

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya the Author

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 401

176 Ayla

"Don't be scared Princess Ayla. I am not here to harm you, I am not on Hannah's side. I was friends with her younger sister." She cast her eyes down to the floor before continuing "Well, more than friends but her parents wouldn't let us. I promise you I helped Prince Griffin to find you. And I come here to ask for a favor in return." She seemed very genuine.

The way she said she was more than friends with Suzanne made me think she might have loved her. Alpha Philip was traditional and in his mind mateships always consisted between a wolf and a she-wolf. There was no way he would let his very own daughter be with another She- wolf. Griffin had visited the BloodMoon pack with Dillion and Collin. Neither are shy about how much they love each other. And they would not hide not being straight no matter how judgemental others were about them. Meaning that if Lizzy was indeed non-straight she has seen that the future King and the future Silver Moon Alpha was very accepting of queer relationships.

Trusting my gut, like I should as the Luna to be, I made an impulsive decision on what to do.

"I am about to head to Prince Griffin now, you can come along so we can discuss your favor and when we can properly discuss it if needed. Because as you know I have a very busy day" I told her before walking

her to our chambers.

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176 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

"Hey, darling I missed you" Griffin pulls me into a big bear hug burying his nose in my neck.

He didn't seem to notice I had Lizzy with me or he didn't care that much. Just like he didn't care, my parents were in the living room with an excellent view of what we were doing. They seemed elated with it, they always were when their children were happy with their mates.

"Oh, Hey Lizzy, didn't see you there. When did you arrive at the pack?" Griffin's kind response confirmed that I was right in trusting her.

"My parents and siblings are waiting in the nearest human hotel, I know you said we needed to find local packs to move into. Or packs that we had a family connection too. But my mom's former Alpha has the same views towards queer people as Alpha Philip had. And.... Lizzy hadn't walked into the living room yet, her lip trembling as she started to explain what brought her here.

"Bossman, I made the reservaa... Oh.., shit..." Dillion who walked up towards us talking happily about making a reservation. One look at Lizzy and he started stuttering.

Realizing he had interrupted us, with something important. Seeing Lizzy on the verge of tears made him realize he had messed up. He didn't. know that him being here would probably prove valuable. Both Griffin

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176 Ayla

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and I had realized just what Lizzy was about to say. She wasn't straight and she wanted to ask if she could be a part of the Silver Moon pack with her entire family. Because it was the only pack she could be sure of accepted who she was. And since her family had been my pack members. before there was a bit of connection however small it was.

We can

"You don't need to come out to us now or anytime. Today I have something planned with my mate and family in law. Tomorrow the trials starts so we need to spend some time on that. After it is done discuss you and your family becoming a part of the Silver Moon pack. Until then you can move into rooms in the guest house. You will be our personal guests." Griffin states without ever consulting me.

He looks at me and it's not because he feels bad for jumping the gun. It is not to see if I agree with him. It is because he knew I would agree with him before he even said it. It was a look to confirm how in sync we are. a look to agree to helping this girl.

"And my mate and I will love to have you all over for dinner tonight. Sometimes it is good to be amongst our own people isn't it?" Lizzy seems to immediately understand what Dillion is talking about and shoots him a grateful smile. I hope Dillion and Colin see us as their people too. If not I do hope that they know we love them. Not despite who they are, what they are but because of it. I would ask them later because Dillion seems ready to go and so is Lizzy. As for me, Griffin told her that he had plans with me tonight. And now I was curious to know what those plans are. Normally I would love for some alone time. with him.

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176 Ayla

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But now days after the heat and spending so much time with him. Combined with missing my parents since not being a part of their pack for the first time in forever. I really hoped that the plans Griffin made included my parents. As he was about to burst in he was talking about a reservation. Making me pretty sure Griffin would take me and my parents out to diner. He knows me like he knows the back of his hand. He would never suggest to go out to diner without my parents when I only have them around me for a couple of days.

"So you must be wondering what we are doing right?" Griffin chuckles as he leads me into the living room where my parents are waiting on us.

Yes, I am, I wanted to ask if we could do something the four of us. It seems as though you have planned something so of course I am excited to know what it is." I answer Griffin not bothering to hide how giddy I

1. am.

How excited I am about the fact that Griffin planned something for us. He smiles and leads me back to the couch. He smiles knowingly as I settle down between my mother and him.

"We cannot miss out on the lunch, not with every Council member attending. After we can get changed I made reservation for a nice restaurant the four of us. First though I planned a boat ride for all of us. Don't worry I hired a boat with staff. So we will all be safe". Griffin laughs and I love how despite everything we always find a reason to laugh about. That we are still able to enjoy the little things in life. That we make sure we spend time to enjoy ourselves.

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176 Ayla

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Time spend together, the two of us and with our loved ones. That amidst of all life was throwing at us, we still managed to be good leaders. To be there for the people who needed us. And as nerveus I was for this first formal lunch as the Crown Princess. Knowing the future would always be as beautiful if not more. As is was today in the middle of all this turmoil made me feel secure enough to face this lunch heads on. The only worry I have is Cynthia misbehaving herself again, she still has not accepted me as her Princess. She still hadn't accepted Griffin's refusal to her, or her love for me. With the heat and now the council present we hadn't have the time to talk to her and point out the consequences of her

actions.

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The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 402

177 Ayla

Yesterday, lunch went by without a hitch. The entire pack was invited as always. Only the high-ranking wolves have an obligation to go. Even with them, we cannot force them. Cynthia not coming to lunch was odd for her. The people who knew her would know something was off. The Elders of the Council did not notice her absence. I did and to me, a reassurance. Behaving like the prim and proper Princess was easier to do without having to worry about what Cynthia would do.

it was

After what I thought was a successful lunch, we followed Griffin's plan. All in all, it was the perfect day. I took my mind off the burden of needing to go to trial the next day. Now however I woke up to Griffin getting out of bed to make us our coffee. For a few seconds, I lay back enjoying the view of Griffin walking off in his boxer shorts until it dawned on me what the reason was he got out of bed this early.

Because it wasn't so that we could go to work in time. It wasn't because we had fun plans we needed to be on time for. It was because an hour from now, I would have to relive the worst period of my life. On trial for everyone and their mother to see. All so that in the end I could request punishment. So that the Council of Elders could decide if

what I wanted was a fair request. I would be judged if my suffering had been enough to warrant whatever punishment I would request.

I hate all of it, I understand it is necessary. And that I cannot be the person to decide on Hannah's punishment myself. Nor could the people

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177 Ayla

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around me who loved me. Their love for me would cloud their judgment. The only thing that I hated was the fact that my story would be on display for all to see.

