

My Alpha's Betrayal: Burning In The Flames Of His Vengeance Chapter 101

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Chapter 101

11. My Decision

CHARLENE

I hadn't been able to sleep all night. Alpha Hunter seemed to have been satisfied with my response and had ordered for wine to be brought in celebration of my agreement. I ran my fingers through my hair, watching the men train far below, lost in thought. I hadn't gone to breakfast this morning, unable to face him.

I had gotten dressed in a black dress, with a plunging neckline and a flared umbrella skirt, but all I wanted to do was get into bed and hide from the world, so I could have some time to comprehend and digest everything that had happened. 1

Raiden and Gamma Grayson had mind linked to ask if I was ok, which I had cheerily told them I was.

Living in this place... so far from everything I was used to, was going to be different. I had always thought Westerfell would always be my home...

I sighed heavily. Hunter wasn't a bad person, and he was handsome.

I blushed at the realisation that getting married also meant... My heart thumped, my cheeks burning even more at the idea of being intimate with him.

My stomach felt funny, and when there was a knock on the door, I jumped in alarm.

I exhaled. Walking over to it and smoothing my skirt, I opened the door.

My heart skipped a beat at the sight of the tall muscular man before me. His hair was sleeked back and tied; it was obvious he had just showered from the smell of the woody shampoo that mixed with his own scent. He was dressed in a black shirt and brown pants, and he was currently smirking slightly.

Did he always have that look on his face?

“Alpha Hunter...” I said, smiling politely

“Princess Charlene.” He replied, almost sounding mocking.

Was he teasing me?

“Can I help you?” I asked, tucking my hair behind my ear and looking down to avoid his intense gaze.

To my utter dismay, my gaze fell on the front of his pants, to the very noticeable bulge that was packed away. My cheeks burned as I looked up at him, only to see that small smirk had become a full-blown grin.

Oh my Goddess, he had seen where my attention had fallen!

“Uhh, I didn’t mean help like that! Can–can I ask why you are here?” I asked, knowing my entire face was flushed. 2

He stepped closer and I jumped back, my heart thumping as I pressed my lips together. He bent down slightly, until his lips were close to my ear.

“I would tease... but I don’t think your fellow pack members will appreciate me having an unconscious princess in my hold.” He growled huskily, his fingers running through my hair. He chuckled, moving back, and I let out the breath I was holding. My heart thundering extremely loudly. “Fear not princess, I’m only here to ask how you are, since you did not come for breakfast. Are you nervous?”

Nervous? Of course I was nervous! I was going to get married! I had made the decision myself... It felt strange, usually someone or other always made decisions for me.

“A little.” I replied bravely, smiling slightly.

His smirk vanished and my stomach sank.

Did I upset him?

“It’s it’s nothing to be worried about, I’m perfectly fine and it is an honour to be chosen by the Alpha. Please don’t think that I’m backing out or–”

He placed a finger to my lips, cutting me off before he cupped my face in his large, calloused hands.

“You ramble when you’re nervous.”

If my face wasn’t red already, it must now be a terrifyingly plum colour! Oh how he must think I look awful!

“Look, I’m not one to charm women, but my mother always told me to be faithful and respectful to the one whom I choose to keep by my side, I will treat you well, Princess, and give you anything that you wish for. The only man I will ever challenge will be if your fated mate shows up.” He said, his eyes flashing possessively. 1

I don’t think that would happen, mated women usually didn’t venture out on full moons once they had taken a chosen mate. That wouldn’t happen.

“Forgive me if I’m out of line, but the Alpha doesn’t really know me, and marrying me does not get you any assets. I am not the king’s biological daughter, so why would you choose me?”

“The first time I saw you, you caught my eye, and with you walking right into my pack... It was such an opportunity, why wouldn’t I take advantage of it?” He had already marked his claim and it was clear, for some crazy reason, he wanted me. “You might not see it, but a woman with a good heart is far more valuable than jewels or assets. I have that already. All I need is my Luna by my side.” 3

I couldn’t argue with him, he seemed to really want this, and I couldn’t deny it made me feel all warm inside.

