

# THE REJECTED WEREWOLF PRINCESS

## Chapter 281



RYKER'S

P.O.V

To say I was still reeling from the shock would have been a gross understatement. My heart was pounding in my chest and every passing second felt like a dream. We had killed the siren, we stopped the people, killing her had snapped them out of her spell, but there was still so much that was left unfinished- namely, her daughter.

"We should check on the girls," I said finally and Camilla turned to me with an unreadable expression. "They must be absolutely terrified."

"Don't you want to check on the younger siren," she deliberately kept her voice void of all emotion so I couldn't tell exactly how she felt about the entire thing. "Make sure she isn't running away."

"She won't," I wasn't sure how I knew, or how I was so convinced but a part of me was just certain. I could tell Camilla didn't completely believe me but the desire and the need to see the girls was greater and after a few seconds of silence, she murmured something under her breath and headed in the direction of the room.

The girls were hidden just like Camilla had asked them. They were hidden in the dark passage with a maid- I was assuming she was the one the siren originally compelled to watch over Aurora. She was full of apologies when she

saw us but I couldn't be bothered with listening to her. The most important thing for me was that my children were safe and unhurt. Audrey was terrified, that much was clear, but she was safe and for the moment, that was enough.

She clung to me with her arms wrapped around my neck and would not let go so I just left her there. Camilla sat with Aurora in her arms, even at her little age, she knew something was wrong and cried whenever Camilla tried to set her down. I glanced at the clock every few seconds knowing I needed to see the little siren.

A knock on the door snapped me out of my thoughts and I looked up to find Caius making his way in. "I assume you know about the si-"

"Yes," I cut him off. "We were responsible. Has someone cleaned it up?"

"I just instructed someone to do it. I couldn't help but notice that the daughter wasn't," he trailed off when I shot him a hard look. "I just wanted to make sure that you were alright, your majesties." Many paragraphs are missing. Read the complete book on Jo-bn-ib.c(o)m. "Everything is fine here," I said simply. "You don't need to check on us, or on Juan and Christine. They need their space right now."

He looked confused but when he saw I wasn't offering any other answers, he bowed. "Of course, your majesty, forgive the interruption."

He started to leave when I stopped him. "Thank you for checking in and thank you for cleaning the front gate."

He just nodded. "I am an elder, it is my job to assist the crown. If you would excuse me,"

He bowed and walked out without another word. It was at that moment I realized Camilla had been silent next to me the entire time. Aurora had fallen asleep in her arms and it was both a poetic and slightly terrifying sight to see

her like that, bloodied and with our daughter in her arms. She said nothing, just stared blankly at the wall.

Audrey's hold on me had gone slack and I knew the last thing our girls needed right now was to wake up alone so I gently tugged on Camilla's arm. She followed me blindly but I doubted that she actually knew what she was doing or where she was going. I had to lead her because I couldn't trust her not to bump into a wall on her own. She was clearly in shock and I couldn't blame her. owns this content.

Once we were safely within the confines of our room, I lay Audrey in bed and took Aurora from Camilla. Thankfully neither of them woke so I could pay attention to my mate. I walked her into the bathroom and as I began to undo the laces at the back of her dress, I mind linked Caius. Juan would have been my first choice but I couldn't bother him, not right now.

"I need you to go to one of the guest rooms for me," I said down the link.

"Take some food there and give it to the girl."

"The siren girl?" he asked and I hummed. "Am I doing this as your elder?"

"I am asking you as a friend, Caius."

There was a pause. "Then I'll do it immediately, but, I have to tell you, I don't think she can be trusted. She was by her mother's side and she is a siren."

"I never said I trusted her, I just asked that she be fed."

"Will you take her to the dungeons?"

"I don't know," I admitted. "I have a few things I would like to know first before I condemn that child to her death. If she walks into those dungeons then she will not be walking out. Whether it is by my hand or by one of the guards- she will die." "I will be very discreet while getting the food to her, you have my word."

I cut off the mind link immediately satisfied that I had handled that for the time being and focused on my mate. She still hadn't said a word, she just stood there unblinking as I helped her into the tub. I expected some reaction as I poured water over her hair but still, there was nothing.

"What you did today was extremely brave," I whispered to her. "You held onto Christine and you saved her life by putting pressure on that wound. If it weren't for your quick thinking, we wouldn't have been able to kill the siren either." She was still silent.

