The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 201: STILL, SHE LOVES HIM

STILL, SHE LOVES HIM

Hate was an emotion that they were far too familiar with. Cane knew hate intimately, while love was something he deemed he didn't deserve to receive.

It would be easier for Aria to hate than love him.

In the streets, Cane and Jace could see the clamouring start when they saw Aria walking down the street in her white dress. Her long hair cascaded down her back, while she looked around her frantically, hoping to see that one face that she really wanted to see.

She couldn't believe it. Even in her last moments, he still refused to see her. The last time she saw Cane was when he was lying on the bed. That was her last memory of him.

Aria ignored all the people around her that kept saying anything and everything. Their voices were buzzing in her ears, they sounded incoherent, because that was not the voice that she wanted to hear. She missed him so dearly.

Walking on either side of her were Aderan and Ethan. They accompanied her until she reached the altar, where she could see the gallows.

Both Ethan and Aderan helped her to climb the steps and everything else went in a blurr for Aria. The sun was not scorching hot and the wind was a little bit too cold this winter, but it had not snowed yet.

She was standing on a platform, which was erected higher than people's eye level. There was a loop of rope before her eyes, but it was not fear that she felt, instead disappointment and emptiness.

Her eyes searched for him, even during the last few minutes of her life, she chose to seek for his presence. In this vast crowd, on this bright day, in between words that her pack members said, amidst this commotion and even in the torment and disappointment, she looked for him relentlessly...

Yet, she couldn't find him.

She wished she knew that it would end like this. She wished she had pushed him out of her heart when it wasn't too late and stopped seeking justification for her feelings toward him. She wished she didn't fall for him...

But, the truth was; if by some miracle she had given a second chance, she would still choose to love him all the same.

She admired him when he was with Miss Leane. Watching how warm and affectionate he was with her dear missy, she often wished she would have a mate like him.

And when, finally, she got him, it was not that version that she imagined of him, still, she loved him with all of her being. She accepted the pain without any complaints. She stayed by his side just like how her missy would, but the truth was... that warm and kind man no longer existed, still, she wanted him.

Even when Cane told her the truth bluntly, emphasizing how he didn't love her and reminded her over and over again about their mutual agreement, still, she was stubborn about justifying her own feelings for him.

Somehow, she knew from the start, there was nothing to look forward to pertaining to what they had, still, she chose to close her eyes.

And now, what was left of her?

Aria felt numb when Ethan hugged her briefly, as he whispered into her ear; I will see you soon. She didn't even ask what he meant by that.

Because even now, she and the rest of the Howling Wolf pack were not aware of the decree from the palace. Not even the news about the great offense that Ethan had committed, which could potentially cost him his life, was spread.

Aria didn't know about that and probably would never know, but Ethan had given up on this life and would accept whatever punishment came his way. Knowing Alan, the Gamma believed he would be in Aria's position sooner than later once they touched the capital city's grounds.

Aderan stepped forward and looped the rope around her neck, he said something, but Aria didn't deem that important. Nothing seemed important for her right now.

The only person that she wanted to see was not here. She lifted her head and blinked at the bright light of the winter sun...

Iris tried to find Cane. She couldn't shake Kaz's eyes off of her mind because the look that he gave her simply haunted her. It was a mix of disappointment and disdain...

Even though she couldn't make him change his decision, at the very least, she could give it a try. She could find solace in that.

Yet, no one knew where he was.

In the end, she ended up on the streets, where she saw Aria walking toward the gallows. She was wearing a white dress, her olive skin looked so clean, which meant she was treated well even in the dungeon, but that was not important right now.

Her clouded eyes looked around and Iris knew who she was looking for.

She felt a pang in her heart and felt so bad for her. Even after what had happened and the fact that three innocent children's lives were gone because of her greed, she couldn't help feeling this pain in her heart to see the misery in those eyes.

If she could, she really wanted to drag Cane here, so Aria could see him for one last time, even if he couldn't revoke his order. Wasn't this too cruel to her?

"What are you doing here?"

Iris felt someone tug her arm and turned her body around. She was startled, because she thought she was being attacked again, since she was among these people, but it was Redmond.

"You shouldn't be here, these people are grieving, they can misdirect their grief toward you again like before," Redmond chided her lightly.

"I- I am looking for Cane," Iris replied truthfully, which made Redmond click his tongue in annoyance, because he could read her intentions.

"Nobody can stop this from happening. Come, I will bring you back to the pack house." He held her hand and was about to take her away from there when everyone gasped in shock.

Iris couldn't hear it, but their strong reaction made her turn her body around out of instinct, yet Redmond pulled her closer and pressed her face against his chest to cover her eyes. "Don't look."

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 202: A MYRIAD THOUGHT

A MYRIAD THOUGHT

Redmond cursed under his breath when he saw what was going to happen on the podium and Iris was about to turn around and witness the same thing.

He had witnessed his own fair share of violence, but knowing how soft hearted Iris was, he knew this would be too much for her to discern, thus, despite his rambling a few hours ago and how strong and vicious his words were, he still shielded her from witnessing such a nightmare.

Redmond pulled her hand and pressed her face against his chest to hide her from the last sight of Aria. How her body hung in the air and struggled for a while, which felt like forever.

"Damn it... Cane is really heartless," Redmond muttered under his breath.

Currently, they were in an alley, behind all the people who were crying and expressing their grievance for their loss of the mistress. They took pity on her, but because of her crimes, they couldn't really ask for justice from the Alpha.

Because deep down they knew, this punishment was fair and now the only thing that they could do was to mourn the soul that they had lost.

Iris couldn't see what was happening, neither could she hear their sad cries, but she could feel the sudden change in the air. The execution had been completed.

"You don't want to stay here," Redmond said, though Iris couldn't hear him. He put his arm around her shoulder and turned around to walk in the opposite direction.

These people could be unpredictable, he heard how bad it was when they stoned her when all she did was help them in the tents after the attack.