“Then, I hope I can be the Luna you deserve. If I’m out of line, please guide me, I am willing to learn and become better.” I replied. “I sometimes speak up when I think something is not right, and I apologise in advance, but I never mean to offend anyone.”

“I need a woman who does. A Luna is meant to stand by her Alpha’s side as an equal. I can be pretty hot headed. I need a woman who is confident and just, yet at the same time willing to be submissive when the time calls for it...”

His gaze dipped to my breasts, my heart hammering loudly, and I knew what he meant. In bed.

My cheeks burned once again, but what more was I expecting? He was an Alpha and their sexual energy was even more than a normal werewolf.

“I will aim to please.” I found myself whispering, as I nibbled on my lips. 1

“Goddess, you’re a tease.” He growled, surprising me before he pulled me against him.

My hand instantly went to his chest, very aware of every single ridge and curve of his body. My pussy clenched and I bit my lip to stop the sigh that threatened to escape. His arms tightened around my waist before he leant down, his lips brushing my ear, making my breath hitch.

"I think we will get along perfectly... The wedding will be held at the end of this week." He turned away from me and I looked at his back, concerned at the way he had suddenly turned.

"Of course." I replied.

A week... Goddess that was soon, but we didn't have time to waste.

"I've already sent out my men to secretly pass messages to some of Andres's most loyal allies, and those

who are my own allies. We will gather the army we need, have no doubt."

"Thank you, Alpha Hunter." I replied politely.

"Hunter." He corrected.

"Then please call me Charlene, I'm not really a princess anyway."

"You're still one in my eyes." He replied. "Excuse me."

"W-wait..."

He turned to look at me from over his shoulder, and I looked down, ready to brave the question I had in my mind.

"Will you mark me at our wedding?" I asked nervously.

Obviously it was to be expected, but the thought scared me.

"I intend to take you as mine, and to show the world that. My pack will expect a marking."

"Of course, sorry for my ignorance." I replied, feeling foolish.

Naturally there would be a marking, how else can we guarantee that I wouldn't break the marriage after we got what we wanted.

He turned back to me and closed the gap between us.

"Do not apologise to me for voicing your thoughts. My people need a marking. You can mark me, I will mark you when you are ready. How about that?" He suggested, raising an eyebrow.

I looked up at him in surprise, was an Alpha really allowing me to claim him first?

He smirked at my amusement and placed his hands on my hips, pulling me against him. My cheeks burned up once more as I felt something rather big and long against my lower stomach. I dared not look down now, realising why he had jerked away from me before.

The Alpha desired me, just the thought made me feel even more nervous, and somewhat excited.

“But as an Alpha you should claim me first. It’s fine, you may-”

“Hush, an Alpha is said to have to claim his mate because he’s an Alpha? To show his position, dominance and power, correct?”

I nodded and he smirked confidently.

“I already am all those things, and allowing my chosen mate to mark me first is not an issue. Does an Alpha not submit to his Luna?” He replied. 5

I couldn’t do anything but stare at him in awe. If he had not had an effect on me before, he did now. 2

I don’t know if he was simply good with words or if he actually meant those things... but he had made a warmth settle within my chest. I couldn’t help but smile, a faint blush coating my cheeks.

“Thank you.” I whispered softly.

He didn’t reply, instead leaning down, his lips grazing my cheek in a soft kiss that made me gasp. My head felt light, before he stepped back and he left the room, leaving me lightheaded and oddly happy. 2

I shook my head, touching the spot on my cheek that he had kissed. His touch remained and I did a twirl, trying to contain the happiness that had filled me.

“Smiling like that, and I was worried for no reason.” Raiden’s voice came, making me look up startled as he knocked lightly on the open door. He sniffed the air and raised an eyebrow. “I thought I saw Alpha

Hunter leaving.” 1

I blushed and shook my head.