"They have two kids now, the palace is going to be overrun with little feet soon enough and there's finally a boy in the house to teach-

"She could have died," Camilla cut me off, her voice soft and almost indiscernible. "There was so much blood and I could feel it pouring out."

"I know, baby, I know."

She turned to me with accusing eyes. "You left me. You took the little girl and you left. The siren girl, where is she?"

"Safe within the palace. I will not do anything with her without talking to you, Juan and Christine first, you can believe that."

Some of the anger left her eyes, but underneath all of that was something raw, as if the experience had split a part of her open.

"It reminded me of Aurora," she continued. "Holding the baby and not knowing if she was going to live. I kept thinking how do I tell Christine that both her babies were dead? How do I say to her that she lost the babies that I made her plan a nursery for?" "You didn't have to."

"But I almost did," she swallowed and brushed her hair out of her face. "It didn't hit me until after that we would've- we almost-"

She trailed off once more and buried her face between her thighs. The full force of everything hit her at once and her shoulders shook as the emotions barreled into her. I wrapped my arms around my mate, not caring that she was clean and I was still stained with blood. I held her until she no longer shook and I no longer feared that she was going to break apart in my arms.

"I'm sorry," she began as she pulled away but I was quick to put an end to that.

"You have no reason to apologize to me. What happened there was terrible and I can't even begin to think about what that felt like for you. You are an amazing woman, Camilla."

She gave me a watery smile. "I should be thanking you. You saved the day, literally. You brought those babies from the brink of death. I still can't wrap my head around it."

"I can't either. I'm just glad that everything turned out okay for everyone."

"In theory, yes, but that doesn't change how terrifying this was. I thought everything was over and then the girl, she-"

"She said she had to, right after she did it. She said she was sorry and that she had to."

Camilla's expression hardened. "She didn't have to do anything, her mother was dead, the spell was broken. She did it because she wanted to."

I had thought about that, but something told me there was more to the story and I had zero intentions of harming a child. At the end of the day, she was still a child and I was hesitant about killing children. If someone had died, I would have done it without a second thought. It was a skewed moral compass but it was my compass and I wanted to make sure that she wasn't manipulated into doing what she did.

Camilla got out of the tub, not caring about the water that sloshed everywhere.  
"Where are the girls?"

"Asleep in our bed. I couldn't leave them alone, not after everything that happened."

Her eyes softened but almost immediately, they hardened into slits. "Good, I don't want to talk about this anymore but I have one more thing to say."

I nodded carefully knowing that whatever she was going to say was going to put me on edge.

"You can wait to talk to Christine and Juan, but the siren girl dies."

"Camilla-"

"You wanted my opinion, right? Well, I just gave it to you. The siren girl dies. She almost killed the only sister I have ever known and two innocent babies. She has to go, Ryker, that is my decision and I won't change it. Unless Juan and Christine magically vote otherwise, she has to die."

"She is a child," I tried to reason but Camilla snorted.

"If you don't want to do it then I will do it myself, or Juan will, I know he will be more than glad to do it but she has to die. Remember what we read about sirens and revenge? I won't leave her to come back and wreck this havoc on our daughters and if that makes me a monster then so be it."

## Chapter 282



RYKER'S P.O.V

Neither Camilla nor I spoke again after that. I got cleaned only to find her already curled up in bed next to our daughters. She wasn't asleep, just lying on her side and watching them. I had no intentions of falling asleep either but I climbed into bed behind her and gently stroked her hair with my hand. She didn't say it, but I felt her nestle closer to me as her eyes started to drift closed. Even once I was sure that she was asleep, I didn't stop, not for a long time after. She needed the rest and I was going to make sure that she go it. I finally pulled away after a few minutes and placed a soft kiss on her head. I would have given anything in that moment to just be there and exist with her but I needed to deal with some other things. I dragged myself out of the room and headed straight for the guest rooms. I passed by a record number of guards and maids who were discussing everything that happened. No one was using their earplugs anymore, the threat was gone, at least, that was what they thought.

From the little discussions I was able to pick up, the front of the palace had been scrubbed clean and the body was taken, that much was enough for me, at least until I knew how to deal with the little siren. I pushed open the door to the room and after making sure no one was watching, I slipped inside. At first, I didn't see anyone and I thought she had found a way to escape. I wouldn't have blamed her though.

