her to kneel. Kelissa felt something from Lucianne but she didn't know what it was. Suddenly, her legs gave way, and she fell on both knees, her head was forced down as Lucianne stood right in front of her, allowing the heiress a good view of her white stilettos. 2

When Lucianne decided that she had made her point, her human eye color returned, and she asked Phelton to escort Greg to fetch all the recording devices scattered in the residence. Greg approached the deputy minister, and extracted one of the devices from under the couch before handing it to Phelton as they left the room together.

Even when Lucianne's Authority wasn't radiating anymore, the heiress was still stuck to the ground. Neither Kelissa's body nor her head could move. It was getting uncomfortable. A few more inches lower and her neck may break.

Sasha, who was compelled by the King's Authority before, recognised the compulsion, and she muttered, "No, it's not possible."

Lucianne walked towards Sasha as she ordered, "Uncuff this one."

As soon as the Oleander cuffs came off, Lucianne threw a blow in Sasha's face, making her slump against the wall. How dare this low-life of a wolf punch her like that?! Sasha's rage took over, and she pushed herself off the wall before she charged at Lucianne. Lucianne waited for the minister's daughter to charge towards her before stepping to the side and tripping her, making Sasha fall to the ground with a loud thud.

Lucianne then noted aloud, "It seems that prison walls can't hold you, Ms Cummings."

Sasha got back up, and tried to land a few punches on Lucianne, who easily dodged her efforts with crossed-arms as she continued speaking, "You know, I've had so many opportunities to kill you, Sasha, and so many reasons to do it but I never did it."

Lucianne blocked Sasha's punch with a firm grip over her fist, and started cracking the bones there before Sasha's other hand came to attempt to land another blow, which Lucianne also blocked as she started cracking the bones in that one, too. Sasha let out an agonizing scream as she tried to retract her fists but to no avail.

"Prison would have kept you safe and alive but you had to come out, didn't you? It's time I stopped giving you chances, Ms Cummings. This

ends here. But don't worry, the death sentence I'm offering you is the easy way out." Sasha's animal was surfacing, and Lucianne threw Sasha, face down, against the floor.

The sharp tip of Lucianne's stiletto plunged through Sasha's nape. The heel went right through her neck and broke the bone there, making drops of blood splatter on Lucianne's leg and the lower part of her white dress. As she moved away from Sasha's lifeless body, Toby muttered to himself, "Hm. So that's why she chose to wear heels for this occasion."

The rest of the alliance and policemen came in with the Kyltons' twelve bodyguards who tried to flee as soon as they saw the magnitude of the attack against their employers. Christian and Xandar came in last, and the King made a beeline for his Queen

right after Lucianne made Kelissa stand and lift her head up with her Authority.

Xandar's eyes zoomed in on the splattered blood on her dress and legs, and he grabbed her arms to turn her to face him as he exclaimed in worry, "Baby! What did I say about being careful?! Are you hurt?"

Lucianne heard the palpitations of his heart, and she furrowed her eyebrows at his unnecessary panic before saying matter-of-factly, "No, Xandar. You'd know that."

Realization hit him that their emotions were interwoven, and he didn't feel any pain when he was away from Lucianne so she couldn't have been hurt. His animal cooed at the thought of being bound to the amazing creature before them forever, and his heart rate steadied. His human part locked eyes with her and muttered in bliss, "Mm. That's true."

He looked at her dress again. The blood still bothered him, so Lucianne casually explained, "This was just from impaling Sasha Cummings's

neck with my heel, darling. She's dead now. And I let Greg beat up Livia Aphael and Helena Tanner, by the way." 1

Xandar glanced at Sasha's lifeless body before he nodded in acknowledgement and muttered, "It's about time." A sweet peck on her temple, and he said, "Well done, my little freesia. We'll get you some new shoes later, okay?" Lucianne nodded dotingly, making her beast smile with radiance as he nuzzled her nose to elicit her soft and shy giggle. 1

Lucianne cupped his face to stop him from going any further, and that was when Xandar realized that her hand smelled different. He took her hand, and gave his mate a puzzled look. Lucianne shrugged and, with her doe eyes, said, "Greg. Just two formal pecks, darling."

Lucianne felt his jealousy and insecurity before Xandar started sucking on her hand, wiping his cousin's scent off and leaving his

own there. When he was satisfied, he uttered, "There. All better now."

Lucianne rolled her eyes despite her increasingly-visible blushes, and said, "We still have a few things to deal with, my King, Let's stay focused."

With nothing but affection, he responded, "As you wish, my Queen."

Both their smiles faltered when their sights converged on Kelissa, who just stood there like a statue as tears of anger streamed down her cheeks. Xandar then said in a low voice, "I have to say, I'm impressed that you're containing yourself, Kylton."

Lucianne then clarified, “Oh, that’s me, darling. I used the Authority to mute her and make her stand still. Here, let me get rid of it.” Lucianne removed her Authority over Kelissa with a blink of her eyes.

Once the Authority was lifted, the heiress’s stiff body came loose, and she hissed, “You could only do that because of Xand-.”

Xandar’s voice was low when he growled and said, “My mate can do just fine on her own. And I am your King. You WILL address me by my title.”