“He just came to say the wedding is in a week!” I said quickly, making Raiden chuckle.

He had taken good care of me, and I knew although he was a wonderful person, it was also because of the fact that I meant a lot to Yileyna. Deep down, I wished she took

Raiden as her mate; he would be good for her. He'd treat her like the queen she deserves to be treated as, and he would always cherish her. 3

"So soon, clearly he seems impatient." He smirked as he came over to me, crossing his arms, a look of concern on his face. "Are you sure Charlene? I don't want Yileyna coming for my head."

"Don't worry, I'll make sure when I see her again, that she knows it was my decision." I reassured softly.

I really missed her.

"I miss her too." He murmured, looking down at his hands, knowing what I was thinking.

"We'll see her soon enough." I replied with confidence, looking out of the window. 1

The weather was still freezing, but it wasn't as bad as it was in Westerfell.

I knew I was doing the right thing. This marriage would promise me an army and the support that Yileyna needed.

"He's a good person." Raiden said quietly. I nodded, remembering what Hunter had said about his mother,

"Gamma Grayson said Alpha Hunter became an Alpha at an extremely young age. What happened to his parents?" I asked Raiden suddenly.

He frowned, tilting his head.

"No one really knows, this pack and Alpha Kunter have always been very private." I nodded, yet I couldn't help but be curious. After all, it was clear that Alpha Hunter held his mom in high praise. Perhaps I'll ask him, if I get the chance. 4

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Chapter 102

12. Distrust

THEON

“How could you lose her?!” Dad roared at Arabella, who had her head bowed, almost as if wanting to flinch, but she remained in her position, her head down. “Both of you!”

His orange eyes turned on me, but I remained indifferent. I had been dragged back from the coast, but even now the panic that was consuming me was outweighing the fact that I had rejected her.

I felt empty, but it was ok. I had been emotionless, simply a shell for vengeance until she had made a place inside of me. Maybe I was just not meant for anything more than this. 1

I just hope she was safe. 1

I wish I had dived into the water, but I was fucking useless, unable to even swim because a siren's injury was far more dangerous and powerful than an ordinary injury, and my Little Storm had fucking dug deep. I deserved it though; I had hurt her far more than these mere injuries. She could do this ten times over and it would never be enough... 2

The bruises that covered her body, the lashes on her back... Anger blistered within me, and only when Dad shouted did I snap out of my dark thoughts.

“GET OUT!” Dad thundered at Arabella, she bowed her head before she left the room. “Fucking useless!”

He slammed his fist into the ice that was now melting away, creating large cracks through it.

I remembered the question between him and Arabella, the way she had addressed him as Master and the way he had called me a fool... Things like that were not something that I was just going to forget.

“Calm down, I'll bring her back.” I replied coldly, knowing I needed to keep up the facade, as if I didn't know what he had called me.

He looked at me keenly.

“How did she escape? Where did she go?” He asked.

Was he hinting at the ocean?

“Into the water, but I’ll find her... I saw what she partially became before she attacked me.” I said, forcing as much disgust into my voice as possible.

He tensed before nodding.

“Ah yes, of course, I wanted to discuss this with you.”

Oh really? I heard you say to keep it from me.

“I know how much you hate sirens, as do I, after all it’s because of them that we lost your sister and Nathalia.” He growled.

I nodded, “Then let’s find her and kill her as we promised. All sirens must die.” I said, crossing my arms despite the agony in my chest at that simple move.

I heard the faint change in his heartbeat before he calmed it almost instantly.

“You learned she was your mate... Are you willing to kill her?” He asked me sharply.

“Of course, she’s nothing to me.” I scoffed resentfully.

She was fucking everything to me, but I didn’t have the right to be possessive of her anymore. ,

Dad frowned, watching me for a moment, but I remained indifferent and came over, sighing in relief.

“I’m glad... For a moment I thought you would bend because she was your mate.” He patted my shoulder, and I resisted the urge to speak my mind.

