

## **TLOA Lycan 1111**

### **Chapter 1111: Side story: i love drama**

This was another day in the castle, to be precise, two weeks after the three Donovan brothers reunited for the first time after centuries of being in a cold war with each other.

The interaction between them was still very perfunctory, but at least they were on the same page when they discussed how to defeat the devils.

Meanwhile, the three guardian angels were trying to figure out the extent of their own power to make the most of it. And one of the things that they did was learning how to fight.

Fighting was not something new for Lilac, unlike the other two guardian angels.

For Hope, she used to fight when she was little whenever there was someone making fun of her. Yet, the skill that they needed to fight right now was different. She couldn't throw a punch and expect her opponent to bleed, nothing like those people that she fought before.

As for Raine, she never engaged in a real fight ever, since she spent almost half of her life in dreadful situations and was not in good condition.

Therefore, the two of them were trying to make Raine come out of her comfort zone and became bolder. They needed that in the upcoming war...

However, Hope seemed to take things too far and was very excited that they had another activity besides roaming around the castle and searching for information about their power, which they were unlikely to find an answer to.

"Raine, you need to punch him harder," Hope said exasperatedly when Raine punched a lycan warrior in front of her hesitantly. "You will be fine, right?" Hope looked at the lycan warrior, asking for his agreement.

"I will be fine Luna," he said, smiling at his Luna. As a matter of fact, he didn't know why he had to be a punching bag. It didn't mean that he was complaining, since every punch that Raine delivered barely made him blink his eyes, but... what actually were the three guardian angels trying to do?

Raine frowned at Hope and then looked at Lilac, who was sitting on the grass, grinning at her. She seemed to be enjoying this situation too much.

"Wait, why should I learn how to fight?" Raine complained. "It is not like the enemy we are facing will be weak enough to let me hit them, right?"

Lilac giggled when she heard that. She knew that Hope was just bored to death and wanted to do something different, but seeing the way she taught Raine how to fight was, kind of, entertaining.

"But, what if the devil comes closer to you? At the very least, you will be able to defend yourself, right?" Hope was still stubborn with her stance.

Yet, Raine felt there was something wrong with her statement...

Even though the devils came very close to Raine, they wouldn't be exchanging fists to fight. Even if that was the case, it was very unlikely for her to win.

Meanwhile, not far from this group of three guardian angels and one lycan warrior, who were huddled under a lush tree in the yard, were the Donovan brothers, walking in the corridor after their long meeting with the other Alphas.

"What are they doing there?" Kace tilted his head when he noticed his mate talking to Raine very passionately.

Torak and Jedrek stopped walking as well, as they saw their respective mates.

"Your mate is teaching his mate how to fight," Jedrek said lightly, but his eyes stared intensely at Lilac, who was laughing. She looked radiant...

Jedrek had never seen Lilac being this happy and carefree before and somehow, the sight brought a soft smile to his lips. He knew that they still needed time to make this relationship workout...

"Can she fight?" Torak glanced at Kace, he doubted Hope's fighting skills.

"No," Kace said proudly.

Whether Hope could fight or not, it didn't matter. Because, it was fun enough to see the fire in her eyes when she told Raine that she made a wrong move, when she actually was clueless to begin with. Lilac then stood up and said something to the two, as she grew a few trees from the ground that slightly hid them from the three Donovan brothers' sight.

"Let them have their own time," Jedrek said as he walked ahead. "There are a few things that we need to discuss."

Torak frowned, he couldn't see Raine and what the other two guardian angels were doing, yet he knew there wouldn't be anything serious happening to her since one of his lycan warriors was with them.

However, before Torak and Kace could follow Jedrek, they caught sight of Hope running toward them.

"Jedrek!" Hope shouted his name with urgency and made the king halt. "Lilac! She is hurt! You need to see her!"

"What?" Jedrek furrowed his eyebrows, but didn't wait for Hope to explain further because a second later, he started sprinting across the yard to find his mate.