Kelissa’s eyes of despair met Xandar’s onyx orbs when she said, “She can’t be Queen, X-”

Xandar growled and pinned Kelissa’s neck to the wall, which was when Greg and Phelton returned. Greg noticed Sasha’s body, and actually felt lighter knowing that she was dead, unable to hurt Lucianne again. He wondered who killed her, and while everyone was staring at his cousin attacking the heiress, Greg’s investigative eyes traced the trail of bloodstains on the light carpet to Lucianne’s stiletto, and he smiled to himself.

Kelissa’s hands tried to pull Xandar’s fingers away but to no avail. He was too strong. So, while her air supply was running out, her hand reached out to touch his cheek, making Xandar growl again before throwing her body at the cabinet of ornaments, shattering the glass casing. He then wiped off the sensation that Kelissa’s touch left on his cheek with his sleeve in haste, like her touch carried a transmittable virus. Lucianne could feel his disgust and his animal’s anger at what the heiress just did. 1

His homicidal tone sent a shiver down everyone’s spines when he declared, “NO ONE can touch me but MY MATE.”

Lady Kylton then pleaded, “Your Highness, please. Don’t hurt her! She’s innocent!”

“Innocent?” Greg scoffed, “She led the conspiracy to send rogues to attack the Queen on more than one occasion, discreetly asking the rogue Alpha to mark her against her will and you’re calling that piece of dirt an innocent?”

Upon hearing that, Xandar flung Kelissa’s body against another cabinet. The glass shattered all over her body like the first.

Lord Kylton then shouted at Greg, “YOU’RE PART OF THE CONSPIRACY, YOU SCUM! AND YOU TOLD CUMMINGS ABOUT US WHEN SHE WANTED TO SENT ROGUES TO THE JEWEL PACK! YOU MADE THAT CALL THAT SENT THEM THERE!” All eyes converged on Greg.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina’s Pen Chapter 186

Chapter 186

Greg didn’t deny it. The Duke only locked eyes with Lucianne, and he averted his guilty gaze before falling on both knees and uttered, “I have no excuse, my Queen. I welcome any punishment for my behavior and misdeeds.”

Dalloway was ready to cuff the Duke. Xandar dropped Kelissa before he started taking large strides towards the cousin he hated to the core. But Lucianne’s hand gesture stopped them both. Her response to Greg was firm and immediate, “Your situation involves a very complicated set of circumstances, your Grace. We’ll deal with you later. To prevent any

further interruptions, I need you to follow Deputy Chief Laurent back to the station for further questioning.”

“As you wish, my Queen.” Greg uttered in obedience, and got up to follow the Deputy Chief ready to escort him out.

Xandar’s murderous eyes followed Greg until he was out of sight. His animal then reminded him about the creature they were thrashing before they were interrupted. Xandar returned to Kelissa. He breathed heavily as he growled, “You. Also. Hurt. MY MATE. “Another growl, and he began thrashing Kelissa again as he declared, “NO ONE CAN HURT MY MATE! NO ONE!” 1

Lady Kylton pleaded, “Your Highness, please. In the name of our friendship with your late parents, we beg you to let our daughter go! Please!”

It was as if Xandar didn’t hear her, and he lifted Kelissa up only to throw her across the room. Her body slammed against the wall and fell onto the floor right in front of her parents. Not accustomed to being tossed around like she was nothing, Kelissa was finding it difficult to push herself off the floor.

Lord Kylton then yelled at Lucianne, “ARE YOU BLIND?! CONTROL YOUR MATE! HE CAN BE CHARGED FOR GRIEVOUS BODILY HARM FOR THIS!!”

Lucianne’s eyes bumed into the Lord’s, and she asked, “Finally admitting that he’s MY mate now?” The possessiveness in her voice pulled Xandar’s heartstrings, cooling his anger. The Lycan King turned his attention away from Kelissa as he gravitated towards his Queen

Lucianne continued, “And grievous bodily harm? Really? What about what you did to my people?! My species?! You’ve been slaughtering my kind and my friends for more than a decade! You want to talk about grievous bodily harm when you have murder on your hands?!” The wolves growled in support. . *

In the midst of that showdown, Kelissa’s soft voice came from the side, “Please, my King, for old time’s sake, let me go. I’ve never meant to hurt you, I just...”

Xandar and Lucianne scowled at the heiress as the King growled and the Queen declared, “Stop trying to get my mate to help you, Kelissa! If he wanted to do that, he would’ve done it by now! Maybe you haven’t heard but we’re engaged.” Lucianne lifted her hand and showed-off the ring on her finger before she growled, “He’s MINE.” 2

The corners of Xandar’s lips curled upwards at her sexy ferocity, and he took her hand before pecking a deep kiss on Lucianne’s fingers, placing her palm on his cheek to get rid of any stench that Kelissa left there earlier,

Lucianne continued to speak to Kelissa in her venomous voice, “You sent a rogue to mark me by force while asking his men to harm MY mate.” Her voice choked a little when she continued, “Xandar almost died because of what you did, because of the Oleander you had them use! You’re a complete BUFFOON TO THINK WE’LL LET YOU GET AWAY WITH THIS!”

Kelissa’s eyes widened. She was dumbfounded. What did the wolf mean? She only told Jake to mark Lucianne and make a light scratch on Xandar while he shielded Lucianne. How did the scratch turn into something so serious?

“You’re lying.” Kelissa spat meekly.

Lucianne’s black and onyx eyes turned sapphire, and Xandar released her hand that was on his cheek. He stepped back as he watched her in pride. Her energy was daunting but also energizing. Despite Kelissa’s broken bones which were still in the midst of healing, she was compelled to endure the anguish as she stood with submissiveness to the Queen’s Authority. Her screams and cries did not make Lucianne any more merciful.