He was right, I had changed in two years. All my adolescent years I had trained to hide my emotions, so when the time came, I would be able to deal with Andres. It was something I had mastered skilfully. Now. I would use the same on him,

“No. It changes nothing. Mom was killed by one, do you really think i’ll have any consideration for her?”

*The bond does things to us, it can blind us and deter us from our goals.” Dad replied, frowning deeply.

But you loved Mom, right?

I didn’t say it out loud.

It was crazy but I was beginning to question even the things I had witnessed and known as a child.

“You need not worry, I am going to find her and bring her back. We need her, right?”

“Yes... but I’m uncertain if sending you is the right thing to do... You aren’t healed and you are my son, don’t want anything to happen to you.”

You didn’t have an issue sending me to Andres.

“I can handle myself, besides, we’ve worked too hard to get to where we are today. We need the heart under our control.”

His eyes sparked with a fire of approval, and he nodded.

“It seems knowing her truth has changed your view of her, I was beginning to worry that you were far too madly in love with her.”

I looked at him sharply. My heart skipped a beat at his statement, but I simply scoffed.

“Her being a siren changes all of that. I will never forgive their kind.” I growled.

But she wasn’t a monster... Even when she rejected me, and she took on the partial form of a siren, couldn’t hate her... She had remained forgiving for far too long.

“Good good, but we need her for the power she possesses.”

He was still so hell-bent on having her, when I thought he hated sirens more than me and would rather want him dead. ¹

“You hate them as much as I do, isn’t killing her better? Do we really need her? After all, you vowed that we would kill them all.” I questioned.

I wasn’t sure, but there was a flicker of unease there in his eyes...

“Of course I do! Those things are the reasons I lost my daughter and my mate! I have a plan, Theon, a plan that will kill them all.” He hissed, gripping my shoulders painfully.

“But I need her powers, hers and Arabella’s combined. Just imagine it, I will be the most powerful Alpha alive. If the packs of this kingdom wish to live, they will have to rely on me and submit to me.”

“What do you mean combined?” I asked, trying to keep any trace of accusation from my voice. “What plans do you have, Dad? Don’t you think I should have been told? I feel there’s a lot that you are not telling me, and if we are meant to work together, then I should at least know.” ¹

“You are right, but we haven’t really had the time now, have we? But do you remember you asked me why I wasn’t scouring the seas to find the siren responsible for your mother’s death? Well it’s because I have

been working on a better way to kill them all.”

I frowned, looking at him sharply. I had begun to think that he really didn’t care, but he had a plan?

“What other way is there?”

A cold smirk crossed his face.

“Nathalia was mine and she was taken from me far faster than she ever should have. I don’t just want to kill the one who did it, but all of them. They all need to die.” His words were full of venom.

Strange... He hadn’t seemed so bothered the last time we talked. Was he messing with my mind?

“Tell me Theon, how are the sirens safe from us?”

“Because they reside in the oceans and seas that they control?”

“Exactly, and what if we poison those seas with something that affects only sirens?”

I looked at him sharply, my heart thundering.

Yileyna was down there right now.

“How is it possible?”

He smirked.

“I haven’t completed it... There are certain elements we still need, but don’t you see Theon, I have been working extremely hard on this. To get revenge for your mother.” He said quietly. 1

I frowned, trying to get my head around it. Something wasn’t right, I just couldn’t believe that he had kept this all from me and was now suddenly telling me? Why?

STOV

“What are the elements we are missing? If this is your plan and you can execute it, then I want to make sure we succeed.”

“The heart. It possesses the ability of the land and sea. She is the only one who will be able to drive the poison deep into the farthest depths of the oceans.” 1

And with it make Yileyna claim the lives of thousands... I remembered her sadness for the siren girl in Bellmead. There is no way Yileyna would be able to do it. Back then she hated sirens and still felt sorry for her, how would she feel killing them all, children and adults alike?

She would never be able to live with the blood of that many on her hands.

“We will get her back, but how do you plan to get her to obey?” I asked emotionlessly.