From behind the trees that Lilac grew, Raine walked out and her eyes caught sight of Torak. She smiled when she saw Torak run toward her.

"Are you okay? What happened?" he asked worriedly.

"I am fine," Raine replied, confused, but then she understood. "Oh, Lilac just got her finger scraped because Hope said Jedrek is staring at her."

"But, it didn't sound like that." Torak meant the way Hope informed Jedrek. It sounded like Lilac just cut her entire arm instead.

Raine laughed. "She just exaggerated things."

And not long after that, they could hear Jedrek and Lilac arguing behind the tree.

Meanwhile, Hope was grinning at her mate while she was being scolded. "Their relationship is not as good as ours." Kace grumbled. "You know that you don't need to shout across the yard as if there was a crazy lycan attacking you, right?"

"Nah, it will not be fun that way." Hope waved her hands and pulled Kace's hand to walk closer, so she could eavesdrop on their argumentation. "I love drama."

On the other hand, Torak took Raine away from there, he didn't want his mate to be with those people.

### **Chapter 1112: Side story: you better apologize**

Hope and Kace went to get her pregnancy checked up for the first time and after that the doctor kindly gave advice and showed them what a normal birth looked like.

"How is it possible for something so big to come out from there?" Hope whispered to Kace, who was also in the same dilemma as her.

Kace was shocked and speechless when he watched the simulation video. "It just looks like something out of a sci-fi horror movie," Kace whispered back to Hope.

"I think it will be a thriller since it includes some blood," Hope replied.

Both of them only fell silent when the female doctor cleared her throat before explaining everything about pregnancy.

Kace and Hope were very fascinated with every small detail that the doctor told them, since this was their first time experiencing it.

The two of them looked adorable together, just like a young loving couple in their early twenties. No one would believe that Kace was over a few centuries while Hope was even older than that, if one counted the years where she went missing as well.

Yet, it didn't matter how old they were, as they would live long enough to love each other.

Sometimes, Kace would tease Hope or it would be the other way around, or they would do stupid things together, just like when they went on a shopping spree for the baby, but brought the wrong card which had been expired, thus they couldn't pay the bill.

And because the shopping center that they went to was closer to Torak's pack than to their own home, Kace called his second brother to come to his rescue.

The urgency in Kace's voice compelled Torak not to ask much and he immediately went to see him.

Only when he arrived and knew what the problem was, he looked at the couple, annoyed. How could they be still so reckless when they were going to have a baby soon?

Meanwhile, Kace and Hope could only give him innocent faces, talking sweetly to him and even asked him to have lunch with them, of course it was on Torak, since they didn't have the money.

"No, I will have lunch with Raine," Torak rejected Kace downright and threw the card to him. "Send it back to me when you are back at home," he said and walked away, but before that he added. "Including the money that I paid for your stuff."

"Cheapskate," Kace murmured.

"And I can hear you," Torak warned his brother.

"I thought you were my brother," Kace shouted. "How can you be so calculative with me?"

"Money is money, brother." Torak glanced at him through his shoulder and then continued walking away, didn't even bothering to answer him again.

"Let's go eat something delicious." Hope also didn't bother with the two squabbling and took the card as she walked in the opposite direction.

And that day, Kace and Hope continued shopping again until the shopping center was closed, making Torak even more annoyed with the notifications that came into his phone multiple times whenever they used the card.

"You can turn off the phone, you know," Raine giggled behind him, as she put her head against his back and smelled his refreshing scent.

"He did this on purpose, knowing this will irritate me, how childish," Torak grumbled, before he put his focus solely on his mate. This was the best way to cool down.

And the card, Kace only gave it back when they visited Torak when Raine gave birth to Aurora, which rendered the card useless because it was already expired by then.

The interaction between the two of them would always be like that, since they were in sync when it came to fooling around.

Or, there would be times like the one when Hope was eight months pregnant and Kace said he would make breakfast for her.

"Be ready to fall for my charm," Kace said confidently, making Hope giggle when her expectations rose that this would be the best breakfast that she could ever get.