When I walked into the meeting room where the trial would be held. Dressed to feel good. Dressed in clothes I normally wouldn't wear but clothes that showed my rank. That made me look professional and powerful. It almost was like an armor for me, and I knew I needed it. My eyes roamed around the room. Most of the people I saw were the people I figured would be there, Isabella and Rodrick, Daniel and Kirsten, Griff, my parents, and of course the Elders Dillion, Jessa, and some of the others were not in the stands but closer to the desk that would serve as the stands. They would be called on as witnesses. Some random pack members showed up. I appreciated what they did because it was because they supported me. The only one I was truly surprised to see, was Cynthia it was hard to believe that she was here because she wanted to

support me.

She has done nothing but cause me trouble, she was hellbent on not accepting me as Griffin's mate and all that came with that. After hearing Hannah tell me why she did all that she has done. Not just the kidnapping, but everything she did before that too. It was for the exact same reasons as Cynthia did what she was doing now. Causing all that trouble, it made me wonder if Cynthia would one day escalate like that

too.

Until I realized that they might have had the same reasoning behind.

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177 Ayla

288 Vouchers

what they were doing. All the rest was completely different. Her father had told her how disappointed he was in her more than once. He has apologized to us and disciplined her several times. Hannah's parents had fed her obsessiveness because, to them, it was warranted. David did not try to stop Hannah's behavior for a little while he did. Back when he figured I might be his mate. When he figured I might change and become his obedient mate. He never fully stopped because it stroked his ego and when it became clear he and I would never be mates he stopped defending me at all.

Griffin was different, he protected me even before he was sure I would accept him as my mate. I would never want to leave him, but still. I know he would never stop protecting me even if I did. Because that is how he was, and that is why Cynthia would never get as bad as Hannah. And that is why I despite everything pity Hannah.

"All may be seated" The Elder who would lead the trial was strict.

Everyone rushed to their seat, not wanting to annoy her. First order of business as King Roderick was the one who needed to give an official statement as to why we wanted Hannah to be punished. What we accused her of and in her case why we had only arrested her. He winked. at me as if he wanted to reassure me and then he began his opening.

statement.

"The she-wolf we want punished has committed numerous crimes not just against me or my family. But against the entire country on top of aiding several oth

heinous crimes. Like the murder of Alpha Philip

Birch and Luna Isabella Birch and their underage daughter."

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177 Ayla

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Gasp of horror filled the room, most wolves in the entire country knew that David had killed his parents. But hardly anyone knew about the fact that he killed his sister. As

Rodrick explained as the main victim, I would request the punishment as is custom with the Council of Elders. Stating that because I was his daughter-in-law he would not request a formal punishment as it would be a conflict of interest. The court agreed. with this and soon we could proceed.

During all this time and during preparing I feared having to relive what I have gone through again. Never did I realize I would need to listen to the rest. Hearing all that they went through, how scared sad, and angry they were when I was gone. How on multiple occasions Griffin alinost got seriously ill from missing. Mostly because he had been starving himself not caring for anything other than finding me. I knew David had kept the entire Blood Moon pack under his control with his Alpha voice. Somehow I never realized Hannah had helped with that too. It was all, harder on me than talking about what happened to me.

Listening to everyone else's hurt made me feel like a failure. Like I should have been there for my pack both old and new. And for my wonderful mate, it all made what happened to me feel less important in the grand scheme of things. For the moment I woke up from my coma, if we can even call it that. Everyone else had been concerned with me. Everyone had told me how sorry they were for what had happened to me. People had told me they wished they paid better attention. Even now in this trial, I would be the one requesting a punishment as the main victim. Now I wonder if that is me though, but still, I hoped the Council of Elders would agree with the punishment I would request. Hannah deserved to be a rogue she did not deserve to be in a pack

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177 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

anymore. Not for how she had hurt so many people just for her own gains. So when the council stated that in only a few hours they had come up with a conclusion my palms got sweaty

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178 Ayla

"I Nathaniel Puche, member of the Council of Elders, and judge during this trial have come to a conclusion. Hannah Oaken, there is no doubt in regard to the heinous crimes

you committed. While I have no doubt you solely wanted to target Her Royal Highness Princess Ayla Hemming. Any wolf, especially one coming from an old and high-ranking bloodline such as yourself. Should be aware of the major consequences would have not just on the Princess who has been innocent. But to her mate, the rest of her family, and even the involved packs. You aided in crimes. that could be and are considered an act of war. To both the White Oak and the Silver Moon pack. Committing an act of war against the latter is seen as treason.” The elder paused taking a deep breath.

I don’t know if he was a little short of breath because of his speech or he just paused for a dramatic effect. The Elder’s of the council are normally not one for theatrics but who knows? Maybe Elder Nathaniel is the odd one out. The one that loved Showmanship. And if he did, and if this was a silence just for show it had its desired effect. He had made it clear that Hannah was found guilty of all the crimes she was indicted for. Now everyone in the meeting room was waiting with bated breath, what the verdict was going to be.

When I requested Hannah would become a rogue some pack members had protested out loud, screaming that she deserved a harsher punishment. Hannah on the other hand had pleaded that forcing her to become a rogue meant we would take away her pup’s future. Pleading to be allowed as a Silver Moon pack member. A servant, with no rights just.

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178 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

work to earn a roof above her head, and being allowed to eat pack meals. As long as we would not treat her pup any differently. The Council had mentioned how she had committed treason. An offense punishable by death. So there was no telling what they would decide.

“Princess Ayla you have suggested a punishment, and I have to compliment you on the fairness of the requested punishment. The Council of Elders has decided to judge in your favor. Hannah Oak former rankless of the BloodMoon Pack, I hereby declare you rogue. You have exactly two hours to pack all your belongings, by the last things you might need. At five pm exactly royal guards will escort you off the premises so you can live out the rest of your days as a rogue with your unborn pup. Keep in mind that this still means you need to uphold the country’s laws and regulations. Such as not contacting former Alpha David Birch and alerting the authorities if he contacts you.” The second. Elder Nathaniel stopped talking Hannah stepped away from her desk and ran to me, falling to her knees in front of me.

In a second Griffin, Dillion, Colin, Daniel, and the guards were surrounding us ready to shift and pounce. Even if all Hannah did was hold my ankle crying asking me to please spare her. To request at different punishment and not ruin her pup's life over the mistakes made by their parents. I could barely over the growling of the others and Elder Richard asking for someone to take Hannah away and help her get her last bearings.

Everyone had reacted to the judgment and the punishment following. All but Cynthia who had hardly moved a muscle for the entirety of the trial. So the fact that now she was the one to get up to help Hannah was

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178 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

a little unnerving. I had to convince myself that I was paranoid. That she just didn't hate Hannah as much as all the others did. Because she did not want to accept me as her Princess let alone her future Luna and Queen. There was nothing she could do anymore, it was not like Hannah would be the Silver Moon background.