Though he was displeased to have Iris as his luna and how 'kind' she was in this cruel world, he didn't have any other choice. He still couldn't put her in harm's way that would cost her her life.

Redmond walked Iris back to the pack house, while from afar, on the east watchtower, the Alpha caught sight of his mate among all the people there.

"She's gone now..." Jace said, the Beta watched how Ethan and Will put down Aria's body...

"Miss!" Hanna rushed over to Iris when she saw her walking with Redmond. "I have been looking for you, where are you!?" Her face was filled with worry, everyone was well aware what transpired today, thus she wanted to stay with her, because all the people were so gloomy and she was concerned about Iris' wellbeing and how all of this would affect her. "Are you okay?"

Iris lifted her head and smiled at Hanna, she hugged her back and turned to Redmond. "Thank you for walking me back, you can leave now."

Redmond just nodded and left without saying anything.

"Miss, where have you been? I am so worried." Hanna opened the door so Iris could step inside her bedroom.

"Hanna, can you prepare a warm bath for me? I want to relax a bit." Iris didn't show how distraught she was a moment ago, because right now, she looked normal as she smiled sweetly.

"Sure, of course!" Hanna replied cheerfully, she was too happy to see her missy not being affected by what was happening. "Just a moment, I will prepare it for you. I will add a few petals too!"

Iris didn't stop her, because while Hanna was busy, she could have time for herself and think things through....

They used rats this time. Mason came up a with brilliant idea again, as he learned from someone on his journey to the black market about how to torture someone efficiently.

And this time, he took one of the she- wolves that was in heat, because her scent was very strong and tempting and as usual, he decided to force Cane to watch the show.

It was their sixth year in the slavery. They had gone through so much and freedom was an expensive dream that they could only imagine while enduring torture.

The girl was only eighteen, she met her mate a week ago, but two days later, after knowing that she had been marked, Gerald took her to his room and roughed her up, and after he was done with her, he tossed her to the guards for them to devour.

Meanwhile, her mate had gone insane knowing what happened to his other half, yet with the bars that caged him, he could do nothing to save her.

Same as what was happening with Cane right now.

The Alpha couldn't do anything when the woman was in heat and those guards toyed with her or when Mason came to interrupt their fun. He was holding a box full of rats.

"Pin both her arms and legs!" Mason ordered the guards, but his mocking eyes were fixed on Cane. He enjoyed the sight of how helpless Cane was whenever he delivered torture to his pack members.

The box that Mason held had a hole, where he placed it against the girl's stomach, as he lit a small brazier on top of it, making the rats become more active when the box became hot.

The rats finally scratched their way through her stomach to find a way out to escape the hot box, which made the girl let out an ear piercing scream. A shrill scream filled with agony rang throughout the dungeon, along with Mason and the guards' laughter.

It stopped when Cane opened his eyes and found himself in his own bedroom, sitting in his chair. He fell asleep when he was reading a few reports. It had been two days since the day of the execution and tomorrow, he would head to the capital city with Iris, Ethan and a few more people to finally answer the decree.

He didn't know when the last time he fell asleep peacefully was, but every time he closed his eyes, such a dream would greet him, leaving him even more distraught.

Cane stood up and walked toward the connecting door that would take him to his luna's bedroom, but he stopped himself and just stood there silently, staring at the closed door.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 203: DEPARTURE

DEPARTURE

The sky looked so bleak as the group prepared to set off on a long journey to the capital city, in order to answer the call from the King that had been long overdue.

Everyone wrapped their bodies in thick cloaks, because the temperature dropped drastically two days ago. Although snow had not yet fallen, it had already entered the winter and the atmosphere had turned solemn. Not many people had activities outside their houses.

Aside from Ethan and Iris, Cane got Will, Redmond, Aderan and another fifteen warriors to go with them. The group was not that big for a ceremony for the acknowledgement of the new alpha and luna in the capital city temple, because usually, at least a quarter of the pack members would be there to share the joyous moment. However, it would be hard to move in big numbers during winter.

More so, a ceremony like this usually happened during summer or fall, never in the winter, because the weather could be harsh.

However, the ceremony was the last thing on their minds when the death sentence for the Gamma was looming over their heads at this very moment. They weren't looking forward to any celebrations, especially when it was only a few days after the death of the mistress.

Yet, the Gamma in concern actually rallied ten orphan children to see his rabbits, which left Aliana fuming mad because of the missing of the children.

"How can you bring them out without permission!?" Aliana hit the gamma's back when she found Ethan in the woods with the children. "I have been looking for them everywhere!" She had known him since they were very young and she knew how mischievous he could be. "Everyone is preparing for the departure, what are you doing here, kidnapping my children!?"

"I have finished mine!" Ethan was having a hard time dodging Aliana's vicious attacks, while the children cheered from the side. "There! I have finished mine!" He pointed at a single bag that sat lonely on the ground.

He didn't intend to bring many things with him, because he thought it would be a waste. All he packed was essential things that he could use when he was there and be easily discarded when he was no more, so it wouldn't burden his pack members to bring his things back.

"You will be away for at least two to three months, but you will only bring a small backpack!? Are you out of your mind?!" Aliana couldn't accept that and started nagging him to bring more.

"Nah, it's not necessary, I need to teach these little brats how to feed my rabbits."

"Don't call them brats!" Aliana reprimanded him. "Moreover, when you return the rabbits will already be big, there is no need to teach them to feed them."

Ethan only grinned when he heard the word 'return'.

On the other hand, Hanna was delighted because the Alpha let her come with them at the last notice, so someone that Iris knew would be there to accompany her.

Iris would be more comfortable with Hanna around in a place that was very unfamiliar to her. Of course, Hanna was also elated because she didn't need to wait months to see the two people that she loved the most.

"Oh," Hanna was startled when someone took the bag from her hand, but when she turned her head, her face flushed red.