However, five minutes later, not even a smile appeared on her lips when she saw two pieces of toasted bread on her plate.

"'Be ready to fall for my charm' you said?" Hope repeated what Kace said earlier, while staring at the poor toasted bread and a bottle of strawberry jam.

"Do you want to eat pineapple jam as well?" Kace laughed upon seeing Hope's expression. "I like to mix the two."

There were also couple fights between them, which only happened on rare occasions, yet when Hope was on the verge of unleashing her wrath, Kace wouldn't dare to say a single word, especially when he was the one in the wrong.

One such rare squabble happened when the twins were six years old.

Kace was upset because Hope didn't come to Stanley's housewarming party, even though they had been waiting for her until evening.

Today Stanley moved to a new home and Kace had written it on the calendar board, where a note for every event or activities during this month for the entire family was stuck meticulously. This had become a habit for them, so no one would forget.

But, Hope missed it and she didn't pick up her phone either.

"Today? No, you wrote that the housewarming party is next week," Hope was upset because Kace scolded her.

Well, actually the lycan was anxious because she didn't pick up the phone. As it turned out, Hope was in the kids' room to put them to bed and her phone was in their bedroom.

Even Stanley also came, just in case something happened to her.

"No, I wrote that it was today!" Kace argued back. He insisted that he had written it right.

Without saying much, Hope pulled Kace to the kitchen where that damned calendar board was hung and pointed her finger at the date.

"Do you still want to argue with me?" she asked sarcastically.

And it appeared that Kace indeed wrote it wrongly, yet he was too embarrassed to admit it, thus he murmured something that didn't make any sense. "Somebody must have rewritten it wrongly..."

Upon hearing that, Hope started to laugh and Stanley, who was standing next to Kace, whispered in his ear.

"When a woman starts laughing during an argument, it means you just activated the psycho part in her brain, you better apologize, buddy."

### **Chapter 1113: Side story: dance with your baby**

"Jedrek where are you?!" Lilac shouted for the king, as she was frustrated. She had been looking for Jedrek and their baby for more than twenty minutes now, but in this castle like house, it was impossible for her to find them. "We don't have time to play hide and seek! We will be late!"

Lilac's voice echoed through the walls, while the sun was shining through the glass windows lengthened the shadow of things that it went through and gave out a dreamy sight.

"Where is Jedrek?" Furiously, Lilac asked the first servant that she met on her way to the back yard. Damn! This house was so big! She was tired already.

"I don't know my queen, the king has disappeared since an hour ago," she said warily, afraid of being on the receiving end of Lilac's wrath.

This was one of the things that she didn't like. She had told them to not address her that way, but they simply wouldn't listen to her. Actually, all of this was mostly Jedrek's fault.

"Lie," Lilac said coldly. There was no way they didn't know Jedrek's whereabouts. There were a lot of methods they could use to find him.

They could sniff around for his scent or their baby's, or even mind- link the king directly.

The young servant was startled. She lowered her head, hiding the troubled look on her face. Apparently, she was not a good liar.

"So, where is he?" Lilac moved closer to impose more pressure on her. She didn't want to do this, but she had no other choice, or else they would be late.

And one should know that receiving Jedrek's wrath was much better than Lilac's.

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"No, Lilac, we don't need to go," Jedrek insisted, he held baby Micah close to him, as if Lilac was an enemy, who would steal his dearest son.

"Stop being a child Jedrek, everyone go there!" Lilac braced her hands on her waist. She was trying her best not to raise her voice because Micah was watching them closely, but it was a hard thing to do.

"My son doesn't need to go there," Jedrek was stubborn, he didn't want to agree with her.

"We have agreed on this," Lilac reminded him and took a step forward to take Micah from Jedrek when the baby smiled brightly and stretched out his stubby hands toward her. He got his father's eyes and Lilac loved them.

"No, I didn't agree with you, it was just your assumption." Jedrek took a step back and hid Micah from Lilac. "No, son. Your mama is not in her right mind now. You are safer with me honey."