Lady Kylton pleaded in tears, “STOP IT! PLEASE, STOP! USE ME! USE ME! LEAVE MY DAUGHTER ALONE!”

When Lucianne didn’t even bat an eyelash, Lord Kylton yelled, “STOP IT, YOU SCUM OF A WOLF! YOU—”

Xandar growled, emitted his own Authority to mute the Lord and Lady before he said, “Unless my fiancée requires a response, you are expected to keep your mouths SHUT.” His vicious eyes bore into their frightened ones as he declared, “And when she requires a response, you WILL address her as your Queen.”

Lucianne’s low voice captured everyone’s attention when she asked Kelissa, “Did you send Jake to mark me?”

Despite her efforts to remain silent, she was compelled to answer. “Yes.”

“Did you send rogues to kill my mate?”

“No.”

“How do you explain the Oleander blades?!”

“I don’t know what happened there. My instruction to them was to make the slightest scratch on the King’s arm while he protected you, my Q-Qu-Queen.”

“And what was the point of that if it wasn’t to kill the King?”

“T-To cause a s-scandal, to make it a point that you were a l-liability to the King so that p-public uproar and detest would p-persuade the King to...reject you.”

Lucianne’s rage rivalled Xandar’s own as his hands went protectively around her shoulders while Lucianne removed her Authority to let Kelissa fall. Xandar then spat, “You’re an idiotic imbecile to think that I would ever let my mate go. Even if I gave up the throne and everything else in my life, I would NEVER reject her. I’d BEG her to stay if that’s what it took to keep her in my life.”

After pecking a kiss on Lucianne’s temple, he whispered ‘Let me into her ear. Lucianne had no idea what he intended to do but those words were enough to stop her from stopping him. Xandar approached Kelissa and emitted his own Authority. She stood in agony once more.

Xandar then said, “Hiring a bast*rd to take away someone I was making mine was a mistake, Kylton. Thankfully, my mate had the Queen’s Authority to stop that sh*t of a rogue you sent before he did anything. And do you know what I did to the rogue after that? Let me show you.”

He forced Kelissa’s animal to show its canines, and her breathing hastened when Xandar’s hand reached for her animal’s teeth, which he pulled out with force, making Kelissa scream her lungs out but to everyone’s surprise, she was muted. Xandar threw her canines on the floor before he glared at the heiress and declared, “That’s what I did to Jake. You’d do well to remember it.”

Lord and Lady Kylton looked like they were screaming too. Their faces turned red and their eyes drenched in tears despite being voiceless but no one gave a damn. Xandar's eyes only softened when he returned to his mate's side like a good pup before lifting up her hands to kiss them, and he asked, "Shall we send them to prison now, my love?"

She looked at him with her doe eyes and nodded with a small smile. As Xandar kissed her temple, Lucianne warned Kelissa, "If you try to escape police custody as Sasha did, I'll end your life the same way I ended hers, only slower. Much slower. Do I make myself clear, Kelissa?"

Kelissa trembled in fear as she nodded without hesitation.

"Good." Lucianne smirked, and Xandar gave Dalloway the okay to take the hostages back to prison.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 187

Chapter 187

The whole weekend was a busy one for the police force. They clocked in extra hours to interrogate the Kyltons, Tanners, Aphaels, the Kyltons' guards and Greg.

When Greg surrendered the hidden camera footage he made eighteen years ago when he colluded with the ex-ministers now behind bars and Tanner, they found that Greg never 'coerced' any of them to join him. From the looks of it, they were all extremely enthusiastic to go behind the monarchy's back.

While some policemen interrogated the crooks, others played the recordings on the devices Greg implanted all over the Kyltons' mansion, transcribing everything for their Highnesses.

The third team of policemen scoured through the database they found in the Kyltons' home. In it, they found transactions, names, and most importantly, locations of suppliers of illegal substances and weaponry. It didn't take very long before one of Dalloway's subordinates requested permission to investigate these areas, which the Chief granted after reminding his people to exercise the highest level of caution

A week after arresting the Kyltons and the others, the police delivered their report from the interrogation sessions, and the team was back in Xandar's office once again. As the monarch, the royal family was constitutionally permitted to submit a recommendation to the Attorney-General's Chambers and to the courts as to how they wanted certain criminals to be dealt with. Whether their recommendations would be followed through depends on the prosecutors and the judges for the case. In the past, such recommendations were given some consideration but that wasn't always the case.

Everyone was there to discuss what the monarch should recommend. It was easy for most of those they arrested in the Kyltons' residence, except for one: Greg.

The Duke's story to Deputy Chief Laurent was this: A few months after Xandar ascended the throne, Greg was approached by a Lycan who called himself Han. Han claimed to represent someone anti-government, and he offered Greg a way to get back at his cousins. Greg asked for the identity of his employer but Han said that they wanted to remain anonymous. He then showed Greg his own criminal record to prove that he wasn't sent by the government. Greg looked him up, and it turns out he was legit, being an ex smuggler of dangerous substances. Arrested, indicted and served his sentence.

Blinded by his lust for revenge, Greg accepted the offer and rounded up the ministers and Tanner, and they put the plan into action. Greg claimed to have never seen Han again after the first transaction went through

smoothly. He never knew he was working with the Kyltons, which was believable with the conversation recorded in the Kyltons dining room. Lord Kylton made it clear during that conversation that Greg never spoke to him or Lady Kylton in any of his past transactions. And Dalloway's men got Greg to describe Han, which he did, and they found a profile match in their old archive.