The two hours Hannah had before she was escorted off the pack ground had flown by. Milo being kind as ever had made us a cake to celebrate Hannah getting what she had coming to her. A celebration to end at period of worry and stress and a lot of extra work and precautions. I smiled, joked, and laughed along with the rest of them. I helped Rodrick and Griffin, alerting the other packs. As did Isabella. Nobody not even Griffin seemed to be aware of the turmoil in my mind. Not even now that we walked in front of Hannah and the four guards that were escorting her. The only thing I did comment on was the fact that having not just one or two but four guards escorting her off the pack territory seemed a bit excessive.

But when Rodrick had explained that even if the chance was extremely small, this could be an excuse for David to come and visit her. To take her home to wherever home was for him now. And that the four guards. were a simple precaution to ensure everyone's safety. I had just nodded and agreed with them.

Telling them what was on my mind, that I had second doubts about this punishment wouldn't

that Hannah made her owne. The rational part of my brain kose

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and should lie in it. The rational part of

178 Ayla

11 288 Vouchers

my brain understood that Hannah has always been and forever will be a threat to me and everyone that I love. It even understood that to so many of my friends and family seeing her would just be a trigger. Honestly, I wasn't sure it wouldn't be a trigger to me either. It was just the last words she said to me when she clung to the seams of my pants legs.

"Please, Ayla you can hate me I get that, but what if it was your pup? Would you not do anything to give it the best life you can offer it?" I don't even know if she somehow knew I had been in heat and might very well be pregnant now.

And it didn't matter because she was right, I would do everything I could to give my pup the best life I could. I wanted to explain to her that. if she had not been pregnant I would have requested for her to be executed. How I had been kind to her and her unborn child. Like she had been kind to me while I was kidnapped. Just giving her the bare minimum so she could survive. But where she did things like that because sometimes my basic needs aligned with her plans for herself. I made this decision purely out of the goodness of my heart. Or that was what I told myself. Now her last desperate plea had my head spinning Unsure if I had been selfish, making myself believe what I came up with was the kindest thing I could do for her and her child. Or if I had just been too much of a coward to make a real decision. To either disregard her child completely. Or let her get away with it all because she was pregnant.

Maybe if it wasn't for everyone being so proud of me I would have talked about what was on my mind. Now I felt I had to come to terms with this on my own. And not bother the others with it.

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 404

179 Griffin

She probably thinks she is hiding it from me, but I can tell something is wrong with Ayla. Ever since Hannah begged her to reconsider her punishment it is as if she has grown a little dull. Almost like she was muted, I can only hope she brings it up when it is just the two of us. That would mean she trusts me enough to let me in. To tell me what is bothering her. I know she trusts me and will tell me eventually. I just hope that she will tell me soon so I can be there for her. She has known Hannah her entire life and I know it must be hard for her to deal with Hannah being a rogue now "because of her decision"

Surely, the other option would have been worse. I had good reasons to believe that if it hadn't been for Ayla requesting such a lenient punishment. Hannah would have been executed. It was the punishment Dad told me he would have asked the Council of Elders for if it was not for Ayla, wanting to spare her life. That's why she wanted to see Hannah two nights ago. If she hadn't been pregnant I was fairly sure Ayla would have agreed with having Hannah executed. Hannah should thank the Moon Goddess that my beautiful mate was so warm and kind-hearted that she not only spared her life. But even allowed her to live out the rest of her days in freedom. Where she could build a life with her pup.

Granted it was not ideal but rogues have been known to go and live amongst humans. As a wolf, you can even find a way to make sure you don't lose your wolf. All you needed to do was to go on regular runs. In your wolf form of course but with a little planning, Hannah would be able to. She could tell her pup all about werewolf culture, and teach

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179 Griffin

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them how to shift. Take them on runs and in the end let them travel

some packs to find their mate. Granted, it wouldn't be the best life for a young wolf. It would or could still be a fulfilling one. David and Hannah were the only ones responsible for the fact that their pup had no pack to grow up in. No other wolves, that wanted to be in their or their pup's life. Like how David was the only one responsible for the fact that his firstborn would grow up without a father.

Maybe this was easy for me to say though. All I saw when I looked at Hannah was the she-wolf worried about the wolf that mistreated her and all of her pack and family members. The monster who killed his family just to try to get the mate that he rejected back. Ayla being my second. chance mate was only part of it. Nothing of what David did, what Hannah supported was okay. Maybe it would be less personal if it wasn't my mate. The one I loved so much. But I would have petitioned the two-

of them to be executed.

Ayla was different though she was far more forgiving and kind-hearted than I am. It was something I loved her for. Something that I admired but I know sometimes it was hard on her. Even without her telling me I knew she was either doubting her decision or feeling guilty about it. She shouldn't be, not when the woman she was feeling sorry for tried to ruin. her life. Hannah told Cynthia to be careful not to become like her. Everyone

found it odd that Cynthia was the one who helped Hannah get her things in order until Mom pointed out that the two of them had spent some time being locked up together. With Ayla as a common enemy of

some sort.

Mom figured they might have formed a kind of friendship, something we

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179 Griffin

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all agreed on after we thought about it. Hannah's warning to Cynthia should be a warning sign to Ayla. Proof that the two she-wolves had spoken about her in some unkind way. After all, Hannah warned Cynthia to let it go and not end up like her. Yet all it seemed to do was make Ayla feel worse.

The second the gates to the pack ground closed Hannah standing on the other side and grabbing her chest as the hurt of becoming rogue coursed to her body. Ayla had gone to her office saying she needed to study for her education to become a Queen. At first, I figured she did not want to see Hannah going through all that pain. Even if I felt it was deserved I walked away too. I would never watch another wolf suffer.

Or well I might watch David suffer for all he has done to my wonderful mate but nobody else. But it had been three hours now, and Ayla still hadn't come out. She had skipped dinner letting me know she was not hungry. it worried me not just because there was a very high chance she was pregnant meaning she would need to eat enough. Sometimes with how hectic our lives were we forgot just how much stress she had been under lately. Even the sessions with her therapist were on hold now. She had to cancel due to heat, she had to skip one because of an important meeting the week before. Now we would reschedule when the heat wast

over.

But with the trial starting directly after the heat, Ayla hadn't had the chance to schedule a new appointment. Let alone attend one, meaning she has been without therapy for three weeks. Both for her mental well-

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179 Griffin

1288 Vouchers

being and for her physical well-being. When the last days must have taken a toll on her physical and especially mental health. I wanted her to eat and I wanted to cheer her up without making it too obvious I was worrying about her. Knowing her she would just feel bad about it again.