Lilac rolled her eyes. She didn't even remember, since when Jedrek started being such a melodramatic father like this.

Oh, wait. Lilac knew it, this all started the first time Jedrek carried Micah in his arms and then refused to put him down no matter what. The baby mesmerized him to an alarming state.

Jedrek often disappeared in the middle of the night and she would find him in the baby's room, staring at the sleeping Micah because he was afraid something bad might happen to him since he was left all alone.

Please... the baby was just sleeping, not left alone...

Lilac didn't know that Jedrek had this cute side to him. It had indeed been fun to see him being like that at first, but when he decided to move the crib to their room and only left Micah's side when he needed to be fed, it became annoying.

Well, he was being annoying every moment of the day recently.

"I don't want to hear your excuses. I will wait for you in the car and if you don't come with Micah within five minutes, I will never talk to you." After saying this, Lilac walked away.

This was the only method that worked...

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Since baby Micah was only eight months old, Lilac thought it would be a great idea to bring him to a toddler school. So that, he could interact with other babies and find activities outside of their home. Also to introduce him to the outside world.

However, neither Jedrek nor Micah enjoyed this arrangement, both of them had the same stoic expression and Lilac couldn't stop herself and took a picture of them.

"I told you that our baby is too smart for this." Jedrek flicked a wooden block in front of him, as it fell down.

"No, it is you, who gave a negative vibe," Lilac scolded Jedrek and put Micah on her lap, while the other parents around them talked to their baby and played with wooden blocks, or any plaything around them.

"Lilac, this place is ridiculous, Micah hasn't even smiled once since we entered this place," Jedrek pointed out.

"It is because he is surprised with his new surroundings, once he gets used to this, he will be more active," Lilac replied, trying to make Micah put a wooden block atop of the others, but the baby threw it away with a bored expression.

"I told you, he doesn't like being here." Jedrek smirked and took Micah into his lap again. "He likes to play with me."

If Jedrek thought playing with those toys was bad, then he had not yet seen the worse and it happened when the instructor or the teacher asked them all to stand up and she started to wiggle her hips from left to right energetically.

Both Jedrek and Micah looked bored, and Lilac couldn't believe an eight months old baby could manage to pull such an expression.

"Okay, dance with your baby!" The teacher shouted happily and all the parents stood up, carrying their child as they shook their body mimicking the teacher's actions.

"Ridiculous," Jedrek grumbled. "You will not ask me to do that stupid move, will you?"

"Come on Jedrek, this is fun!" Lilac stood up and tried to make the bad king stand up too while urging him to step to this weird dance number.

"I will not do this Lilac!" That was what he said, but five minutes later the king should admit that he had no power against his queen.

During this session, both Jedrek and Micah had grumpy faces. Like father, like son.

### **Chapter 1114: In another life (1)**

If there was a different life, another life that would allow you to get what you couldn't have before, would you give it a try?

Even if there was a big price to pay for it, was it okay?

If you loved someone in your previous life and you couldn't be with them, and then you both ended up separated by time and space, was it okay to take a second chance in another life in hopes of getting together with them again?

Was the hope of being together without having to think about the consequences that would follow, a mistake too?

There were many complicated depictions of love and several more other things to consider, but this love of hers was not wrong, was it? When she has sacrificed everything and finally has to give up everything she could have for something more righteous, didn't that kind of love play a big role too?

She deserved happiness as well, right?

The girl woke up with a stabbing pain in her chest and a tear welling up in the corner of her lime green eyes.

Even when she opened her eyes, the soft sobs from her lips could still be heard. It took her a while longer to gather her memories and realize that it was all a dream.

The dream that often repeated and made the morning of the girl with fiery red hair even gloomier.

This room was filled with various fiction books that could make you imagine things that were impossible in the real world, adorning every corner of the room.

"Why is it like this again..." a whimper escaped the girl's lips, like a soft whisper in the silence of the morning.

Even the sun was just shining, peeking over the horizon.

"A dream?" she said, more to herself. A question that still puzzled her, because she didn't know what to make out of it.