“Perhaps it’s a blessing in disguise that she is your mate. Although I know just the thought repulses you, this is for the greater good. When you mark her, your bond will strengthen, and she will succumb to your will. You can manipulate her to our bidding.” He responded, smirking coldly. “We were meant for this. That was why you were mated to her, and with your hatred, there is no risk for you to lose your way!”

Lose my way? Or find my way? I loved Mom and I always would, but me seeking revenge and manipulating someone else to do so on my behalf, were two very different things... 2

My initial plan was to find that siren, kill her, and then I would have let it go... Killing the entire race was never the plan.

Perhaps I was losing my way, but I needed to find Yileyna and I wanted to find out what Hunter had discovered. I had to find the answers on my own accord and fast. 1

“That is the perfect plan.” I said to Dad, placing a confident smirk on my face. “I’ll search for her.”

“You don’t need to go Theon, I have sent my men already.”

“We cannot afford to waste time, I will go too.”

He seemed to hesitate, obviously not happy with my stubbornness, but I knew he could tell my mind was made up.

Besides, no one knew that she had been taken by sirens. When Arabella had shown up, the storm had been far too violent. I had said she escaped. It was no mystery she controlled water and Arabella had bought it.

“Fine then... but be careful, we have many enemies out there Theon. I can get Arabella to put a spell on you, those who do not know you won’t be able to recognise you.”

There was no way I was going to let that woman put another fucking spell on me.

"No thanks, I'll be fine, you don't need to worry about me. I will bring her back immediately."

He gave a nod, slapping my shoulder, sending a violent flare of pain through me.

"That's my son, I'm glad that her true form and reality have made you see how very right we are in doing this."

"Of course." No, I'm just agreeing with you so I can find my own answers... "I do have a question. Where is Thea?" 1

He looked at me, raising an eyebrow at my question.

"Oh, she's safe in Lochfox. She is residing in the city with a few of our older wolves. No one knows she is mine. She will be safe there until we can bring her here. She is a bit of a daredevil and having her here would only have gotten her in trouble." 1

I almost smiled. She would be seventeen now, she had gotten her wolf shortly after I had left. She was fierce and feisty, and I had a feeling that wouldn't have changed. Dad's words proved that. 2

"That's good, she'll be safe." I nodded.

"Yes." He agreed.

"I will plan to leave immediately. I will start on getting supplies together for my journey." I replied, turning away, but he stopped me.

"No Theon, there is no rush. You need to at least heal. I am as restless as you to get her back here, but I also need you to heal first. You are no use to me dead."

Our eyes met, and I shook my head. 1

"I will gather supplies and set out, I won't fail you."

We both knew the wounds were far too deep for me to heal from.

An injury made by a siren was not one that would heal overnight... After I returned to the castle, the healer who had rebandaged my wounds had warned me. His words still rang in my mind.

The chances to heal from these wounds are minimum... They are far too deep... I'm sorry, there is nothing more to do... Will I ever heal fully? Only time will tell. 21

Dad frowned, staring at my chest. Concern flickered on his face before he exhaled. "That's my son. Stay resilient." He said simply. I gave a curt nod before taking my leave.

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Yileyna was on my mind once more.

Fated and rejected... was this our fate?

The paths we walked were so different that I don't know why I had been so stupid to let myself get caught up by my emotions... I had destroyed not only my own resolution, but above all: Her.

I had lost the only thing that made me feel alive in the process too.

She told me to make sure the people of Westerfell were safe, but I needed to make sure she was ok before anything else.

Call me selfish, but knowing the sirens took her was fucking worrying me, and she was the only fucking thing I cared about.

It was high time I did a bit of snooping around here, and no matter how fucking angry I was at the bruises that littered her body, there was no way I could ask Dad without giving away my concern for her.

I would find out who did it and I would kill them. But before I left... there were two bastards that I was going to fucking castrate. 1

First, I needed to get in touch with the captain of The Siren Killer and its crew.