Ultimately I decided to make her oven-baked sliders with my crispy oven-baked garlic potato wedges. Mom had given us some of her famous. coleslaw before so I paired it with that. Thirty minutes later I knocked on the door of her office. Unsurprised at the fact she didn't answer me. She would often put on her headphones if she was trying to focus, or just wanted to cut herself off from the outside world. She wasn't ignoring me on purpose. Opening the door while carrying a tray with two plates of food and two glasses of Dr. Pepper was a challenge but I eventually managed too.

"Darling, I got hungry and I realiii.." I started to tell her my excuse as to why I brought her dinner to her office. But my words fell away when I finally saw Ayla. I almost let the tray fall from my hands as my heart broke and what I saw. Something I never expected to see even if I should have. Everything has been leading up to this, but I got too caught up in life, I was so excited to be able to rebuild things with Ayla. To take more steps toward the future. That I hardly ever considered if Ayla was ready to take these steps. If Ayla was as excited and as capable of rebuilding our lives together. She would always push aside my worries, and I would let her because it was easier. So ultimately I was to blame for this.

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 405

180 Griffin

Ayla was curled up on the couch in her office, her face stained with dried-up tears. I figured she had just thrown herself into her work, her education. To stop obsessing over Hannah's punishment. Never did I expect her to hide her pain, I didn't even realize how bad it was. This had to be more than feeling a bit guilty. And for some reason, she did. not feel like she could share that pain with me. For some reason I made her feel like she couldn't confide in me.

She must have heard me entering the room as she startled awake. Rubbing her eyes, before smiling up at me.

"Hey, baby, I'm sorry I'm just so tired." She sat back up, still pretending

to be fine.

I told myself I was not going to probe her to tell me what was up. Before I found her curled up with a tear-stained face I told myself I was going to let her tell me in her own time. Now I couldn't anymore. I would always want to comfort her, as her mate it was my purpose in life. All I wanted was to make her feel happy, safe, and loved. It was clear she didn't feel like that now, I placed the tray with our food on her desk and made my way over to her.

"Darling, I can see you have been crying please let me be there for you?" I sat down pleading with her to let me in.

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180 Griffin

1288 Vouchers

"You will think it is silly and we have so much more going on." She sniffled but at least it wasn't because she didn't want to hide things from

1. me.

She just didn't want to burden me. All I needed to do now was to show her that she would never burden me. If I could help her carry her burdens, as she always helped me carry mine. It's what being mates is all about. So that is what I tell her, giving her the plate of food in the meantime. Both to have something to do and not stress out over the fact that I still feel I let my mate down. And because I wanted her to eat.

"I feel guilty about Hannah, which is stupid because I know she brought. this upon herself. Honestly, it's not even her I feel guilty of but her pup. What if I ruined their life before it even started?" I could tell she was holding back another sob.

Ayla worrying about ruining a pup's life. Even if it was their parents who potentially ruined it.

"Darling, I don't think it is silly. It's so kind and sweet like you are, and it is one of the reasons why I love you. That being said you did not make the decision the council did. Dad would have pleaded for Hannah to be executed and the likelihood of the Council agreeing was high. You gave that little pup a chance at life when its parents never cared enough to do so. I would have risked everything to get you and our pup out of a dangerous situation. David just left them behind like they are nothing to him." Ayla listened to me while eating her food, something I said made her stop. Thinking about something before she answered me.

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180 Griffin

288 Vouchers

“Because you love me Griff, you are the best mate I could ever wish for. And you’re going to be just as good as a father to our pups” Her hand absentmindedly rested on her stomach when she told me she trusted me to be a good father.

Making me wonder if deep down inside, she feels she is pregnant. I heard it happened to women before. It was not the most important thing now. And since Ayla continued speaking I focussed my attention back on her. And to what she was saying.

“They never mattered to him, Hannah was a means to an end. I have heard him tell her he was sure she would never get pregnant. In his mind, wolves only could conceive if the Moon Goddess supported their union.” Ayla was serious but I couldn’t help scoff.

How can someone in line to be the next Alpha, who had to have some education? Be so absolutely stupid. There was no way he actually believed that to be true. Ayla convinced me he was, but she never understood it either. That was why he raped her, he figured she would

get pregnant on the first try. Showing her once and for all that was

meant to be with her.

he

Ayla had told us about her experiences, and the abuse she suffered. Never what he told her during the kidnapping. Now she told me all about it. How he forced her to play a happy couple. How everything he did was to show her that they were meant to be together. How he was convinced that he could restore the mate bond by being with her. How guilty she felt for playing along. Even if she had to, because if she would

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180 Griffin

have he would have only hurt her more.

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288 Vouchers

I was horrified to learn all about what he had done to her. The full extent of what she had been through. I don't know why I never asked her about it, maybe I was scared to find out what she had been through. Maybe it was because I was scared. Ayla had told me how much it hurt her to hear the recollections of what I, our friends, and family had gone through when she was gone.

It's probably why she didn't tell me either, she is always trying not to burden me with her problems. Even as the future Alpha the pack's therapist would never tell me what she discussed. Rightfully so, Ayla was the one who had to decide what she would tell me and what not. Apart from burdening me with her problems like she probably figured was **what** she would be doing. Even if it would never feel like that for me. It must also be hard for her to go over all the things she went through back when she was kidnapped.

There was nothing I wanted more than to help her deal with all of this, But I was in way over my head. I could not help her, I could be there for her, I could support her, and continue to show her I loved her. But she needed professional help to deal with all of this. After one of the first session, she told me the therapist had figured out she was still dealing with the emotional effects of David not only rejecting her. But the betrayal that took place when he betrayed her, and the bullying after. I hated seeing how my strong mate had to suffer so much. How she had to use her strength to overcome her past. She was great at it, maybe even a little too great. Now people underestimated the effect it had on her.

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180 Griffin

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"Darling, I want you to know you can always tell me everything. Nothing you can say or do would make me love you less. My purpose as your mate is to help you carry all of your burdens just as you are doing for me. Still, there is only so much I can do to help you and I do think. you need help to deal with all of this. Not because you are weak, but because what you have gone through is just too much to bear for anyone" I told her hugging her close to my body. Hoping she would agree with me.

92.37%

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 406

181 Griffin

288 Vouchers

Griffin was right, I knew I was not coping well with all that had happened to me. It has been too much, but I just needed to go on. Or I thought I had to, but today showed me I needed to take more breaks. Take better care of myself and unfortunately, it meant I needed to therapy again. It's not like I mind therapy, it is just so time-consuming, Not just the sessions but everything but the aftermath too.