Each time she woke up with soft sobs and tears running down her cheeks and her pillow, she couldn't remember what she had just dreamed of.

However, the feeling of hopelessness and sadness were real. It was that feeling of grief that reminded her that she just had a dream that seemed so real but had simply been forgotten.

Even when her eyes were wide open and she went about her routine in the morning, those feelings dominated her heart, seemingly, keeping her from remembering the forgotten dream.

Does that make any sense? It just sounds crazy...

The girl was silent in her bed for a while longer. Like the previous days, she tried to remember what the dream was about, but just like the previous days, she failed to remember it again.

All she knew was that her chest hurt like someone had stabbed her right in the heart.

But, on top of that pain was another foreign pain that was far more painful. She couldn't tell what it was...



"Serefina! How long do you want to sleep? You will be late," her mother's voice and a knock on the bedroom door made Serefina gasp, she then wiped the last tear that had flowed from the corner of her eye and patted her cheeks to dispel the gloomy feeling that overcame her.

"I am awake!" Serefina replied.

"Then come down and have breakfast," her mother said before finally leaving her room to continue making breakfast.

Serefina sighed and got off her bed and opened the curtain that covered the bedroom window, letting in the warm morning sunlight.

"What a dream huh..." she mumbled.

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Changing schools in the last year of school was extremely rare, but that was the topic of conversation this morning.

The girls started gossiping about the new male student who was about to enter their class and of course all they discussed was how handsome he was, while Serefina wasn't at all interested in the topic until she saw the said handsome student herself.

When the bell rang and class was about to start, their teacher introduced him. His name was Jedrek Donovan, the son of this country's prominent figure and this fact only adds to his appeal.

No eye looked at him without admiration, including Serefina, although she tried to appear disinterested.

The atmosphere in the class became even more chaotic when the young man was asked to sit beside Serefina, because that was the only empty table left.

Only, Serefina's admiration ended there as the man opened his mouth and said something arrogantly.

"This seat doesn't suit me," he grumbled as he placed his expensive bag on the table, looking indifferent to his surroundings.

What?

Serefina's lime green eyes narrowed as she turned her head and glared at the youth beside her.

"If you have enough money, why don't you buy your own table?" Serefina said fiercely. This guy sucks.

Jedrek who heard that, looked back at the beautiful-eyed girl and smiled sweetly, but of course Serefina could sense that he was mocking her.

"You have beautiful eyes," he said in a tone so low that only the two of them could hear. "I guess I am fine sitting here with you."

Hearing that answer, Serefina rolled her eyes and tossed her hair. "It's good that you think so, but I just wanted to say that if you are quite happy sitting in a chair like this, then you'd be even happier sitting in an expensive chair you bought yourself."

Jedrek laughed softly and for some reason his laughter and smile made Serefina's heart tremble. There's something wrong with her. Serefina knew that. Ever since she started having those dreams, something had indeed gone wrong with her.

How could Serefina be happy to see that smile and be tempted to laugh with him too?

Of course with her stubborn nature she wouldn't do that, so instead of smiling along with Jedrek, Serefina looked at him fiercely.

"You know? Money can't buy happiness and I am happy to have a friend like you," he said lightly.

"Money can't buy happiness?" Serefina repeated. "Then give me all your money and I will show you how happy I am."

And again that mesmerizing smile tugged at Jedrek's lips, making Serefina turn her face toward the window.

"And again, we are not friends," she added.

However, from the reflection in the glass, Serefina could see Jedrek's smile and his blue eyes staring at her as well.

### **Chapter 1115: In another life (2)**

"Are you sure this outfit is alright?" Calleb looked at his reflection in the mirror and asked for Raine's opinion again. He couldn't hide his nervousness.

Raine sighed in exasperation at Calleb's question for the hundredth time. How many more times did she have to say that there was nothing wrong with the clothes, or his hairdo, or with the bouquet of flowers he was carrying?