"You want to bring this to the carriage?" Will asked her.

"Yes." Hanna nodded. She was thinking about him, but here he was, right next to her. He had been very busy recently and they didn't have time to see each other, therefore, to be able to go on this journey made Hanna feel like she could die from happiness.

Will nodded and carried the other bag as well for her.

"If you carry all the bags, I won't have anything with me," Hanna teased him, as she showed her empty hands.

"You are coming with us to accompany your missy, you should let others do the hard labor." Will put the two bags inside the carriage. "Is there anything else you need to bring over?"

Hanna grinned, she turned into a silly girl whenever he was around, though she was no longer around that age. "Are you trying to snatch all my work?"

"I am trying to spend my time with you," Will murmured and then walked away.

Though they would be together, they couldn't spend time with each other, since Will would be busy with the other warriors, while Iris and Hanna would spend their time inside the carriage.

"What did you say? I didn't hear that!" Hanna chased after Will, but he quickened his steps. "Hey! You said, you will spend time with me...!"

Though under this dreary sky, it was a warm feeling to see there were a few people that still could smile genuinely, a few faces were still gloomy. Like Iris, because apparently, the Alpha and the Luna of the pack had not been on speaking terms for days.

The exchange between them before they set off felt a little bit awkward. They didn't talk much, even though they weren't always amicable. But this time, they looked even gloomier than the sky.

Iris went straight to her carriage and stayed there, while Cane led this group. Meanwhile, people sent them off with flowers along the streets to the main gates, but the feeling of sadness and sorrow still lingered in the air.

Once again, the Beta was left behind to take care of the pack and as soon as the entourage had left the fortress, they shut their gates close. They wouldn't open them again until their return.

Tranquility returned to the pack, as the first snow fell that night.

At night.

Everyone huddled inside their houses, sitting so close to the fireplaces, but two figures could be seen outside of the fortress of the Howling Wolf pack.

These two mysterious figures stood in silence for a few minutes before one of them started to dig the hard and cold ground with the shovel in his hand.

"Master, are you sure that they buried her here?" The young boy asked.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 204: WINTER NIGHT

WINTER NIGHT

The temperature dropped drastically after it snowed and the wind howled in the distance, making one shiver in fear because it sounded like a banshee shrieking right in their ears.

But, thanks to the sorcerer's power, his magic could prevent the two of them from freezing to death.

"Master, are you sure they buried her here?" Letto asked. He was the young boy who was always with the sorcerer. He had been digging this spot for half an hour now and his small body didn't hold so much strength to keep doing this. The wind hurt his eyes so much.

"Keep digging." Dexter had his eyes fixed on the pit that Letto had dug out from. He didn't seem to worry that he had made a mistake or pointed to the wrong spot. It seemed he was one hundred percent sure where they had buried her on this mountain.

Because of the crime of committing treason, Aria was not buried inside the Howling Wolf pack's grave like the other pack members, but she was buried on the mountain with a beautiful view and a small river nearby.

Ethan and Aderan took their time to find this beautiful place and buried her so deep, so the monsters wouldn't find her body. At the very least, this was the only thing that they could do for her.

This place would look so beautiful when spring came and it would be a perfect place for a free spirit like Aria. She was a radiant and brilliant girl before all of this happened, after all.

"She is not here, Master...!" Letto dropped to his knees and he had a hard time catching his breath. Though it was freezing cold, he was sweating profusely.

Now, he had dug until half of his body was swallowed by the cold ground, but he couldn't find anything yet. How deep did they bury her?

"Get out of there," Dexter said, as he waved his hand, indicating he would continue with magic.

Letto immediately scrambled his way out of there and stood behind his master. He liked watching from the side whenever the sorcerer used his power, but recently, because the magic stones that he had were running out, he rarely used his powers, unless it was an emergency.

A beam of warm yellow light burst from the ground, where he dug earlier, followed by a cracking sound, as if the ground split into two and then the light became brighter and brighter, until it forced the young boy to shut his eyes and cover them with his arms.

It only lasted for a second, but when Letto put down his arms and looked around him, nothing had changed, except he could now see a woman sitting on the foot of this trench.

"Take her out." Dexter took a step back.

"Huh?" Letto peeked inside the trench and found Aria's body. She was in a sitting position, still in her white dress, while her face was covered by her long hair.

"Hurry," Dexter said impatiently because this young boy could be so airheaded sometimes.

"Oh, okay..." Letto immediately jumped down and was about to grab her when he saw her lift her head and stare at him with a blank expression. "AARRGGH!"

Letto immediately climbed back up again. He pointed his finger at Aria, his face blanched, as if he was seeing a ghost! No, he indeed saw a ghost! How could she move when she was already dead?!

"She... sh- she moved! I swear she moved her head!"

Thankfully, they were deep into the mountain, thus no one would be able to hear his shrill screams. But attracting a monster that was still not in its hibernation yet would be a problem for them.

Dexter frowned, but he didn't seem surprised when he heard this. This time, he jumped down himself into the pit to check on Aria.

"Master, be careful! I think she has turned into a ghoul!" It was nonsense, only a monster would turn into a ghoul, but he was indeed not in his right mind at this moment.

However, Dexter didn't heed his warning, as he lifted Aria's hair and looked at her blank expression. "I was right when I said you have a good constitution. You shouldn't have woken up until a week after your death," he chuckled to himself. "You should thank me later because I looked for you sooner."

Aria blinked her eyes, she didn't seem to understand what he was talking about, as she stared at her dirty dress. From the looks of it, nothing could catch her attention, until she smelled something intriguing and she whipped her head.

Her throat constricted when she saw a drop of blood drip from the sorcerer's palm. He cut himself. She didn't know that she was this thirsty until she caught this smell.

"Come here, you don't need to hold yourself back," Dexter said indulgently, as he brought his bleeding hand close to her lips and let her have a taste of his blood.