Laurent then got him to explain how he ended up in the Kyltons' residence, so he gave his account of events on the night Livia came to his casino. As expected, Laurent asked for the location and ordered an immediate infiltration of the casino, only to find it empty and deserted. Upon being questioned, the Duke said he had no clue where the people there had gone. When Lucianne asked Dalloway about Greg's demeanor, the Chief said that the Duke exemplified a creature who was telling the truth.

Despite Greg's ignorance of working with the Kyltons and of the empty casino, there was no denying that he had committed numerous crimes. So, the question remains: how should he be punished?

Tate argued, "If it's true that he sent the rogues to the Jewel Pack, I don't see why he shouldn't be given the highest form of punishment."

Toby lifted up his copy of the report and said, "Maybe it's because he was just the middleman who made the call? I mean, according to this, Sasha Cummings was the one who came up with the idea. The Duke merely h -"

"Does it matter?!" Zelena shouted from across the table.

"It does, actually." Lucianne's cool voice caught everyone's attention. She was on Xandar's lap with his arms secured around her abdomen, pressing her back to his chest because the King was finding it very difficult to remain calm while they discussed the contents of the report.

He read it the previous night, and lost his temper twice before Lucianne decided that it was better for her to be in his embrace as she stroked his hand while they read the document together.

Lucianne explained, “If Greg didn’t come up with the idea and merely did what Sasha got him to do, then he was only an accomplice. Sasha was the perpetrator.”

Tate argued again, “If he hadn’t made the call, she wouldn’t have been able to send those bast*ards to the Jewel Pack, Lucy!”

“Are you sure about that, Tate?” Lucianne asked, which got everyone thinking before the Queen added, “I’m definitely not. Sasha was mad. She was infuriated and...insane. If Greg hadn’t helped her, I doubt she’d just abort her plan and leave me unharmed. She would find someone else to get the job done. And from whatever the bartender eavesdropped through the door on the night Greg and Sasha had a drink together, it seems he was trying to get her to pull the brakes. But...” Lucianne sighed as she continued,”

There’s also the fact that he made it possible for Wu Bi Corp to exist and flourish; for former ministers and the head of the National Audit Department to siphon government funds; and he confessed to... sterilizing the Duchess.”

That last item did not sit well with any of them. On the previous night, Christian growled so loudly that the kids had to be hidden while Annie tried to calm her husband. He was ready to storm to the police station and tear Greg apart but Annie pulled him back, begging him to not do anything rash. His eyes had been onyx since then, and he was anything but cheerful during the meeting.

With Annie on his lap, Christian then said in a low voice, “Sterilized with the same poison that was then used on you, my Queen, because of what he shared with the now dead Cummings.”

“I didn’t know that was Sasha’s pitch, Christian. I assumed it was Kelissa who came up with the idea to render me infertile. I didn’t kill Sasha because of that. And I kept Kelissa alive despite thinking she’d done it.” Lucianne clarified.

Christian then said in despair, “I know that. It’s just... how can you even think of forgiving Greg after everything he did? He put the idea into her head, and she used it against you. My Queen, you wanted children.”

Xandar’s breathing got heavy, too. His grip around his mate tightened as he buried his nose in her hair. Lucianne tried her best to not be swayed by his bubbling inferno or her own loss, and said, “It’s not a question of forgiveness right now, at least not yet. Forgiveness is personal. In our professional capacity in the service of the Kingdom, we have to...find a balanced solution.”

Everyone’s hard looks showed discontent and dissatisfaction by the fact that they would not be able to go all out on the other Duke. Xandar then said, “Baby, listen. I get that you want to go a little easier on Greg but let’s face it, we have every reason to commit him to the highest degree of punishment.”

She locked eyes with her mate and said sternly, “Only if you ignored what he had been doing for us in recent weeks, Xandar. Have you forgotten that he was the very reason the justice system had ample evidence to put those ministers behind bars?”

“He **STARTED** the corruption, sweetheart.” Xandar noted ferociously, his voice getting louder.

Lucianne challenged her mate with equally fierce eyes and tone, “And he ENDED it, my King. Are you saying that doesn’t matter? At all?” Silence ensued and she continued, “You very well know we were hitting a dead end with the corrupt ministers. The audits Ellia gave us were flimsy because they were in hard copies, hidden for almost two decades. It wasn’t possible to authenticate those. The court was ready to throw it out as suspicious evidence. Even if we got Ellia and the others to testify, there was a chance that the sentencing wouldn’t be as heavy as it now is. Greg’s evidence came in a chip, and it was authenticated with ease. The strength of the evidence he handed over put those people he colluded with behind bars. Now, he’s even given himself up.”

Xandar argued, “If I remember correctly, we arrested him, Lucy. He couldn’t run.”

Lucianne’s eyebrows raised as she questioned him, “Do you really believe that? Do you really think he couldn’t get out of anywhere if he wanted to? How do you explain his impeccable disappearance for the past couple of weeks? And if he wanted to run, why didn’t he do just that right after sending us the location of the Kyltons’ residence? Why did he wait for us to get there to bring him back with us?”