Just as I turned to leave, I caught a flash of movement out of the corner of my eye and I watched as she stepped out of the shadows. She looked a tad bit fearful, almost as if she thought I was someone else but when she saw it was me, her shoulders deflated in relief.

"I saw the food you sent," she began slowly as she walked over to the bed.  
"Thank you."

I gave her a curt nod and took the chair closest to me. It gave me enough distance from the bed where she felt safe but close enough that I would be able to catch her if she made any sudden movements.

"Why did you stab her?" I asked not wanting to waste any time with pointless conversation. If I was going to stop them from killing her, I needed to have a good reason. "She was of no threat to you."

"I had to," she whispered softly. "I just- I knew I had to. I know you're upset but-

"Upset doesn't begin to cut it. You stabbed a defenseless pregnant woman. She could have died, her babies could have died."

Her eyes lit up. "She's alive, oh thank Neptune. I tried not to stab her too deep so she would at least have a chance to-

"Can you hear yourself?" I cut her off.

"You wouldn't understand," her voice was soft.

"What wouldn't I understand? You are ten and you stabbed someone."

"Because mum said so, and I don't say no to mum, ever."

"Your mother was already dead. If she had compelled you to do it then the compulsion would have been broken by then. You didn't have to."

Her face fell and she turned away from me to look at the window. "You wouldn't understand. I had to do it."

"Then make me understand," she stayed silent and didn't even bother to turn to me. "I cannot help if you don't help me."

She just shrugged. "The worst that will happen is that I will die. I don't care, I am ready to die."



I rolled my eyes. "Don't be stupid, you are ten, what do you know about death?"

"Enough to know that you killed my father and my mother," she spat and I froze. "Don't worry, I'm not pissed at you. I told them we shouldn't have taken the deal from that old wolf but they wanted the money and they wanted the power. I had to go with them, but don't ask me what I know about death when death is all that I've seen."

She turned away from me again and I knew the conversation was over. I opened and closed my mouth but no words would come out. At the end of the day, I just stood to my feet and walked out of the room. I debated locking the door but I knew that if she wanted to run, there was nothing I was going to do or say that could stop it. I could only hope that she knew how to keep herself hidden for the time being.

I could have gone to the room and cuddled up with Camilla, forgetting about everything that had happened but even my conscience wouldn't have let me do that. I found myself going back up to Juan's room, he was still seated on the chair next to Christine, the babies were in their respective bassinets sound asleep but he looked like he hadn't even blinked since we walked out. He barely acknowledged my presence although I knew for sure that he had heard me come in. I took the seat opposite him and he slowly looked up at me.

"She's breathing," his voice sounded hollow. "They're all breathing, they're alive."

"They are," I agreed. "It is only a matter of time before she actually wakes up. She is fine." "You saved my kids."

"I didn't-"

"Don't lie to me, Ryker," he cut me off. "I saw them when they were cut out. I knew what they looked like and I had resigned myself to the fact that they

were going to die. I saw you heal them. I saw something come out of you and flow into Christine, you can't lie to me about that."

"What did you see?" I was more curious about that. I hadn't been able to see or notice anything.

"I don't know how to explain it. I just felt a breeze and I saw something like a wisp of the wind flow into her and it was coming from you," he finally looked away from her and turned to me. "You healed my family, thank you, I am forever in your debt." "You don't have to thank me for that. As long as they are fine."

"Who stabbed her?" he asked and I fell silent. "You can't do that to me right now, Ryker. I have never felt pain and panic like I felt today knowing in my heart that she was hurt. I could feel our bond ripping from the seams. That was torture and I deserve to know who was responsible. I know it wasn't the siren, I saw her hit the ground before I-"

"Juan, please," I began but his eyes flashed with anger.

"You do not get to do that, not about her. If it was Camilla in this bed," his words hit their mark in my chest. Camilla had been in that position more than once and I knew how he felt. I held the same convictions. It was hypocritical of me to not allow him the decency to be angry.

"Her daughter," I admitted after a few moments of silence. "She says she had to, I am still trying to figure out what that meant but-"

"I don't care," he cut me off. "I want her dead." "She is ten."

He scoffed. "If she is old enough to use a knife, she is old enough to die the same way. I want her dead, Ryker, and so help me, if you don't do it yourself, I will do it. I don't care if I have to go behind your back to make that happen but I will make sure that she dies." "You don't even know where she is."