At first, Aria looked confused and alerted, but once her tongue got a taste of it, she used both of her hands to hold Dexter's hand to her mouth, as she drank his blood.

The sight of it could make one's hair stand on end. This woman, who was supposed to be dead, was so greedy and drank fresh blood from the dark sorcerer.

"Good girl," Dexter cooed at her, as he caressed her head, while snow started to pile up on their shoulders.

Letto shivered, not out of cold, but out of fear at the sight before his eyes.

Meanwhile, another group was having a hard time because the snow was piling up on the path that they took, forcing them to stay in the wild until morning came.

Inside the carriage, Iris was trembling. She felt so cold. Even after Hanna tried to warm her up by using many blankets and lighting up the brazier inside the carriage, she was still unable to make her stop shivering.

This was the first time for Iris to be out in the open during winter, thus no one could anticipate her endurance to go through this harsh weather.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 205: PRETEND YOU DIDN'T KNOW

PRETEND YOU DIDN'T KNOW

Hanna took off her cloak because it was very warm inside the carriage, but Iris was still trembling, despite her body being engulfed in several layers of blankets. Her teeth clattered nonstop while her face was unusually red.

"Should I add more blankets?" Hanna asked with concern. The lizard curled its small body on top of Iris, but she still couldn't ward off the coldness that she felt.

"It's okay... I will be fine. My body is still adjusting to this." This was the first time for Iris to be out in the open during winter. Usually, she would be well hidden inside her warm bedroom, sleeping close to the fireplace.

Therefore, her body was trying to adjust to the extreme cold. Not to mention the cold wind that constantly seeped into the carriage. Iris was really miserable during this journey and there was nothing Hanna could do. As shifters, they were born with hot blood coursing through their veins, thus their endurance in this extreme weather could be said to be so great, but for a runt like Iris, who would often fall sick, a long journey during winter was nothing but torture.

"I- I will get more blankets," Hanna decided, as she walked out of the carriage.

Iris grimaced when Hanna opened the door and more wind entered the carriage, causing her to tremble even more. She needed to press her tongue to the roof of her mouth, because she was afraid she would bite it coincidentally, as she couldn't stop her teeth from clattering.

At this point, her consciousness constantly drifted on and off, as she hugged herself and focused on the fire of the brazier inside this carriage. Thankfully, this carriage was spacious enough, because knowing her condition and the harsh weather, she would be forced to spend her time inside, not to mention her weak body, thus they really needed to pay extra attention to the carriage.

But, all of that effort was proven to be inefficient, because Iris still ended up in this condition.

Between her dizzy spells, Iris felt like she was having a dream, a long dream about the time she was still eight, an event that she had buried deep in her mind.

She was standing in front of a man, naked, while he stared at her hungrily, devouring her body with his eyes. She believed this man was one of those filthy Alphas' sons. The Southern Alphas frequented this pack to enjoy the parties Gerald threw and oftentimes, they would bring their sons as well.

This young man was around the same age as Mason or maybe a few years older than him, probably eighteen to twenty years old, but Iris didn't remember what happened after that. Her memory was cut short before he fiddled with her curls and whispered. "Sst, don't tell anyone."

That was it, Iris couldn't remember further from that point, as if she held herself back from trying to remember more.

And then it was another dream with the empty hall and the five swords, but it was also cut short after she tried to take one of the swords.

She opened her eyes and felt so warm, as someone hugged her so tight. This was even warmer than being covered by a few layers of blankets, as his body heat helped her to adjust to the harsh cold weather.

The way he cuddled her was very comfortable, which made Iris close her eyes again without looking at who was the person that had held her so tightly and protectively like this.

And the next time she woke up, she could feel the soft light of the sun on her face while the carriage was moving.

"Hanna?" Iris called with a hoarse voice, as she tried to push herself from the bed that she had been lying in for a long time. She rubbed her eyes with the backs of her hands and lifted her head to see Hanna's smiling face. She was talking too fast and her mind was not yet ready to read anything, thus she didn't know what she was talking about.

"Miss! Finally, you woke up!" Hanna was so excited, her voice could be heard by the warriors out there, and they too knew Iris had finally woken up now. "You worried me so much!" She went to hug Iris before quickly letting her go only to ask a few questions. "Do you want to eat? You must be very hungry! Oh, drink this first, you must be thirsty!"

Hanna rambled about a few things that Iris couldn't quite catch, but she saw her grab a waterskin from near the brazier, so the water was warm and not frozen.

"Here, drink this first, I will reheat the meat!" She said excitedly, as she handed the waterskin to Iris and rummaged through a small box, from inside of which she pulled out a huge chunk of meat. She put it on the brazier, and within a few minutes, a delicious aroma wafted inside the carriage, which made Iris feel so hungry.

She didn't realize how hungry she was until now. Her mouth was watering.

"You know, you have been sleeping for two days straight and if you still did not wake up today, the Alpha said we will stay the night in a nearby pack and look for a healer for you."

Iris blinked her eyes, before Hanna's words finally registered in her mind. "Two days?"

"Yes, you slept throughout two whole days and I have been feeding you with honey and warm water to keep you hydrated." Hanna then leaned her body over, and then lowered her voice, as if she didn't want a certain someone to hear this. "The Alpha has been coming over and warming up your body every night."

With the Alpha's blood coursing through his veins, of course, Cane's body temperature was slightly higher than the rest and it helped him to raise her body temperature as well, helping her to adjust to her environment better.

"But, you need to pretend that you don't know about this, the Alpha said not to mention anything about it."

Iris grimaced. Hanna shouldn't have told her in the first place if that was the case...

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 206: THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM

THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM

Cane had stayed with Iris for two whole nights because she was sleeping, barely conscious due to the extreme weather. The few instances where she came to her senses was when she wanted water, but then she would fall asleep again. Probably, she didn't even remember that.

