

## Chapter 64

"Erin, Erin, Erin." Amelia's voice jolts her out of her thoughts. She blinks twice, glancing at the lady calling her name, eyebrows raised.

"What is it?" She asks. Amelia sighs, dropping the pen in her hands, and looks at Erin seriously.

"Snap out of it Erin. It's been two days already, your mating ceremony is in two days too. How long will you keep this up? Even Ana is beginning to notice the weird changes you've been exhibiting." Amelia snaps, clearly tired of how she's been behaving.

"She noticed?" Erin asks, appalled. As she really been so lost she didn't even notice her daughter? Amelia sighed, leaning against the chair. Of course, Ana didn't notice, the pup has been anything but observant but she's not about to tell Erin that.

"Yes, until when will you think of this?" She asks and Erin sighs, getting up from the chair, she wraps her arm around her body protectively, walks towards the window, and pushes it open, the cool night air breezing into the room, sending shivers down her spine.

"I know, it's stupid to think of this but, Aunt Agatha.." she trails off, relieving that very morning again.

"She's hurt, she's going to say things like that," Amelia says, standing up and working towards the other.

"I can't get her words out of my head. I feel like an intruder. Samantha has always been a part of the pack and now she's gone."

"But it isn't even your fault. You have no fault in this. Samantha was punished for pushing Vanessa down the stairs. She was punished for killing Vanessa's child. You had no business in that." She puts her hand over Erin's shoulder.

"Ignore everything Aunt Agatha said. She's been running on drugs ever since Samantha's banishment." She turns Erin around, their eyes meeting.

"You had no part to play in her daughter's banishment. Whatever happened was due to Samantha's own mistake, not yours."

"I know, it's just.."

Amelia sighs, "Snap out of it, Erin. This is what she wants. She wants you rethinking and overthinking every single thing. If anything, it's her fault for not raising her daughter right like she should've. It's her fault only. Your mating ceremony is in two days, you should be ecstatic about it. You'll be the Luna of this kingdom, Erin. Don't think about Agatha and her delusions." Amelia grits out as though stamping those words into Erin's head.

A smile slowly creeps up Erin's lips. "Alright, you're right. My official mating ceremony is in two days. I can do better." Erin replied, Amelia nods, satisfied.

"I just think.." she doesn't get to complete her words, a knock at the door cuts her off. She raises her eyebrows, looking at the door.

"Who could it be?" She asks, knowing Derrick hasn't gotten back to the pack yet, Vanessa is sleeping and Alex is also out with Derrick.

Amelia shrugs but walks towards the door, she pulls it open to reveal Zach with Ana on his hip. He looked perplexed and surprised.

"Mama." Ana whines, wriggling her weight off the man so he could let her down.

He seemed to snap out of the daze he was in on seeing Amelia, who by the way had the same look as he did.

Zach lets her down to the ground and Ana runs into the room, her feet making tiny sounds against the floor, giggling loudly as though she's only seen Erin since two days ago even though it's been barely an hour.

Erin lifts her in an instant, giggling as she tickled the pup. "Why are you still awake, Ana? You should be asleep. Why are you disturbing Zach?" Erin murmurs as the girl's giggle resonates through the room.

"Oh it's fine, I don't mind taking care of her whenever I can," Zach says, gaze shifting from Amelia to Erin.

Erin smiles at him, "Thank you, you're the best." She says but the man waves it off shyly as he chuckled. He looks back at Amelia whose grip has tightened on the doorknob, her throat constricting with air. He heaved deeply, looking back to Erin and her pup but the two seemed to be lost in themselves, obsessed with each other as they should.

He looks back at Amelia. "We have to speak." He says. It's enough already, she's been ignoring him for days. He hardly knows where he stands now.

Amelia shook her head. "I'm busy for the next few days. Maybe when I'm not we can talk." She says, voice tight.

Zach's eyes widen, lips parting, disbelief clouding his eyes. "Amelia.." he starts but she shuts the door close, leaving him standing there and staring at the now-shut door.

Zach sighs, is this all because his friend came over? Before all of that happened, he was making tiny progress with her, at least she'd greet him but now.. ever since, she's been closed off and cold. Now he doesn't even see her. It's like she's intentionally avoiding him which was why he took the opportunity to bring Ana back when he could.

Zach turns to leave but halts in his steps, in his haze of thinking, he didn't notice the man who was not standing a foot away from him. Maxwell or rather Uncle Maxwell. His eyes were dark and mysterious, it left Zach wondering just what the man wanted. He's never had a run-in with the man like this nor has he ever spoken to him.

"You're here?" The man asked, gaze shifting to the door.

"Yes, I brought back Ana since she was asking for her mom," Zach replied, bowing slightly to walk away.