Xandar averted his eyes and breathed in anger because he wasn’t able to answer her. No one could answer Lucianne, or argue against her. She turned to face everyone and said, “We only have him now because he is giving himself up. I don’t know why he’s doing it but if there isn’t a balanced indictment for Greg, then every other criminal lurking in the dark corners of the Kingdom would never see the point in leaving their ways and coming to us. We CAN’T have that. We can’t disregard the help that a criminal has given to the government and the monarchy. Omitting to take their contribution into account amounts to a form of punishment that is greater than torture, greater than any punishment that can be imposed by the law.”

“What’s that? What can be greater than torture or death?” Juan asked the question running through everyone’s minds.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina’s Pen Chapter 188

Chapter 188

Lucianne’s eyes met her brother’s, and she declared, “Betrayal.”

The room started to simmer down. Lucianne knew that word better than anyone else there. Every bond-snap before she met Xandar was excruciating. She felt the anguish from the rejections and the betrayal from two of her past mates. She also felt betrayed by the Moon Goddess, who was not supposed to hurt her if she didn’t do anything wrong, and who was not supposed to bond her to creatures who would hurt her. On many nights, she wished that she would just wake up dead. It was no secret that it took her many weeks and even months before she started being okay again. 1

Every creature in the room was really listening now. Lucianne went on, “Torture and death are merely a consequence of betrayal. We punish criminals because they betrayed the system and its people. We take care of creatures who display loyalty to defend the system and the people in it.”

With suppressed anger, Christian noted, “Greg doesn’t fit into the second category, my Queen’

“Are you saying he fits perfectly well into the first, Christian?” Lucianne asked

Like Xandar, Christian averted his eyes from her because he couldn’t deny that Greg had been helping them. After taking a deep breath, he

stared at the table and asked, “So, what do we do? What should we put in the monarchy’s recommendation?”

Lucianne’s voice turned soft and doubtful when she uttered, “I don’t know. But there’s no way he should be let-off scot free.”

Toby then suggested, “Lower prison sentence? Maybe lighter punishments, too? You know, less whipping compared to the rest?”

“We could also strip him of his dukedom.” Xandar said, and when all eyes fell on him, he only locked his onyx orbs on his mate and explained, “No royal member in history has ever had their title stripped from them. The punishment is severe enough to make up for what he did.”

“And what’s the balancing factor?” Lucianne asked

Xandar responded, “Lower sentencing?”

“How low?” Lucianne’s eyes burned into his when she detected that he had no intention to balance things out.

Xandar breathed heavily in jealousy before his murderous onyx eyes fixed on Lucianne as he asked in a slow, low voice, “Why are you defending him?”

Registering his jealousy, Lucianne emitted a low, angered growl and declared, “Because it’s what’s right. He helped us. Throwing him under the bus does NOT serve the Kingdom in the long-run. If you even THINK that I’m doing this because I am in love with him, I’d suggest you check the mark on your neck AND mine, your Highness.”

His hand immediately moved to gently push her hair to the back, and his fingers traced the mark he made on the most beautiful and amazing

creature in the Kingdom. She was his. Only his. The sight calmed him, and the sensation he made on her skin calmed

her

Between his calamity, he felt something else. Hurt. But that wasn't his emotion. When his partially lilac eyes returned to Lucianne's teary orbs, she spoke in a whisper, "How could you not trust me to stay with you? How could you even think that I would want someone else? We've marked each other. Should I be worried that you would want someone else despite what I did on your neck?"

He instantly pressed her into his chest and uttered, "No. Never. There'll only ever be you." After planting a deep kiss on her hairline, he muttered, "I'm sorry, baby, I'm so sorry." Her hurt cut right through him, and his animal was having a hard time coping with their mate's pain knowing that they were the ones who caused it.

After a few quiet, awkward moments, Annie's voice rang through the room, "Stripping the dukedom may be taking it too far" Her statement even made her own mate surprised, Annie went on to say, "It's like Lucy said. He helped us. He did a lot of unforgivable things in the past but what he has been doing recently...changes things. The severity of our recommendation should probably weigh in how sorry he feels about everything he did.

Christian pinched the bridge of his nose and spoke to his Duchess as gently as he could to avoid starting a scene like his cousin," How are we supposed to assess how sorry one is, Annie? There's no scale for that."

Annie then challenged her husband, "Do you mean there's no scale, or that you don't want to believe that there is one?"

That hit Christian Like Xandar, he didn't want anything but the worst for Greg, The Duke sighed, and pecked a kiss on his Duchess's temple before reluctantly asking, "What's the scale?"

Annie answered without hesitation, "His demeanor. By watching the way Greg speaks about everything he has done, we'll be able to know if he's being sincere, or if this is just a tactical move." She locked eyes with Lucianne, and suggested, "Maybe you should

talk to him, Lucy."

"NO F*CKING WAY!" Xandar exclaimed, and instinctively wrapped Lucianne even tighter in his chest, like someone would snatch her away if he didn't hold her close enough.

Lucianne's rage returned when she tried to loosen his grip as she asked her mate, "Why?! Because I'll leave you once I see him?!"

Christian answered before his cousin could, "Because there are other people who can do that, my Queen!"

"Like who?!" Annie challenged

Christian responded to his wife in haste, "ME! AND HIM!" He motioned at Xandar.

Seemingly out of nowhere, Toby muttered to himself, "That plan is doomed to failure."

"I have the King's Authority, Toby. I can make him answer anything I want." Xandar declared.