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I needed to do better though, for myself, for Griffin, and for our pup. Whether I am pregnant or not. Because if not now then I will be soon. And I want my pup to have a stable, happy mother. No longer held back by issues from the past.

"No, you're right baby, I will set up an appointment tomorrow so I can get back to regular therapy," I tell Griff, and I mean it.

But not I just want to eat the delicious meal Griffin made me and then go to bed and sleep. I feel so emotionally drained right now. And it's making me feel tired.

The next morning when I woke up I felt nauseous, Griffin is getting all excited. Thinking it is a sign that I really am pregnant. I feel it might be, because I am so nervous about setting up the therapy appointment. As

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181 Griffin

288 Vouchers

much as I know I need to go, as much as I was genuine with Griffin yesterday. It is still daunting...

But it is nice to see that if I get morning sickness Griffin will be as sweet and caring as I expected him to be. And I am happy I still get to drink my morning coffee in bed, without being sick. Today is the last calm day I have before my education truly kicks off tomorrow. Even the weekends will not be completely free of training. Isabella did keep our desire to spend the weekends together not working in her mind. She did make sure that in the weekends much like yesterday and today it's just some reading. Today though I needed to figure out if Griffin and I would plead Lizzy and her family's case to Rodrick and Isabelle, if they agreed. Which they most likely will, we need to introduce them to the rest of the pack so it could be put to a vote.

Yesterday, I tried reading the parts Isabella told me to read. But my mind had been elsewhere, after re-reading the same line until I fell asleep yesterday. I decided not to try anymore and just go to bed. So not only do I have to look at the situation with Lizzy. I needed to catch up on reading, and I needed to finally find a Gemma. Krystel is going to be an amazing Beta, she already is even before she officially is. Like Gerald and Dillion are to Griffin. We are both lucky to have them because we wouldn't be able to get everything done without them. That's one of the reasons why I need to find a Beta.

If been getting to know the pack members a lot better, still to appoint someone as your Gemma you either need to be really close to them. This isn't possible for me yet, not with only knowing the pack members for a few months and only being a pack member officially for a few days. The

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181 Griffin

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other option was to bring your own Beta from your old pack. Not only did I not grow up in the White Oak pack, the pack that was my old pack when I became a Silver Moon pack member. I wanted my Beta and Gemma to be part of the Silver Moon pack when I chose them. Not after I did so, I wanted to show I was so much a part of—the pack that I did not need to get my assistants—from another pack. The only exception would have been Jessa, but she was never an option. Leaving me with only one last option, having interviews to see who wants to be my Gemma. And then pick the one I had the most click with or the most trust in to be my Gemma.

“Princess Ayla, there are five more candidates,” Krystel told me, it still felt weird to hear her address me by my formal title. She had too with so many wolves overhearing our conversation.

When it is just the two of us, even when it is work-related she calls me Ayla. That's something I hope to achieve with my Gemma too. I want- them to not just be my assistant. I want to become friends too. All the Beta's and Gemma's I have ever seen were friends of their Alpha or Luna. To me, that makes perfect sense, after all, you need to blindly trust your Beta and Gemma.

“Sent the next one in Krystel,” I told my sister-in-law.

So far all the candidates had been she-wolves, I suspected they would be. Even if I had made it clear anyone regardless of age and gender could apply for the job. Sure, someone around my own age, around Griffin and the others would make the most sense. But I was not going

45.94%

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181 Griffin

288 Vouchers

to exclude anyone before ever talking to them.

Not only was every applicant so far a she-wolf, they were all about the same age as I was. I was okay with that, even without excluding them I had some doubts if a person much older would fit in with the rest of us That wouldn't matter too much in regard to work. It would make becoming friends and doing things in a group a lot harder. I figured the same would go for someone who was much younger than us.

But when Dean, a nineteen-year-old wolf I had spoken with a handful of times, walked into my office something immediately felt right.

“Tell me Dean, why do you want to be my Gemma?” I asked the first question I had asked everyone. It was the only question I had written down, that first question was supposed to start a conversation, If t someone couldn't just carefree chat **with** me if there was a job to be done. Even if the job was doing a job interview then it would not be a good fit.

Dean straightened his back like he was more than ready to give me an answer. He didn't have the chance to answer me though. Suddenly there was a lot of commotion in the hallway, followed by the door slamming open. I turned to the door opening to find

Cynthia standing there. Arms crossed, eyes dark, she reminded me of Hannah and it scared me more than it should..

“How dare you hold Gemma interviews when you will never be the Luna of this pack.” She shouted at me, just as Krystel came skidding to a halt.

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181 Griffin

288 jVouchers

Apologizing that she just went to get a bottle of water from her office.

She tried to pull Cynthia out of the room but the latter was too quick. I was unsure of what to do, no matter how rude this was. It still wasn't something, going against the pack rules. I could always ask the guards to escort her out of my office. But I was scared how that would come across to the rest of the pack members. I froze to the spot as Cynthia came storming up to me.

92.84%

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 407

182 Ayla

“Oh, sweetie sit down do you want me to make you some tea?” Dean speaks up stunning everyone in the room.

He was causing, Cynthia to skid to a halt. Before snapping at him why he would offer her tea, as she doesn't need one. I was wondering the same thing. I would ask him about it later as he seemed so certain of his question that I figured he had a valid reason for offering her tea

“Well, my granny said it helps with a broken heart, I don't know much about a broken ego. But you know as your pack mate I figured I would try to stop you from embarrassing yourself further. We all love our Princess, and a dozen pack mates are

applying for the position of her Gemma. We all think you are a nuisance. The pack fool and honestly girly / pit

you. Even your fated mate never tried to contact you again. His smile is sickeningly sweet but his voice is dripping with acid

Krystel and the other two pack members in the hall burst out laughing. And as much as I tried to stop it I could not hold it back either:

“And who are you to get involved with my business?” Cynthia tried to save face.

“Dean is my Gemma, and because he is higher ranked than you.” Krystel and Dean turned to face me like clockwork. Cynthia stared at me with

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182 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

an open mouth. And I wanted to clasp my hands over my mouth.

The answer had come out instantly, without thinking about it. But when I did think about it, I knew it felt right. All I wanted was a Gemma who would fit in with the rest of the group. One I was sure I could build a friendship with. “Dean and I had instantly hit it off. And knowing my Gemma would have my back so fiercely helped too. It was not like I blamed the other pack members for not interrupting Cynthia. It was more that everyone knew she had been harassing me. They must have known she was not here to apply for the position as my Gemma. And even if she was, it would not be grounds for her to just burst through the door.