He shrugged. "That is true, but I know you, and there are only a handful of places you can keep her within the palace walls."

"If I let her go? If I let her run away?"

"Then I will spend every waking moment of the rest of my life hunting her down and you will spend every waking moment of the rest of yours knowing that you aren't the fair leader you think you are, you are a hypocrite and a fraud. Knowing you, that is enough punishment."

I remained silent. He was right, and he knew he was because he didn't bother to look at me anymore, he simply turned to face his mate. I could tell that he wasn't even angry with me, he was tired and there was deep exhaustion in his features. At that very moment, one of the children started to scream. It was his son. He glanced over at him but made no move to touch him.

With my eyes still on Juan, I reached over and carried the screaming child before he could wake his sister.

"Have you picked out names yet?" I asked and all he did was shrug noncommittally. "If you want name options then-"

"I want her to name them," he cut me off. "I know what she wants but I won't do it. She should be able to name her children after everything she went through just to have them."

"They are your children too, Juan, and your son is crying out for you." owns this content.

He shook his head. "I can't, I have to focus on her."

"She would want you to look after your son," I said firmly and his lips turned down into a frown. He was silent for a full minute before reluctantly letting go of Christine so he could take the baby from me.

"I just wanted her to hold them first," he mumbled.

While he fussed over his child, I looked up at Christine and saw her eyes flutter slightly. It was such a small movement that if I hadn't been staring at her intently, I would have missed it. Juan was so focused on their son that he didn't notice. She made the movement again and the corner of my lips tipped up into a small smile.

"I guess that might be happening sooner rather than later."

### Chapter 283



### CAMILLA'S P.O.V

I had experienced many terrifying things in my life, but none quite as terrifying as waking up to my daughter lying on top of me with her face dangerously close to mine. For a second, my heart skipped a beat and I thought something terrible had happened but it turned out, it was just a very overactive and over excited child who smiled up at me the moment she noticed that I was awake.

"Is this your way of trying to send me to an early grave?" I teased and she giggled. Her eyes were alight with pure mischief as she buried her face into my shoulders. With everything that had been going on, this was the first time in a while I had seen my child so happy like this and I wanted it to last.

I was going to do everything humanly possible to make sure that she remained this happy for as long as I lived. It was my duty as her mother and it was what she deserved. She had grown up so fast, the least I could do was to ensure that she got the best of what was left of her childhood.

"Where's daddy?" she asked and I looked around noting that Ryker wasn't in the room. He had been there before I fell asleep but he must have left shortly after.

I dragged myself out of bed, taking Audrey with me because she just wouldn't let me go. Aurora was still asleep and I was torn against leaving her there and actually taking her with me. On one hand, she could sleep as long as she wanted but on the other, I didn't want her to wake up and I wasn't here.

"She'll be fine, mummy," Audrey whispered in my ears. She sounded a bit impatient. "I want to see daddy and I want to see aunt Christine."

I winced at the mention of Christine. "I don't know if your aunt is awake right now and ready to see visitors." Audrey snorted. "Yes, she is. Daddy is with her right now. She's very happy."

"How do you-" I caught myself in the middle of my question. How did Audrey know anything? She definitely saw it and I had gotten to that point where I didn't even bother asking anymore. If she says she saw it, then she did. She has never been wrong before and I doubted she was going to start now.

I just lifted her a little higher so she could wrap her legs around my waist and I could carry her to Christine's room. She made no move to get down from my hold and instead wrapped her arms around my neck tighter on the way. I felt a bit weird about leaving Aurora alone so I asked one of the maids to keep an eye on her for me.

When I got to the door of Christine's room, I heard the hushed whispers. I lingered at the door, my heart nearly bursting in my chest as I looked at Christine who was sat up in bed and holding her children. There were tears in her eyes as she spoke animatedly and I knew without the shadow of a doubt that she loved those babies with everything in her. Even Audrey who was

formerly nestled in my shoulder had turned so she could take in the entire scene.

Juan was the first to notice us. He smiled softly and gestured for us to come closer. That was all Audrey needed before she all but leaped out of my hold and rushed over to the bedside. She stayed close to her father but I could tell her eyes were on the baby. "They're very tiny, smaller than Rory was," she commented and I couldn't help but smile. "Why are they so small?"

"Because they came out a little earlier than they should have," Juan explained gently. "When they grow older, they will get bigger, but for now, they're infants."