Juan spoke, "That's the problem, Xandar." When all eyes were on the Alpha, Juan explained, "Assuming that the King's Authority is like the

Alpha's Authority, emotions are a key element in emitting and maneuvering the power. Given how much you loathe that other Duke, your anger may suppress any apologetic statement that Greg Claw may make."

Xandar looked at Juan in disbelief and asked, "You're taking my cousin's side over your sister's? After everything that he's done to her?"

"I'm on my sister's side. And from whatever we've learned from this," he lifted up the report before placing it back on the table and said, "I'd say the only thing he did to Lucy of his own accord was piss her off in the dining hall and on the training ground. Although I was pushing for him to be punished because he gave Sasha Cummings access to the rogues, Lucy has convinced me that...Cummings may have been able to find an alternative way to contact them. And Greg's intentions seemed to have changed later on, especially when this report said that he attacked Helena Tanner in her own house after the Oleander blade she ordered hurt Lucy, albeit unintentionally."

When a short moment of silence followed, Juan added, "This in no way makes me forgive him for his involvement in the Jewel . Pack attack. All I'm saying is that a balanced indictment is...fair. And to see how far we should tip the scale in his favor, we should see whether he'll return to his old ways if and when he is released from prison."

"And you propose that your sister be the one to talk to him?" Xandar asked in dissatisfaction

Juan uttered, "Yes, not just because her emotions would be in check should she need to use the Queen's Authority but also because your cousin seems to only want to tell her anything. The computer chip for the corruption, the location of the founders of Wu Bi Corp...he addressed the messages to HER."

“Because...he’s in love with her.” Xandar’s onyx eyes were a shade darker when he said what everyone else was afraid of saying. Everyone read the report, which had transcripts of recorded conversations in the Kyltons’ residence, and the gossip confirmed Greg’s feelings for the future Queen.

Juan knew that was coming, and before his sister could throw a fit again, he said, “I’m not going to lie, Xandar. If it were Hale, I may be reacting much worse than you are right now. But I know Hale wouldn’t love anyone else the way she loves me, so with...probably a lot of persuasion from her, I would let her see Greg on the condition that I go with her. I would want to witness the entire exchange with my own eyes and listen to the way they speak to each other with my own ears. If he puts a claw out of line, I’ll tear him to shreds.”

“That’s true.” Hale muttered with a smile by his side.

Xandar’s eyes moved to Lucianne, and after staring into her hopeful orbs and pondering for a long moment, he planted a deep kiss on her forehead that sent a shower of sparks through Lucianne’s being before he repeated Juan’s words in a low voice, “If he puts a claw out of line, I’ll tear him to shreds.”

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina’s Pen Chapter 189

Chapter 189

Greg was lying in the prison bed with an Oleander bracelet on his right wrist. It was getting boring. How did inmates entertain themselves here? There has to be something’, he thought to himself. He sat up and looked around the small space before hearing heavy footsteps getting closer to his cell. A policeman emerged, unlocked his door and said, “We need

you to be ready in the interrogation room. You have a visit from the Crown.”

Of course he did. As he left his confined space without another word, he was secretly impressed that his cousins got to this phase of facing him in prison in such a short span of time. He and his animal thought the two would take at least a month before the King came down here and used his Authority to make him vomit whatever sh*t there was in his head.

But Greg wasn't worried. He had already told Billy to activate Codes Orange and Black, which would involve the evacuation of everyone under his care and supervision. They would've been safely evacuated by now. Even if that goody-goody cousin of his forced him to spit out whatever he knew, his information would be outdated and useless. His people were safe, and that was all Greg needed for now.

Then again, maybe he didn't come for information. Maybe the other Duke just wanted to kill him for what he did to his Duchess. or maybe the King wanted to beat him up for falling in love with his mate...or it was both.

They reached an empty room with a one-way mirror, and the policeman got him to sit while he waited. He doubted that he'd be able to see Lucianne. After handing over the recordings, his secret that he kept to himself had come out. There was no way his cousins would let the Queen come after the police handed them the report.

He waited for two minutes and started getting bored, so he got up and his back faced the door as he stretched out his body to stop himself from falling asleep. The door opened, and without turning around, he scoffed darkly and spoke in arrogance, “I must say, I'm impressed. Here I thought your slower brain would take more time to...” he turned, and saw a beautiful Lucianne looking straight at him, making Greg's cocky

eyes widened in horror and guilt before he fell on one knee and said, “My Queen. I am so sorry. I convey my most sincere apologies. I thought you were—”

“The King?” Lucianne asked as she remained standing in her navy blue dress.

Greg looked uneasy when he nodded and said, “Or the other Duke... I didn’t think your mate would allow you in here.” What the f*ck were his cousins thinking?! If it were Greg, he’d never allow it.

Lucianne nodded with a flat smile and said, “Well, he wasn’t going to. Have a seat, your Grace.”

‘He wasn’t going to? She argued her way to come here? This had to be important’, Greg thought to himself.

As soon as they were seated facing each other at the small square table, Lucianne’s eyes were pinned on her entwined fingers before Greg asked, “What seems to be troubling you, my Queen?”

Lucianne looked like she was choosing her words carefully. Finally, she spoke, “The monarchy is submitting a recommendation, and we can’t come to a consensus of what we should propose to the legal system without knowing why you chose to...incriminate yourself.”

Greg raised his eyebrows and answered, “Wasn’t that the right thing to do, my Queen?”