"You're so annoying," Bree said. The little girl sat on the sofa watching Raine, who seemed to be on the verge of losing her temper while answering Calleb's never ending questions.

"Thank you Bree, you said what I wanted to say the most," Raine said softly to Bree before casting an irritated look at the Beta. She then sat down beside the little girl.

"I know you are on the verge of losing your temper with him." Bree held out the box of chocolates she was holding and Raine took one out of it.

"You two suck," Calleb grumbled, pouting.

That night, Calleb wanted to take Rossie out for dinner. He would pick her up at her house, of course after meeting her parents as well as her two twin brothers who looked just as scary when Torak was angry. Well, maybe Calleb was exaggerating a little, but what he wanted to say was; asking his mate out on a date was not easy.

"Didn't you say you wanted your partner to be a home girl who was closely guarded by her family?" Raine reminded Calleb of his own words from years ago. "Congratulations! Looks like Selene had heard what you said and granted it."

"No, this is too much. I feel like I am about to go to war every time I step foot in her house," Calleb said in a pitiful tone, ruffling his hair again in frustration.

"But you still go to visit her," said Bree, munching on her chocolate.

"Of course, I miss her," Calleb sighed.

Bree stuck her tongue out. The little girl still didn't understand what Calleb was feeling right now.

"Can't Torak give the order for Rossie to stay here?"

"You want to force her to stay with you?" Raine raised an eyebrow, criticizing Calleb.

"Raine," Calleb grumbled. "You make it sound really bad! You know that's not what I meant," the Beta grumbled, annoyed.

Raine and Bree laughed again, it was fun to tease Calleb and this became their new hobby every time Calleb went to Rossie's house.

"Everything has been prepared, isn't it?" Raine asked as she gathered Bree's hair before tying it into a ponytail. This girl sometimes did not pay attention to herself and often acted casually, although at times she was very reliable, after all she was a dragon shifter. "Then go, don't keep her waiting. This is not your first time visiting her house."

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"Remember! I want her to be home before it hits Twelve." Sterling warned Calleb again and again.

Meanwhile Calleb could only say yes, because there was nothing he could do under the fierce gazes of Rossie's twin brothers and her father, while his partner still hadn't come out of the room.

At this rate, Calleb felt that it would be better to fight ten lycan warriors at once...

"And don't kiss my sister on the lips," Ian added. He folded his arms in front of his chest, showing that he has more dominance over the Beta.

Whoops! This little boy! Calleb grumbled.

If only Ian wasn't Rossie's older brother, then he would be happy to show what it meant to be dominated.

However, all the negative feelings that Calleb felt vanished when Rossie walked out of her room, looking very elegant, beautiful and sweet in a white dress and a matching bandana.

She wore a knee-length dress and also a pastel yellow outer.

Seeing his mate, Calleb really had to find another word for 'beautiful', because 'beautiful' alone could not describe Rossie in his eyes.

Well, maybe Calleb was being unfair, since Rossie was his mate, but he would beat anyone who dared say otherwise.

However, his vision suddenly darkened when Ethan covered his eyes with his palm. "Don't look at my sister like you're going to eat her at once."

"Can't I eat her?" Calleb commented. The words just slipped out of his mouth without thinking and instantly the room was filled with a low growl that sounded dangerous.

Ugh! This was the original definition of; entering a wolf den...

"I was just kidding, I was just kidding," Calleb corrected himself. He didn't want them to change their minds and forbid Rossie to go out with him.

Hell! Calleb wouldn't be going anywhere even if they kicked him out now without taking Rossie to the restaurant he had booked.

"How?" Sophia gently pushed her daughter forward, while Rossie smiled sweetly at Calleb. She walked closer to her mate.

Maybe at the start of their relationship, she seemed shy around Calleb, but the mate bond between them helped things get better.

Rossie felt comfortable with this man and she would find herself smiling so widely or feeling so excited every time she thought about him.

It sounds stupid and a little cheesy, but that's how she felt.

"How do I look?" Rossie asked, and twirled in front of Calleb, ignoring the grumblings of the three men behind her.