"Toddlers, they can be quite a handful, don't you think?" The man asks, stopping him again.

"Yes, they can be." He replied, bowing for the second time.

"Please excuse me and have a good night." He bows and walks off.

Maxwell turns, watching the man's retreating figure.



"Don't say a word." Amelia raises her hand, actively stopping Erin from even uttering a word about it.

Erin sighed. "I won't listen to you this time. I have no right to interfere in your personal matters but I have to tell you this. Make up your mind about Zach and stop stringing him along. He doesn't deserve this, Amelia."

Amelia's eyes stung with unshed tears, "Oh, and I deserve it?" She shoots back

"Do you think I deserve this? He's younger than me, Erin. He would find someone of his age he would want to be with while I'll be stuck yearning for him. I don't want that but it seems like I can't even escape it" she says, a tear falling to her cheeks.

"That's not what I meant, Amelia. Please don't think that way. You deserve all the love in the world but you won't get it if you don't allow it. Zach isn't looking at the age gap and honestly, it's not even an issue to me. Please overlook the age gap that seems too important to you and see things in a better light. Zach seems like he really likes you and him being your mate would only solidify that. You've been avoiding him for days. Stop because you're not only hurting him but you're hurting too."

Amelia sits down, taking it all in and Erin could only hope she'd take things in a different light.

Ana whines in Erin's arms, her eyes already closing. The second she fell into Erin's arms, she had begun to yawn which eventually fell to her sleeping in her arms in less than four minutes.

"Think about it, you deserve happiness and he does too. Don't deny yourself of this wonderful feeling, Amelia." She says, using her other hand to hold the pup in place.

"I have to go put Ana in bed. We'll discuss the ceremony issues Tomorrow. Please think about it and have a goodnight." She says and the other nods, giving Erin a tight-lipped smile, she helps open the door, allowing Erin to walk out with the child.

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Erin carefully lay the child on the bed after changing her clothes. She sat down, gazing softly at the child. It's true what they say, it takes a village to raise a child and truly she sees it. She couldn't have done it without everyone's help.

'Where are you? I'm coming.' Derrick's voice comes through the mind link. A smile slowly creeps up Erin's face as she heard his voice.

'Ana's room but I'll come see you instead. Ana is sleeping.' She replied, getting up from the bed, she covers her with a duvet and turns off the lamp.

She's been waiting up for him ever since and he's finally back. Erin turns to leave but stops, an idea popping in her head, she doesn't waste time leaving Ana's room and going to hers.

Seven minutes later, she walks into Derrick's room in a satin lacy cream robe she had picked during her shopping with Amelia. She could hear the shower still running which meant Derrick was having his bath. She grinned, slowly tugging the robe off her body, and walked into the bathroom.

Melissa sat down, a bowl of fruits on the table, she takes a grape and pops it into her mouth. "The doctor agreed?" She asked Noah who was sitting opposite her.

He grinned, stroking his beard. "Of course, he had no choice when you've threatened his family. Who wants to lose their dear ones." He asks.

Melissa smirked, mashing the grape together, the juice filling her mouth in an instant. She remembered how she had asked the doctor to lie and tell Liam she was pregnant once the time comes but of course, the man proved difficult. He didn't want to lie to his alpha. Melissa had to resort to what she knows best. Now, she has everything prepared. She just needs to 'faint' "Of course he did." She murmurs, smirking.

"Tell me, will Liam be at the pack tomorrow? I want to faint when he is around." She says. Noah thinks back to it. Liam and Peter have been going out continuously for some days now and he can't say if the alpha would be around.

Melissa seemed to read his thoughts, she sighs, rolling her eyes. "I wonder what he is doing that's so important."

"I only know he is meeting up with someone Peter introduced him to. I haven't found out the name of the person." Noah replied, relating like the loyal dog he is.

Melissa nods, taking another grape into her mouth.

"He'll be around tomorrow morning before he leaves. I'll faint then." She concludes. Noah nods, getting up to go do his duties.

"Also, don't forget to check on that girl. Take the doctor there after tomorrow's fainting. I need her in good health." She tells him quietly.

"Of course, I'll do that." He says, bowing slightly then walks towards the door. He halts in his steps as though he remembered something important.

"Also." He says, earning Melissa's attention. She quirks her eyebrows up, waiting for him to speak.

"What?"

"Someone's asked to see you. She was here today." He says.

"Who is she and why didn't you send her in? I've been in the pack house all day." She counters.

"That's right but she isn't someone you can be seen with. Don't worry, I've told her where you can meet her Tomorrow." He says, leaving Melissa more confused.

"Who is this person I am to meet tomorrow?" She asks. Noah thinks back to the lady he saw today and smirks.

"Someone who would benefit you a lot. A whole lot."