Therefore, Iris didn't have any idea what Cane had done for her, though she could vaguely recall between her dreams how someone had held her tightly and how that made her feel comfortable.

"But, you need to pretend you didn't know about this, the Alpha said to not mention anything about it," Hanna said surreptitiously. The Alpha was wrong if he thought she would keep a secret from her missy.

"You shouldn't have let me know," Iris grimaced, now she would have a hard time undoing what she had learned.

"I still don't like him," Hanna said truthfully, this time she only mouthed the words, because she was afraid someone would hear her. "Even though I can see how he was trying to be nice to you, he is very cold and unfeeling."

Iris couldn't say anything about that, because she knew that Cane would always be that unfeeling man. He didn't show any emotions even after the execution of his own mistress.

The execution itself had sent an underlying message to the pack members that Cane would always stand for justice and would punish anyone according to their crime, even his mistress was not an exception. This would make the pack members aware of what kind of the Alpha that they followed.

Meanwhile, it would take twenty days before they could reach the capital city, which meant they still had a long way to go, especially in this bad weather, which could take longer.

However, after Iris had regained her consciousness and looked better, as she could adjust to the drastic drop of the temperature, Cane had never come to visit the carriage again and she spent her time inside the carriage with Hanna, who would tell her story after story to keep her from feeling boredom.

Sometimes, Hanna would leave her alone inside the carriage to get some things, yet she seemed to take her time to stretch out her legs, because it would take her more than an hour every time before she returned.

On the fifteenth day, Iris was completely bored, Hanna's stories couldn't keep her entertained anymore and she looked exhausted all day.

"I want to take a walk out there... " Iris said, as she stared at the scene outside through the small carriage window.

They were crossing a flower garden that had now frozen over, so the entire ground looked white.

"You want to take a walk? Let's do it when we take a break at lunch time."

"Can I?" It didn't cross Iris' mind that she was allowed to roam around.

"Yes, but are you okay? Can you take it?"

Iris nodded earnestly. She felt a little bit better now, after the adjustment, probably this was the healthiest she had ever been. After all, she had never been in the open during winter, let alone taking walks in the snow, thus she was very excited.

"But, if you feel any discomfort or can't take it, you need to tell me right away, okay?" Hanna didn't want her to fall sick again.

"Okay."

Iris waited for lunch time expectantly and after she polished off her food quickly, Hanna helped her out of the carriage and she finally saw how vast the land was, while everything was covered in snow.

"It's a clear day! There is not much snow here!" Hanna explained to Iris with a big smile on her face and then laughed when she saw how the snow ate up her legs.

The snow reached her ankles, though Hanna said the snow was not much.

The texture was not as soft as Iris thought, but it was indeed very cold, thus she put on her gloves again, as she tried to move, but just after taking a few steps, she was already out of breath.

"You really need to exercise more," Ethan said, he came over after he laughed his head off when he saw Iris fell on her butt because she lost her balance.

Iris threw him a look and felt jealous because this gamma could walk so easily in this thick snow.

"Come here, I want to show you something," Ethan said, as he waved at Iris to come over. "Hurry," he teased because Iris couldn't walk fast enough.

"I am trying, I am trying," Iris said begrudgingly. She felt her body a little bit warm because she moved too much.

Where did he want to take her when all they could see was this vast land that was covered with snow. Ethan even walked further away from the group.

"Where are you going to take her?" Redmond came over as well when he saw Ethan would take Iris somewhere.

"You don't need to come, I didn't invite you."

"Who said I need an invitation?" Redmond retorted.

Hanna could only grimace at the sight of the two of them starting bickering again. If they were not on the verge of punching each other's faces, they would be on each other's nerves. It was a miracle they could be in the same group and were still alive.

However, Iris had long gotten used to their attitude and somehow, she found this refreshing and entertaining. Usually, it would be Will, who would keep the two of them in check. And so, she started to look around for the warrior, but apparently, he was busy with something else.

Iris even caught sight of Hanna, who was stealing a glance at Will every now and then.

Yet, what caught her attention the most was the person that Will was talking to. In the distance, Iris could see the Alpha talking about something with his warrior. She could feel his eyes on her, but for some reason, when she looked back, he wasn't looking her way.

Probably, she was just imagining things... it had been so long since the last time they talked to each other and the distance only became more apparent...

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 207: BICKERING

BICKERING

Cane watched how Iris swaddled her way through the thick snow. Hanna indeed had done her job thoroughly, because right now, his mate looked like she was having a hard time not only because of the snow, but also the few layers of cloaks that were put on her tiny body.

From afar, she looked like a pile of walking blankets. Her auburn hair was well hidden under the hoodie and the shawl.

"I think Hanna overdid it..." Will grimaced when he followed Cane's line of sight and found what he was looking at. "Where are they going? Is it okay to let them roam around?" He frowned when he saw Redmond and Ethan started bickering again.

Cane and a few warriors had scoured this area before their lunch and were pretty sure this place was only a vast land and there was nothing dangerous

out there, thus he didn't stop them, after all there were both Ethan and Redmond with her.

"Should I ask them to come back?" Will asked Cane.

However, the Alpha rejected the idea curtly. "No. Continue," he said, asking for Will to continue with his report before Cane got distracted by his mate again.

"Mal and Lex managed to spread rumors about dark magic in the Riverside pack and now all the shifters are aware of its existence. People in the capital started to demand the King to investigate further about the truth behind it, but the royals are still not budging."

It was not strong enough to shake the King's confidence, as he remained silent, as if there was nothing major happening.

"The rumors about the lycan are also being mentioned," Will said carefully. He looked at Cane uncomfortably.

"Good. Tell the two of them to continue."

"Are you sure it will be fine to spread the rumors about the lycan?" Will was very worried because Cane was treading a dangerous ground by exposing the rumors about the lycan. He exposed himself by letting people know about the cursed shifter's existence.

"Many people had already seen it," Cane stated the truth.