Lucianne locked her eyes with his and said, “You very well know that’s not what I meant, your Grace. You could have done this years ago. Why now?”

Why now? She was still asking that despite the recordings? He looked away as he uttered, “I doubt you’ll believe me when I say this but.” he cleared his throat and continued, “It’s...difficult...to not give you what you want.” 1

That answer and his uneasy demeanor were enough to convince everyone watching them that Greg was sincere, that this was NOT a tactical move in some hidden scheme. There was no scheme. His voice echoed only vulnerability.

Lucianne felt her mate’s jealousy building up strong and fast, so she moved on to her next question, “When you helped start the corruption scheme, no doubt not knowing that the Kyltons were the people you were working with, did you feel that it was... wrong?”

Greg heard the hopefulness in her voice. She came to help him. It was so difficult to not fall even harder for her when she did that.

They probably couldn’t reach a consensus on the monarchy’s recommendation because Lucianne somehow hoped that he was sorry for what he did. But Greg knew better.

He looked at the ground when answered her question, “No, I never felt that way. I’m sorry, my Queen.”

Lucianne digested his response before she asked, “You’re sorry for not finding corruption to be wrong?”

“No, I’m sorry for disappointing you.” Greg still couldn’t look her in the eye when he said in a low voice, “I may not agree with my cousins on a lot of things but if they told you that there’s no use in showing me mercy, my Queen, I have to agree with them. I have

done unforgivable things. Everyone knows that.” 2

“You’ve also done commendable things. Not many people know that.” Lucianne said encouragingly, using the voice she only used when she spoke to her friends and allies. Greg never heard her speak to him like that before today.

The Duke looked at Lucianne in disbelief right after she said that, and she continued, “I doubt you wanted the shelter of prison. And you knew that handing over the evidence AND yourself with it would only make your life more difficult than if you chose to run away. But you stayed anyway. And I don’t see any fear in your eyes, your Grace. All I see is certainty in what you’re doing. There’s another thing…”

Greg waited, and she said, “You confessed to giving Annie the infertility poison, even though you could have kept it hidden, even though you could’ve brought that secret to your grave. Confessing to harming the Duchess only makes your situation worse, not better. But you did it anyway.”

“Admitting to crimes that grave is far from commendable, my Queen.” Greg muttered. How could she see any good in that? There was NOTHING right about what he did.

Lucianne let out a sharp breath and muttered, “You and your cousins are equally stubborn, more alike than any of you would admit.”

Greg hated that he was behaving like his slow-thinking cousins, and he hated more that he upsetted Lucianne but he didn’t know, what to say

With another sigh, Lucianne said, “Let’s try it this way: why did you admit to sterilizing Annie when you didn’t have to?”

Greg swallowed a lump in his throat, and thought about lying. But that would only disappoint Lucianne even more if she found out the truth later.

Even if he wanted to lie, his animal wouldn't have allowed it. They already upsetted her. They were not going to do that again

Greg took a deep breath before he said, "Because...when I found out that you...succumbed to the same poison, my Queen, I wanted nothing more than to capture, torture and kill the person who was behind it. In my mind, the ones behind such an inhumane crime shouldn't be given a chance to escape or to live."

Lucianne internalized his frank response before she asked, "So, you regret what you did?"

Greg scoffed and said, "Regret seems a little too noble, my Queen. I'd say that I'm merely offering someone the chance that I didn't get myself."

Lucianne furrowed her eyebrows, crossed her arms and leaned back into her chair as she challenged, "And how is offering someone a chance to capture, torture and kill you not noble, your Grace?"

"Because I was the perpetrator. Nobility requires something less...malicious."

"So, you're saying that offering your life is not noble? It's malicious?"

"My Queen, you really don't have to do this. I turned myself over because I figured what I did was...not right. Just think of it as me...respecting the system."

Lucianne muttered to herself, "Hm. Didn't expect you to respect anything, to be honest. This is good progress. So," She looked at him and continued, "If you were to see...the Duke or Duchess, would you have anything to say to them before they tortured or killed you?"

Greg pondered for a moment, and reluctantly looked at the one-way mirror, knowing that the others, including the Duke and Duchess, were watching him, as he said, “When I did it, I wasn’t sorry. But...after it was used on the Queen... I started to... relate to pain that I have caused you. Both of you. I admit that you both will feel a deeper pain, a greater loss than the mild one I experienced but...I have no excuse. You have every right and reason to kill me for what I did.” He looked back to Lucianne and said,” As do you, my Queen.”

Lucianne offered a small smile and said, “If I wanted to kill you, your Grace, I would’ve done it by now.” She stood from her seat, and Greg’s animal was saddened by the thought of seeing her go. He stood when she did, and Lucianne thrust out a hand for a handshake.

Like the previous time, Greg stared at her small hand for a moment before he took it, bent down and pecked a polite kiss on the back. Lucianne took back her hand, and smiled meekly as she said, “Thank you for your time and for the evidence, your Grace.”

“It’s a duty and a pleasure to serve, my Queen.” Greg uttered.

The moment Lucianne stepped out of the door, Xandar’s jealousy and insecurity diminished...until he noticed Sebastian Cummings walking past the room he was in with the others.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina’s Pen Chapter 190

Chapter 190

It was a given that Sebastian would bump into Lucianne. With nothing but annoyance, the Lycan King muttered, “You’ve got to be f* cking kidding me.” 1

He dashed out of the door, and the first thing he heard Lucianne said was, “I killed her. I’m not sorry that I did it but I am sorry for your loss.”