I wasn't sure if she understood the complexity of the situation but she nodded and inched closer to Juan. "Can I touch them please?"

They didn't respond, Juan just picked her up and placed her on the side of the bed. She looked a little scared as she lifted her hand and stroked their full tufts of hair. Her eyes were wide and she had a small smile on her face. Many paragraphs are missing. Read the complete book on [Jo-bn-ib.c\(o\)m](http://Jo-bn-ib.c(o)m). It was endearing to watch and I couldn't help but lean closer to Ryker who didn't waste any time in wrapping his arms around my shoulder.

"What's their name?" Audrey asked her nose crinkling as she added. "I don't know their names. I tried to find out in my dream but I couldn't hear it."

Neither of them seemed shocked by the mention of her dream, they just glanced at each other. There was silence for a full minute as they seemed to communicate with themselves silently. At the end, it was Christine who spoke.

"Her name is Lyanna and his name is Landon Ryker, after your daddy."

I felt Ryker stiffen beside me. "Christine, that isn't-"

"Necessary?" she asked with a snort. "You saved their life, Ryker. I don't know what you did but you're the reason that they are here. It is the least that you deserve."

I saw tears gather in Ryker's eyes. He tried to wipe them away but it was clear that what they had done affected him so much. He tried to speak but the words wouldn't come out and all I could do was gently squeeze his hand that was intertwined with mine. "Thank you," he said finally. "It is an honor that I greatly appreciate and I do not take for granted."

We left shortly after that to give them some space and to enjoy their new family. Audrey didn't want to leave, she was completely enraptured by the little children and it took a lot of convincing on our end to even pull her out of the room. It helped that it was time for dinner and she was terribly hungry. By this time, Aurora had woken up as well so it was just the four of us in the dining room.

It felt different, and not in the good kind of way. I was so used to Christine and Juan's presence that it just felt empty without them. I couldn't help but smile when I thought about a few years down the line when their children would be old enough to sit at the table. It made every awkward second pass by a little better.

After dinner, we put the girls to sleep then the real business started. The battle was over and everything had been cleaned up but that didn't mean everything was finished. We called for the elders and they were assembled within minutes in the council room. "This cannot happen again," I said the minute I walked in and there were murmurs of agreement. "Lives were at risk today, not just ours, the people as well. What happened today can never repeat itself again."

"Yes, your majesty," was the chorus answer that I got. There was silence before one of the elders spoke. "But, if I may, this would never have happened if the threat to our jobs had not been put out there."

"Is your job really that important that you would jeopardize the future of everyone in this palace?" I asked and he fell silent. "If it is, tell me now so I can disband the elders as a whole because it seems that you have forgotten what your job should be about." "I didn't-"

"Let me finish," I punctuated each word with a firm growl. "You are to serve the people, not to serve yourselves. You are a servant to all as an elder, it isn't for you to raise your shoulders and act high and mighty. Your job is to protect the people; your job is to serve the crown. This isn't some fancy title, it is lives that are at stake. You don't just sit on your f\*\*\*\*\*g a\*s and act like you have everything."

By the time I was done, the room was in perfect silence. No one dared to speak or even look directly at me. I glanced over at Ryker who gave me a firm nod telling me I was doing the right thing. I knew there was a lot he wanted to say but he was letting me do this, I was the Queen and they needed to respect me.

"There will be changes," I said finally and everyone looked up at me. "I will not have the same elders for ages upon ages. There will be an election of sorts."

"That is absurd," one of them yelled but after a hard look from Ryker, he retreated into himself.

"If you want to be an elder, you will curry favor from the people. If they do favor you and decide to have you then you will serve them with transparency. If for any reason they believe that you are doing a terrible job, they reserve the right to get you fired." "That is unfair," one yelled but I noticed Caius had been quiet the entire time.



"Do you have any input, Caius?" I asked and he shrugged. "You have been noticeably quiet. Do you also think it is unfair and absurd?"

"I just want to go home to my family when this is over. With everything that has happened, I realize just how little time I do spend with them. If I am to be elected then so be it," he seemed more or less resigned to the idea. "I think it is a brilliant job, your majesty. It keeps everyone on their toes."

"Then it is settled," I clasped my hands together. "Your tenure will expire in a year and a half. Every tenure will last five years to the date. If you wish to be elected again, then I suggest you start making friends with the people, after all, your job is in their hands now."