"Those are our people. I don't think they would speak about it recklessly if we said it would endanger our pack."

"Do you think the King's spy will not let him know about it?" This uncovered spy of the King still vexed Cane because even until now, they didn't know who it was.

One more day their identity was still uncovered, it would be another day they would sit on edge. Jace had a lot of homework this time.

On another note, Cane would rather have the rumors come from him, than the King, because he could control the information that the people got. If this

came from King Aeon, the end result would be something that would put him at a greater disadvantage.

At the very least, the king couldn't accuse him of hiding the existence of the lycan and pin his suspicions on him, because even now, people still believed the lycan was still in the Goffa mountain, though the searching party had been withdrawn.

"Send Leros ahead and ask him to scour the capital city." Cane then gave him a few more orders before Will left. After that, the Alpha could see his mate squatting down on the snow covered ground, staring at something, but he couldn't see her expression from this distance.

"Alpha, can I go with Leros ahead to the capital city?" Aderan approached Cane after he heard the new order from the Alpha for Leros.

There were six spies that used to work for his father, but right now they pledged their loyalty to Cane; they were; Arthur, Clad, Leros, Nexus, Mal and Lex.

While Nexus was in the Celestial Moon pack, Arthur had stayed in their pack to help Jace. Mal and Lex were out there to spread the rumors, thus it left Clad and Leros to join this small group.

"No," Cane replied curtly. "We will be there in a week."

It wouldn't do any good if people from the palace spotted him in the capital city, since they knew Aderan was his personal guard. As for Leros, not many people knew about him and probably the King himself didn't know about his existence and couldn't track him back to Cane.

Hearing the rejection, Aderan lowered his head and looked a little bit gloomy. He simply wanted to rush to the capital city because he wanted to be close to the queen, but then without entering the palace, he would have little to no chance to see her.

Therefore, it was only his impulsive request to go with Leros.

"Okay," Aderan replied in a defeated tone and then busied himself with what he was doing earlier.

Meanwhile, Cane stared at his mate in the distance, but then he decided to check on another thing instead of knowing what Ethan showed her that piqued her interest.

Actually, it was not something extravagant, it was only a little flower that bloomed in the crack of a stone. This little flower was in the color of white and currently, Ethan and Redmond had been bickering about what flower was that.

"It's a white lily," Redmond said.

"Hell no! Do you even know about flowers?!" Ethan retorted.

"So, what are you? A flower boy!?"

"Hey, hey, enough... why are you fighting over this?" Hanna was trying to calm them both, but now they directed their attention toward her.

"You are a woman," Redmond stated something that was very obvious. "Tell me, what flower is that!?" He pointed his finger at the flower.

Hanna widened her eyes innocently, despite being a woman, she knew nothing about flowers. "I don't know..."

"How come you don't know? Are you even a woman?" And there Redmond was, once again showcasing his poor choice of words.

"Hey! It has nothing to do with her being a woman!" Ethan shouted at him. "You don't even know how to fight despite being a man!"

"I am going to kill you!"

"Come here! I have been itching to beat someone up!"

Hanna was speechless to see the two of them being like this, thankfully, Iris couldn't hear the commotion behind her.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 208: CAPITAL CITY

CAPITAL CITY

"Master, until when will you feed her with your blood?" Letto asked gingerly, as he saw that his master's hand was bleeding again.

If it was not herbs, he would feed his blood to the woman, until her eyes turned red and her cheeks looked a little bit ruddier.

Dexter only glanced at the young boy, but he didn't answer his question. Until when he would feed Aria his own blood? Of course, for as long as it was necessary.

Letto glanced at the woman on the bed. Ever since they brought her from the mountain, she did nothing, but lie down on the bed. She said nothing and just stared at the wall. Letto was not sure whether she knew where she was or what had happened to her before this.

"Master, the rumors about the dark magic user have spread in this pack, what should we do now?" Letto asked him with concern.

He had been following Dexter ever since he was just five, thus he knew everything about his dark magic, but he was not sure about the relationship between the sorcerer and Alpha Gill, the Alpha of the Riverside pack.

"We didn't need to do anything," Dexter replied, as he stepped out of his rickety hut. Letto followed closely behind him with a cloak for him.

Tonight was so cold, but it did not snow.

"Why? What if people know about your power? What if they come here and demand to execute you?" Letto was fearful of the fact that it would come out and knowing the sentiment of the people about the dark magic, they would do anything to get rid of Dexter.

"The rumors didn't mention anything about me," Dexter stated the fact.

"That's true... but..." Letto wanted to retort, but Dexter already waved his hand, indicating for him to go inside the hut because someone was coming.

The young boy followed the instruction and stayed inside the hut, as he peeked through the window to see it was actually Alpha Gill. He had personally come to pay the sorcerer a visit in the middle of the night. From the looks of it, the two of them were having an argument, but Dexter managed to get what he wanted, leaving the Alpha vexed.

The meeting didn't last for long because after that, Alpha Gill shifted into his dark grey wolf and left the hut.

But even so, Dexter stayed in his position for hours, staring at the gloomy sky.

On the twenty- second day, Cane and the others finally arrived in the capital city. It was Vemion, the fourth prince from the third concubine, who greeted them at the gates and accepted them instead of the royal family.

He was a prince born to the third concubine of the King, who hailed from the Red Claw pack. Her father was the Beta of the pack and this marriage had been to strengthen the relations between the richest pack in this continent and the royal family.

Of course, even though he was not the Crown Prince, nor the most favorite prince, he held a considerably large amount of power in the court because of the influence of his maternal grandfather.

He was a young man, around twenty seven years old, with brown hair and eyes that looked brilliant. He looked harmless, but one shouldn't put their guard down just because he appeared smiling brightly and warmly.