After seeing how he reacted, I seriously doubted if Dean had let her get that far. Cynthia must have felt too humiliated she just stormed out

without so much as another word.

“Excuse me. Princess Ayla, are you serious?” Dean asked me, all of his bravado was gone like he was scared to be disappointed, when I told him I wasn’t.

“I do, you sit down I need to let the other two candidates know, and then we can discuss the rest,” I told him, feeling a bit guilty for the two girls. who had been waiting for their interview for most of the afternoon to never get a chance.

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“Don’t worry Princess Ayla, we get it your Gemma and after that” Lianne smiled at me.

19.68%

able to blindly trust

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182 Ayla

288 Mouchers

There was a tinge of disappointment in her voice, and her friend Jessica. seemed somewhat defeated when she got up. However, the two of them seemed very genuine and went as far as to shout a congratulation to Dean via the open door. Now all I needed to do was go over the rest of the details with Dean. Hoping he would agree to them, if he wouldn’t I would have made a fool of myself just now. And I hoped he wouldn’t feel pressured to agree with the terms now. To save me from the embarrassment.

“Before, we discuss terms and what not I want to answer your first question, Princess Ayla.” Dean was the one to speak first before I sat

down.

His answer didn’t matter that much anymore, but if he wanted to tell me I would of course hear him out. So I sat down, took the coffee Krystel had made me, and nodded at him.

“I love this pack, when I grew up I knew I wanted to contribute to the pack. I just never knew how. And then we found out all about you, and what you have been through. I know in the beginning some of the pack members found fault in you taking your time getting to know Griffin. But to me, it showed so much strength, in all your appearances you seem so collected and kind. You really are as impressive as a royal wolf should be. But you still seemed so kind and down to earth. I told my mom I wanted to help you out. She was the one who heard you were interviewing people to be your Gemma. She suggested I should go and when I thought about it she was right. I instantly knew as your Gemma I

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182 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

could both help you and the pack.” Most of the answers to that question had been short. One max to sentences.

Hearing how passionate Dean was about helping me and helping out the pack made me even more sure of my decision. Picking an unmated wolf as my Gemma was a bit of a risk, he could very well find his mate and learn they are even higher ranked than a Gemma is. We would cross that bridge **if** we ever came to it.

All that was left to do now was to go over the terms. Telling him he would get as much pay as the other Gemma and Beta’s got. Offering him an apartment in the castle, like all high-ranking wolves could have. And go over the basics of what I needed him to do, and when he would start.. He didn’t have a rank now but he had a job. He worked at one of the pack restaurants as a server. Of course, as the Princess I could insist they let him go right away. His notice was two weeks and he wanted to finish his notice because he had enjoyed his job so much. Not only did it speak volumes about him as a person.

There was no immediate need for him to start right away, and I never wanted to be the kind of ruler who would use her power to get

her way.

“Just start in three weeks Dean, your two weeks’ notice and a week off, and then you can get started,” I suggested, to which he happily agreed stating he would use the week off to get his own furniture to move out of his parents’ home. It was almost dinner time and I still had a lot of reading to do. So we all went our own way.

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182 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

“Any luck finding your Gemma” Griffin wanted to know as soon as I stepped into the kitchen where he was cooking us a steak dinner.

“I did, Dean is my new Gemma he is going to start in three weeks. I actually feel good about it.” I could barely contain my excitement. So when Griffin shook his head, telling me it made sense Dean would apply to the job, and that I would like him I felt a bit weird. I never considered. not accepting a man as my Gemma, and after accepting him as my mate he never seemed jealous anymore. Now I was apprehensive that he would

not like me working so closely with a man on a daily basis. I couldn't read his face as he went back to preparing our dinner.

89.12%

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 408

183 Ayla

288 iVouchers

"What about him Griff," I asked wanting to get it out of the way quickly.

"Oh nothing he is a great guy, I should have introduced you two it would have been so much quicker." Griffin's tone was playful, maybe I read it wrong, maybe he wasn't jealous at all.

"You're not jealous about me working so close to a man every day then?" I asked just to make sure.

"Darling, I trust you, I can hardly keep you away from every other male wolf. Honestly, it just clicked for me when you told me. Now sit down I made us a romantic dinner" There was no question about how sincere he was when he smiled at me carrying our plates of food.

The mention of him wanting a romantic dinner put yet another one of Cynthia's outbursts, into the background. I would just tell him tomorrow. We had a couple of hectic and busy weeks ahead of us. Griffin even wanted to be married before our pup was here. Meaning that if I indeed were pregnant, we would have to rush slightly to get married in time. So this bit of time just the two of us. Just spending some quality time, working together. Leading the pack together was fun and all. And I loved I got to be so close to my mate all the time. But there was a risk of casual dinner conversations turning into working together during the meal. Something I didn't mind all that much, but I

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183 Ayla

288 iVouchers

felt it was important to have nights like these too—nights where it was just us, no work, no distraction.

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“She did what?” Griffin was livid hearing Cynthia had pulled another one of her tricks again.

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Maybe telling him when we were having a coffee in bed was not the best choice. I ruined our peaceful morning routine. It was just last night was great from the meal, to binging a new show and to the way we made love. But underneath it all the guilt of not being completely honest was cating away at me. That’s probably why I blurted it out first thing **in** the morning.

“Baby, nothing happened she just keeps spouting nonsense” I tried to calm him down but I wasn’t successful.

Not, until I pulled him closer, pulling his head to my neck. I could feel him just inhale my scent, wrapping his arms tightly around me. With every breath, I could feel his body relax.

“I hate you still have to deal with shit like in the Bloodmoon Pack. I am scared to death she will go as crazy as Hannah did. I don’t ever want you to feel here like you did there.” Suddenly it made sense, he was scared to be like David.

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183 Ayla

288 Vouchers

I’m not sure if it was because he was scared I would stop loving him if I didn’t keep me safe. Or if it was because he wanted to protect me at all costs. That is why he was so overprotective about anything that happened with Cynthia. I agreed she was a nuisance, and she needed to be stopped. It was terrible that she was just smart enough to not do anything that would be enough to punish her. If it was up to Griffin, she would be banished from the pack. Essentially making her a rogue unless she had another pack she could live with. Maybe, she could go back to her mate, and beg him for his forgiveness. Dean had a point, she ignored her mate, but they met each other. He never tried to track her down either, when they met Roderick and Isabella were in his pack on a royal visit. That meant that her mate would have to know she was a part of the Silver

Moon pack. There was no use thinking about that now because what she did was far from bad enough to warrant her being banned from the pack. Personal feelings can never be the cause of our decisions. Still, I agreed with Griffin that we needed to address this today.