Sebastian’s voice was soft and gentle when he responded, “She would’ve continued to find ways to hurt you if you kept her alive anyway, my Queen.”

When Xandar came to Lucianne’s side, his hand instinctively went to her waist as he pecked a kiss on her hair. The King then scowled at Sebastian, who offered a bow and greeted him, “Your Highness.”

Xandar nodded curtly in acknowledgment. When Sebastian’s head raised, he spoke in remorse, “I deeply apologize for my sister’s... crimes, as well as my father’s.”

Before Xandar could say that sorry didn’t rectify what those two did, Lucianne said, “You need not apologize, Mr Cummings. You did nothing wrong. You didn’t collude with your father or your late sister, and you have fully cooperated with law enforcement throughout the investigation. We should be thanking you for choosing the Kingdom over your family.”

Both men were surprised by how diplomatic Lucianne’s response was. Sebastian took a moment to snap out of it before he said, “I was simply doing what I thought was right, my Queen. I’m glad you approve.”

That last line was enough to make Xandar emit a low growl. Lucianne placed her hand on her mate’s chest as she spoke to him affectionately, “Darling, it’s alright. We’re being civil.” 2

The way she touched him and spoke to him managed to calm his bubbling inferno, and he pecked a kiss on her forehead before he muttered,

“Okay.” Lucianne showed him an adorable smile that pulled his heartstrings, and his rage melted away.

Lucianne turned back to Sebastian and said, “Thank you for letting me take up your time, MI Cummings. We’ll let you get to the visitation now.” 2

Sebastian smiled and said, “It really was no issue at all, my Queen.”

Lucianne and Xandar only took three steps before Sebastian called out, “My Queen.”

Lucianne turned, bewildered. Next to her, Xandar was cursing under his breath. Sebastian swallowed a lump in his throat before he said, “I really am sorry, for everything.”

For cheating on her. For hurting her. For lying to her. For throwing a fit when he lost to her in combat practice the previous year, For being too egotistical to celebrate her wins. For not defending her when he should have. For leading her on only to break her heart in the end. For everything.

This was definitely a more proper apology compared to the one he tried to make outside the restroom on the first morning of the collaboration, which had nothing but excuses. The apology he made at the refreshments table the other day was not sincere either since there was an ulterior motive to win Lucianne back despite her already being bonded to Xandar.

The apology Sebastian was making now, however, had no excuses, no blame-shifting and no ulterior motives. Just a sincere expression of regret with a guilty demeanor, taking full accountability for what happened between them.

Lucianne offered a small smile, and said sincerely, “Thank you, Mr Cummings.” She then returned her sights to Xandar, and pulled him by his arm before entering the room where the alliance, Duke and Duchess were eavesdropping through the door that was left ajar

The moment they entered the room, Xandar took his mate’s hand that Greg kissed and trailed it along his neckline before positioning it over his mouth to suck on it. After Xandar was satisfied that Greg’s scent had been completely wiped off HIS mate, they began discussing what to do with Greg again.

After an hour, the monarchy’s recommendation was finally concluded: two whips per week for an imprisonment period of fifty years, and a fine double of the stolen value. Christian wanted it to be ten whips per day but Annie fiercely talked him out of it. The Duchess recommended cutting out whipping entirely but this was overruled by everyone except Lucianne. Two whips got the majority’s agreement.

###

When that was done, they left the police station in their respective cars. Before Xandar started driving, he took Lucianne’s hand and pecked a kiss on the back before asking in a soft voice, “Baby, when do you want to get married?”

Lucianne blinked at his question as she muttered, “Right. The date hasn’t been set yet. Uh...when do you want it?”

Xandar chuckled and said, “About a month ago, when I met you.”

Lucianne narrowed her eyes and asked, “Do you have a date that’s not in the past, my love?” 1

“Next week?”

“I don’t think we can plan a wedding in a week, darling. How about six months from now?”

Xandar groaned and complained, “Too long.”

“Four months?” Lucianne tried again.

He leaned in to smell her neck as he muttered, “That’s still too long, baby. I’m starting to think that you don’t want this beast to be your husband.”

“Xandar, you know that’s not it. It’s not just the planning. If you want any guests at the wedding at all, you’ve got to give them some kind of notice in advance so they can save the date for us.”

He groaned again and muttered, “Over-considerate Queen.” After pecking a kiss on her cheek, he asked, “How about in two months?”

“Three.”

Xandar sighed and said, “Fine. And your coronation?”

Lucianne shrugged and responded, “Anytime after you meet former-Alpha Ken and former-Luna Janice is fine with me.”

“In a month’s time, then? We’ll leave for Blue Crescent after the collaboration, come back, then crown you.”

Lucianne nodded and said, “Yeah, okay.”

When Xandar still didn’t start driving, Lucianne looked at him and asked, “What? You want to plan the whole wedding in the car, Xandar?”

Xandar chuckled and nuzzled her nose as he said in an affectionate voice, "I'm just thinking about our honeymoon."

Lucianne's heart melted, and she pecked a kiss on his nose before saying, "We have a lot of time to discuss that, my love. Why don't we just take a drive back for now? If we stay here any longer, Dalloway is going to think we still have business to deal with in the police station."

"Okay." Xandar whispered as he stared at her dreamily before pecking a kiss on her lips, uttering, "I love you, Lucy." "I know, Xandar. I love you, too."