"Alpha Cane, it has been a long time since I saw you," Vemion said cheerfully, as he smiled when Cane bowed to him slightly. In terms of ranking, Cane should be on the same level as him, but because his mother forfeited her title as the princess, in order to escape the bloody power struggle and be with her mate, Cane couldn't confer the title as a prince, even though his name would be part of the royal family.

"It has been a long time," Cane replied, he went with the flow.

Truthfully speaking, the two of them had never met with each other before this, thus it was very clear the greeting was only for a show and Cane was not that petty to nitpick at that fact.

Cane then went to the carriage to help Iris get down from it. This could be the first interaction between them after such a long journey.

The Alpha held Iris' hand and took her with him to greet the Prince.

"It is an honor to meet you, Prince Vemion," Iris said softly, as she bent her body perfectly to give her greeting. She looked radiant in her dark purple dress that Hanna chose for her. It was the same color as the cloak that Cane wore. It was the color of the royal family.

"The honor is mine, Luna Iris," Vemion replied respectfully. He heard about the peculiar color of Iris' hair and her blue eyes, but only after seeing her in person, did he understand why they made a fuss over it. She looked outstanding and beautiful, especially when the bright light of the sun fell on her curly auburn hair.

Behind Vemion, it was his pregnant mate, a young woman in her mid twenties. She stood next to the carriage. Only when Iris and Cane walked over to change the carriages, did she approach them and greet them.

Vemion placed his hand behind Laluna's back, she was his destined mate, hailed from the Red Claw pack as well.

"My apologies for not greeting you sooner," Laluna said softly, as she placed her hand on her bulging stomach.

"You don't need to trouble yourself, Princess Laluna," Iris replied. She knew a few words of courtesy for this kind of exchange, because usually, it would be women, who would make the situation less awkward, glossing over the sternness between the men. "How long are you?"

"Seven months," Laluna replied, her eyes lit up with excitement.

Seven months...

Cane's eyes hooded at Laluna's stomach, his eyes lingered a little bit longer on that part of her body. Leane was eight months pregnant when she was killed and Gerald ripped their son out of her stomach.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 209: ROYAL FAMILY

ROYAL FAMILY

Iris could see how Cane stole glances at Laluna's stomach a few times before he stopped himself and focused on his conversation with Vemion, as the Prince asked him trivial and boring questions about their journey to the capital city and how the King had prepared for the ceremony.

They didn't talk about Ethan's punishment, but it was more likely because it was not Vemion's place to state anything about it.

From the main gates to the palace, it took an hour by the carriage. This entourage caught the attention of the people. They were surprised to see the banner of the Howling Wolf pack beside the royal banner.

It had been so long since the last time they saw the Howling Wolf pack's banner and finally they could say the rumors about this pack were true that the young alpha had taken back his own pack from the hands of the Blue Moon pack's alpha.

However, they were still curious about his luna, because based on what they heard, it was Alpha Gerald's daughter who became the Luna of that pack.

Yet, since they wouldn't have a way to sneak a peek inside the royal carriage, thus they could only look at the entourage from afar and gossip with each other. This added to the new stories about the dark magic user that appeared in the Riverside pack, and the tavern became so lively.

Once they arrived at the palace, the men came out first before helping their mates to get down from the carriage.

Iris came out last and accepted Cane's hand to help herself get down. She stole a peek at him, but his focus was on her feet. He didn't look at her at all.

"CAPTURE HIM!"

There was a sudden cry from behind Cane and this made the Alpha turn around. He saw the Crown Prince bring a dozen royal warriors as he issued an order to capture Ethan. He was seething, but his eyes lit up with excitement.

He had been waiting for so long for this moment, but Cane neglected the decree and only came to the capital now.

On the other hand, the fifteen warriors from the Howling Wolf pack immediately encircled their gamma and took a fighting stance against the royal warriors that wanted to take Ethan away. "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR!? CAPTURE HIM! DRAG HIM TO THE DUNGEON!" Alan shouted impatiently, his face turned red because of it.

"Is this how you greet your guests?" Cane looked at the fourth prince. Because the task to greet the guests fell on Vemion, thus all of Cane's pack members were part of his responsibility.

Vemion looked awry, but in the end, he interjected Alan's order. He used his own warriors to step in the middle of both parties.

"What do you mean by this?!" Alan threw a dagger look at Vemion, when he saw his advances were being interfered with.

"Brother, why don't we let the guests enter the palace and meet with Father first?" Vemion asked in a gentle tone.

"SHUT UP!" Alan was furious to hear such ridiculous advice. Meanwhile, his own advisor, Corry, panted to reach him. He was out of breath, when he finally stood by the Crown Prince's side.

"Is this an order from the king?" Cane asked Corry instead. He didn't engage in a conversation with Alan at all, nor did he spare him a glance.

"Pardon us for this ruckus, Alpha Cane," Corry said, but Alan had cut him off.

"Damn you! How can you ask for forgiveness from him!?" He kicked the old advisor, until he was sent sprawling on the floor. He immediately stood back up, but his face turned red because of the humiliation.

"CAPTURE HIM!" Alan shouted his order and this time, his warriors stepped forward, determined to get Ethan.

Yet, to their surprise, Cane, who looked so calm and still talked politely a moment ago, issued an order as well.

"SHIFT!"

With his command, the fifteen warriors shifted into their beasts, and they were ready to engage in a battle.

However, everyone knew it was a taboo to have a fight right in front of the King's palace. It was bad luck if they spilt blood in a brawl, a form of disrespect toward their sovereign.

Alarmed, Corry immediately reminded Alan about this, as he hastily talked to him in a low voice, because this obstinate crown prince refused to listen to him through mind link.

Knowing Alan wouldn't listen to him, he rushed toward Cane. "Alpha Cane, you know it is forbidden to have a fight in front of the King's palace, you came here for your gamma's punishment, but if you do this, you will only aggravate the King even further."

Cane looked at the old advisor, he stared down at him for a few seconds, which left the latter fretting. On the other hand, Vemion chimed in as well.