After breakfast, I had my first therapy session since the heat. Griff, promised me that he would inform his parents. We might be the Crown Prince and Princess, but we are not the Queen and King. Nor are we the Luna and Alpha, so Roderick and Isabella needed to handle this. As the next rulers and the couple targeted by Cynthia, we would be involved. Knowing my parents-in-law, they would involve us more than they needed to.

Now after therapy, I would hopefully meet up with them, if Griffin managed to make an appointment with them. All so that we could. discuss what to do about Cynthia. Whatever the solution would be though, we would need to **have** a discussion with Cynthia and her father. Today would be another busy day, still knowing that I was going

37.18%

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183 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

to take more care of myself again. I finally have a Beta and Gemma. All in all, I still felt a lot lighter than I did two days ago.

“Have a seat Ayla, did you have time to eat lunch yet?” Isabella dotted on me right away. I smiled she truly had become like a second mother to

1. me.

When I said I hadn’t eaten anything since breakfast she mind-linked someone. We all knew she asked someone to bring over lunch. Probably for all of us, I was sure Griffin didn’t have lunch yet either because he let me know when he mind-linked me. It was nice to be able to eat during meetings like this. It saved us all a lot of time, it made it possible to spend our time more productive. And oddly enough it always felt a bit like a family lunch. Which I suppose it is because we are having lunch together and are a family. Most people though would not consider talking about what to do with the pack’s nuisance. To find a way to stop her before things escalated, a family meal.

Not like it felt for me when I was giving Isabella and Rodrick the last details about what happened. What she said, that Dean had seen her linger in the hallway close to my office before. So that it seemed as if she had watched the door, watched Krystel as my

Beta. All to see when she would be able to have me alone for a minute. Yesterday it did not seem like she was about to viciously attack me. Things had gone from bad to worse with her though and seeing as how she would patiently watch to have me alone when she felt like it was unsettling. Whether it was because she was spoiled to death like her father said. Or if there was

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183 Ayla

something different wrong with her.

1288 Mouchers

Cynthia has shown herself not to be mentally stable. And because of it, we couldn't be sure how or when it would escalate. All we know is that she is progressively getting more and more obsessed with each day. We all were fairly sure that one day she would snap and go crazy. Ideally, she would not be around us as we did. By the time our lunch was finished, everybody cleaned his plate. We had come up with what we think is a great plan. One where Cynthia would not be at the pack for a few days weeks even, Without being banned from the pack. Let's hope her father agrees so he could help get his daughter the help she needs.

89.88%

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 409

184 Ayla

"Sam welcome back, I am sad to have to ask you back so soon after your daughter being released," Roderick tells Cynthia's father.

The poor man looks crestfallen, I remember from the first time that he was absolutely appalled by his daughter's behavior. He had been nothing but kind to me, so I pitied him for being here again.

"I am sorry to be here too King Roderick, it feels like I keep failing as a father." Sam is clearly fighting back his tears.

We cannot banish her from the pack but maybe he can tell her she needs to move out of her parents' home. That way maybe Sam would not be held as responsible anymore. It would most likely do Cynthia a world of good if she had a taste of the real world. But I could not suggest that now, it could come across as me using or trying to use Sam as a pawn to punish his daughter.

We had decided we needed to let Sam come up with an idea on his own. All we wanted was to give her a ban into the castle. It would not affect her life too much. She would not be able to get to me so soon anymore. A positive effect even to her because in the end, it would stop her from going too far. Since she seemed to grow more and more unstable with everything she did to me. It would also mean that she would not be able to attend pack meals and events anymore. She loved socializing, and

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184 Ayla

288 ;Vouchers

since she was a young wolf she ate most of her meals in the pack home.

Simply because Sam would be too busy with working and raising Cynthia all while still grieving his mate. That is the beautiful thing about being part of a pack. You did not need to ask for help. There always was help available. It was a damn shame Cynthia was risking her position in this pack the one that she grew up in. I was sure she would miss being part of pack meals, and pack events but it was what needed to

be done.

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My poor baby, she never learned to make her own breakfast." Sam let out a deep sigh before continuing "But then again maybe that is the

reason why she is acting like this now because I spoiled her too much. It felt like I needed to pour all the love I had for my mate and Cynthia just into Cynthia. All because I could not pour my love into my mate anymore. So while I hate how much Cynthia will miss everything I think it might be time she learns the consequences of her behavior."

Since every pack member needed to know about the fact that Cynthia was no longer welcome in the castle, we would start with one month. Depending on how she would behave during that period we would either not speak of it again and allow her access to

the castle again. Or we would need to renew the period and deny her access to the castle for another month or longer. Pack lunch was about to start, there was not doubt Cynthia was here. We decided to talk to Sam alone, he told us Cynthia had walked to the castle with him when we asked him where she was. The conversation with Sam took longer than we had planned

20.44%

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184 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

too. We had hoped to speak to Cynthia before the lunch. Now we had to pull Cynthia out of the lunch to talk with her. We needed to be quick so we could let the pack know during pack lunch.

We would use our mind link connection so that the pack members not attending the lunch would still know of the changes.

Seeing. Cynthia walking in dragging her feet, arms crossed like she was annoyed to be here. It triggered me instantly, nobody wanted to be here. Five wolves had been discussing her problematic behaviors that kept continuing. Long after we had told her she needed to stop, even after a short period in jail. Now she was acting like it was her valuable time that was wasted.

“Cynthia, I am so sick and tired of your behavior. You are walking in here like a sulking teenager. On top of the regulations, the royal family has set up for you. I want you to find a job on the packed ground. You are not getting an allowance anymore. And if you want to keep your room and get access to my groceries you need to pay me a boarding fee.” Sam shouted at Cynthia, startling all of us.

We understood where he was coming from. It was just so unexpected since he had never said anything like this before. He never gave her a real long-lasting consequence to her action. And in the grand scheme of things her entering the royal meeting room like a sulky teenager as he called it, wasn't the worst

called it, wasn't the worst thing she has ever done. Somehow her

44.99%

184 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

attitude now was the straw that broke the camel's back. We could all sense, see, and smell his frustration as Cynthia whined at her father. Telling him he was being unfair that it had been hard enough growing up without a mother.

She had been nothing but mean to me. But even the blind could see that Sam was a loving father. He had made mistakes but the mistakes he made were mistakes he made out of love. So to hear she would stoop so low as to blame him for growing up poorly because she didn't have a mother. Trying to guilt trip him in not making her deal with the consequences because somehow she was the victim here

I know it was mean but when she mentioned she would be having all of her meals at the castle anyway. Because she never had a parent that was able to cook for her. I felt a pang of happiness. Knowing we could knock her down a peg. I just wish I could be the one to tell her about the regulations. But it would be weird for me to do so since I am not the Alpha or Luna of the pack,

"No Cynthia because you are hereby banned from entering the castle for a full month. Due to your harassment of my daughter-in-law, your future Luna and Queen, Ayla Hemming. The expressions crossing her face. were highly entertaining.