"Alpha Cane, let them take your gamma away for a while, or else, the Crown Prince will keep kicking a fuss."

In other words, they wanted Cane to stand down and watch silently when they took his gamma away. Heavens only knew what Alan would do to Ethan once he fell into his hands, even if it was only for an hour.

"If a fight is what the Crown Prince wants, then a fight is what he will get," Cane said simply. "The decree said my gamma will be questioned for what happened and that's exactly why I am here. How can the Crown Prince neglect the King's wishes to question my gamma and take him away without the permission from the King himself? As far as I remember, the decree was issued by the King, not the Crown Prince, am I right? My people and I came here because of the orders from the King."

Corry felt like his head was going to explode when Cane dragged the King into the conversation. He couldn't talk about the Sovereign so easily, but the Alpha mentioned the King so casually.

"Is this how the King greets his nephew?" Cane added more, reminding them that he was a part of the royal family as well.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 210: UNEXPECTED PEOPLE

UNEXPECTED PEOPLE

Cane's mother, Crystal, was born to the late queen, while Aeon was born to the first concubine. By the time his mother was born, Aeon had already been appointed as the Crown Prince and by the time the power struggle for the throne started, Crystal had been mated to Josh, the Alpha of the Howling Wolf pack.

In order not to be dragged into that bloody battle, Crystal firmed her status as the Luna of the Howling Wolf pack and expressed she had no interest in the throne. She had never wanted it in the first place after all.

Therefore, Crystal, Randy and Osana, Aeon's little sister, were the only children from the late King that managed to survive during the power battle in the palace.

Supposedly, if Cane's mother wanted to take the throne, she had every right to get it, because she was the legitimate princess, the only child that was born from the Queen.

"Is this how the King greets his nephew?" Cane added more, reminding them that he was a part of the royal family as well.

Only then did they realize this fact. Since Crystal always lied low while Cane never tried to get close to the throne, it was easy to forget about the relationship between the King and the current alpha of the Howling Wolf pack.

But, still there were some people who would deny even that fact...

"Don't claim kinship so easily! Who do you think you are!?" Alan barked out. "What are you waiting for!? Attack them! Drag that mutt to my feet!"

The dozen royal warriors that were brought by the Crown Prince shifted into their beasts, so did the royal warriors under the command of prince Vemion, because they were ordered to prevent the fight between the two parties.

The situation was heated and Corry became even more nervous to see how things escalated pretty quickly. None of them would stand down.

At this point, Cane pulled Iris behind his body, just in case the fight reached them, while Vemion did the same to his pregnant mate.

"GUARDS! CALL MORE GUARDS HERE!" Vemion hollered, he needed to calm the situation. Since Cane and his people fell under his responsibility, he couldn't let Alan harm them. "Brother! Call back your warriors! You must not disrespect Father's orders and fight in front of his palace!"

Iris clutched Cane's shirt, she was afraid to see how vicious these beasts were, as they snarled at each other, waiting for a cue to attack.

Alan's warriors were outnumbered because Cane's people were helped by Vemion's, but still, they couldn't afford to go through with the fight if they could help it. The end result wouldn't be good for Cane.

"How dare you to tell me what to do!" Alan hollered, he blew his top because of Vemion's suggestion.

And when all the people there thought the situation wouldn't be able to be salvaged anymore, because all the warriors were already in their beasts, in a fighting stance at that, an even more powerful roar echoed in this front yard.

"ENOUGH!"

Everyone turned their attention toward the source of that powerful voice, which held so much authority and found a woman in her late fifties walking toward the commotion. She was not alone, there was a young man by her side, which caught everyone's attention because of the exquisite red cloak that he was wearing.

"Princess Osana," Cane greeted the woman before everyone could regain their composure. He was then followed by prince Vemion and his mate, while Iris was still shielded behind her mate.

Cane's sharp eyes fixed on the man in the red cloak, as his face hardened, but it was impossible to know what was in his mind right now.

At the same time, it seemed the Alpha had not yet realized how overprotective he was about his mate, as he kept Iris behind his back. The situation was still heated at this moment, not to mention the appearance of that man.

"Aunt Osana," Alan greeted her begrudgingly, but he didn't dare to raise his head and look her in the eyes.

Osana was no longer young anymore, but she was still a regal beauty. The powerful aura emanated from her was enough to suppress Alan's arrogance.

"Shift!" Osana said firmly and all the royal warriors shifted back into their human form, while Cane's warriors stayed in their beast form, because they didn't receive an order from the alpha. "Cane, I wish for your men to behave."

Her eyes fell on Cane. She didn't look happy because the warriors that he brought were still in their beast form.

"Shift," Cane said casually. He loosened his grip on Iris and finally let her greet Osana.

When Iris' blue eyes fell on the man beside princess Osana, she was dumbstruck, while the man grinned at her happily, he even waved subtly at her, which went unnoticed by the princess.

"So, you are Gerald's daughter?" Osana's dark eyes looked at Iris intensely.

"Yes," Iris replied, slightly uncomfortable because she was reminded of that fact again. She retracted her attention from the man and focused on the Princess now.

"I heard you are deaf." She furrowed her brows because Iris replied to her question.

"I can read lips, Princess."

Princess Osana regarded her for a moment before she turned to the man by her side and apologized for the commotion.

"Lou, my apologies for the commotion, I hope you won't see this as a bad thing," Princess Osana said in a gentle and respectful tone.

Yes, the man was Lou, the merchant that Cane and the others met in the black market. What was he doing here? That was the first question that ran through their minds when they saw him walk beside Princess Osana.

"Don't be so polite, Princess. Sometime, children will fight with each other," Lou said casually, demeaning everyone present there, but his eyes were fixed on Iris. "I heard there will be a ceremony for the new alpha and luna of the Howling Wolf pack."

Cane said nothing, he just observed the situation, while Alan was fuming mad.