"No, you cannot do this to me, what I have done is not bad enough to warrant a punishment like a mad woman. Still showing that she was well aware of how far she could go without deserving a punishment and

that made it even worse.

66.99%

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184 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

"You are right about that, but since you have on multiple occasions. entered my home without my permission. Just to annoy a member of my family, disrespecting me like that. So I can very well can stop you from entering my home" Rodrick scolded her.

Because Sam had screamed at Cynthia, punishing her before we could speak up this conversation was even shorter than we expected. Meaning that the pack lunch was still going strong. So we made our way to the pack kitchen. Sam had to drag Cynthia who was kicking, screaming and crying not wanting to be humiliated like she was about to me. Sam was relentless I just hoped this wouldn't come across wrong, causing people to dislike me.

89.57%

The Prince's Unwilling mate by Mutya Chapter 410

185 Ayla

As soon as the six of us entered the pack kitchen, conversations stopped and everyone stepped eating and watched us. The entire royal family walking into the pack kitchen halfway through lunch. When we had been in meetings all day was already a little peculiar. Now Sam was still dragging Cynthia along with him. She stopped her kicking and screaming, she resorted to crying. Maybe it was because I could not see anything positive about her anymore. Perhaps all of my training made me good at reading people. Whatever it was I did not believe in her tears. To me, they felt like they were crocodile tears. To show the pack how much she was going to suffer at the hands of us.

"Members of the Silver Moon pack, I regret having to inform you that yet another incident took place with Cynthia yesterday. When your Princess, future Luna, and Future Queen, Princess Ayla was interviewing people because she wanted one of our pack to become her Gemma. Cynthia came running into her office, to tell her that she would never be the Luna or Queen so she shouldn't bother with trying to find Gemma." Dad cut straight to the chase, I knew he was fed up with Cynthia too.

Dillion had suggested a guard following her at all times to make sure she wouldn't be a threat to Ayla or us. We talked about it during the meeting but that would prevent her from doing things we could actually punish her for. We just had to trust that Ayla was safe here in the castle, on pack grounds. She had successfully won the rest of the pack over, even the ones that took the longest to get to like her. So not only would

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185 Ayla

288 iVouchers

Cynthia never find anyone to help her scheming. If she would ever go too far, I was sure the rest of the pack would come to Ayla's rescue if they needed to.

The murmurs, and the glares at Cynthia all confirmed how much the pack loved my wonderful mate. And why wouldn't they? Since the moment that Ayla had officially accepted me as her mate, she made an effort to get to know the rest of the pack. She was kind and patient with everyone even the ones that didn't like her at first.

“Luckily, it’s not just bad news we have some good news too. And I feel my daughter-in-law should be the one to tell you.” Dad finished his

announcement.

Sam dragged his daughter off not even giving her the chance to explain herself. I have known Sam my entire life, he was born into the Silver Moon pack. His mate Emma moved into the pack after they met, neither of them had a job that could not transfer to the other pack. She wanted to be a housewife though, so she figured it would be wiser if Sam kept his job and she would move in with them.

I was too young to remember her well, she was shot by a hunter. An innocent accident he didn’t know he trespassed into pack grounds. Emma was just on a run after her mate had come home because she wanted to have a moment to herself after taking care of Cynthia for a day. It was tragic, and even when I was so young I remembered how broken Sam was. He once tried to comfort me, before I knew of second- chance mates. Telling me it was better to lose your mate before you met them. Even at ten, I had felt how broken he still was eight years later.

24.27%

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185 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

Cynthia had been the light of his life though. He doted on her and worked extremely hard to give her all she wanted. And he never told her

1. no.

For some reason, today. Sam snapped, something about what she did today made him realize he should have told her, no more often. How he was behaving now caused even more people to look at Cynthia. To keep murmuring about her, when Ayla still had her announcement to make.

It was funny how yesterday she was scared I would be jealous of her working with Dean. He was a good kid. A little young but I know he cared for our pack a lot and always wanted to do something to help it. thrive. He was a lot like Ayla in that regard. They seemed to have the same type though. I had never seen him look at a she-wolf ever. But I noticed his eyes going over my body during shifting. Never in a way that made me feel uncomfortable. And when he knew about Ayla being my mate. Even before she accepted me he stopped glancing at me. The only reason I chuckled was because I should have known and introduced

them sooner. It would have saved us all a lot of time.

“Everyone, I know this news is upsetting. But we should focus on the good things, the things that make our pack stronger” Ayla’s voice rang out clear. Instantly stopping the murmurs, all eyes were on Ayla now. Dean was having lunch in the kitchen too as was Krystel so Ayla beckoned them closer.

“You all know that Krystel will be my Beta when Griffin and I take over as

to the Silver Moon pack. And as King and Queen, a and Lu for now, she is my assistant. I still needed a Gemma for the future and a

48.33%

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185 Ayla

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288 jVouchers.

second assistant in this current period. I am happy to announce Dean will be my Gemma” As soon as Ayla shut her mouth the kitchen erupted in cheers as was the mind-link connection. Until she raised her hand, silencing the kitchen.

“My wonderful grandmother started a new tradition amongst the Hemmings. As soon as the Luna chooses her Beta and Gemma, even before they are officially installed in the position, we party!!” This announcement was almost met with more joy.

Parties, the simple fun parties not the fancy ones are what makes the pack close. We all have busy lives, and families in and outside the pack. Jobs sometimes even ones that took them away from the pack. It meant we were hardly together with the entire pack. We all made sure to attend parties though. It was those parties where you would catch up with packmembers you would hardly see.

Ayla had told me about the tradition it was a real one. The fact that she shared it with the rest of us. How excited she was to share it with

everyone. And how well she understood what the pack needed. Not just the party, how she stopped the murmurs. How she knew just what to say to make no one feel bad. I still sometimes wonder how David and his parents never saw it. How could they have ever doubted if she would be able to be a good strong Luna? Being one is in her blood, not only is her grandma a renowned Luna. But like the stories tell about her grandma. Ayla was a natural Luna, she spoke, thought, and acted like a true Luna in everything that she did. But I should stop thinking about David, he was gone and with every

passing day, we got more proof that he was never coming back. Proof that we were safe now. So I should spend my

72.62%

11:43

185 Ayla

1288 Vouchers

days growing with Ayla, and enjoy spending my time with her instead of thinking about her past.

98.46%