"You are so beautiful," Calleb said sheepishly, he touched the back of his neck, his habit whenever he felt shy.

"Of course my daughter is beautiful," Sterling chimed in, but Rossie glared at him.

"Shut up dad," Rossie grumbled. She then looked back at Calleb. "You are not so bad yourself." She then tiptoed and kissed Calleb on the lips without hesitation.

For a moment, Calleb was silent. He was beyond surprised as he didn't expect Rossie to be so brave. His chest felt like it was going to explode with joy, especially when Rossie did it right in front of her family members, but the fierce gazes of the three pairs of eyes in the room reminded him of the critical situation he had to face after that brief kiss.

Calleb immediately raised his hands and hurriedly said. "Not me. I didn't kiss her. She kissed me first!"

### **Chapter 1116: In another life (3)**

The moon seemed to be shining brightly above the dark night sky that was studded with starlight and white clouds, drifting in the cold night wind.

Lana admired the scene while standing on the balcony of her room, stroking her growing belly with a soft smile on her lips.

It was nice and refreshing to be able to feel the cold air against her skin and this was their last night at the inn.

Torak gave the Beta a week off to spend more time with his pregnant wife, because the Alpha knew very well how sometimes a pregnant woman was difficult to handle while Raphael spent too much time by Torak's side, dealing with never ending problems.

And when Calleb protested that he had to do everything alone, Raphael simply said that he had to get Rossie pregnant first if he wanted to have the privileges he got.

Of course Calleb immediately withdrew from the challenge. He gave up unconditionally and no longer grumbled that Raphael had gone on a vacation with Lana.

'With the progress I have now, I think I will have to wait another hundred years until I get to the point where I can go that far with Rossie,' Calleb said at that time with a pathetic expression.

Meanwhile, Raphael and Jack could only laugh at his not- so -smooth love journey.

'I feel like my mate is not only Rossie, but I am also paired with her father, mother and also her two twin brothers,' Calleb complained again.

All those memories brought a smile to Raphael's lips.

"What are you laughing at?" Lana asked while hugging Raphael's arm, now they were both standing on the balcony, staring at the reflection of the moonlight on the surface of the lake.

"Nothing." Raphael shook his head. "Just a few funny things."

Lana then tiptoed and kissed Raphael's cheek. "I love seeing you smile like this," she said softly, like the wind whispering into Raphael's ear. "I haven't seen you smile lately."

Yes, because of the piled up work, it stressed Raphael a little too much with all the things he had to deal with.

"I am sorry," he whispered softly into Lana's ear, pulling her close and hugging her from behind.

Raphael carefully placed his hand on Lana's growing belly and rested his chin on her shoulder, breathing in her scent that could calm the beast inside him.

Because Raphael was rarely at home, the beast inside him was irritated as it demanded him to be close to his mate and also their unborn child.

Perhaps, it was also for this reason that Torak gave Raphael time off so that he could reorganize his thoughts and compromise with the beast within him.

Raphael needed to be near Lana and Torak could feel his beast was on edge. After all he was an Alpha, the beast inside him could feel his beta's.

"You don't need to apologize," Lana said softly. She knew what Raphael meant and she didn't blame her mate for it at all.

Maybe this was because of the experiences that Lana had gone through with Raphael. Since from the beginning they were together, the situations they had to face were quite harsh, thus shaping Lana's personality to be more mature and understanding.

"I still feel like I should apologize to you," Raphael denied Lana's words and hugged her tightly, certainly not tight enough to hurt their future child.

Lana chuckled when she heard Raphael's sincerity, seemingly, he was regretting how he had not paid enough attention to her while she was carrying their first born.

"You give me peace of mind that I have never felt before and I think that's enough reason for me to forgive you," Lana said as she leaned her body against Raphael's chest and gently stroked his arm. "If there was no mate bond between us, would this relationship still feel like this?" Lana mumbled softly. "Will you love me?"

"What about you? Will you love me?" Raphael turned Lana's question to her which made both of them laugh. "A mate bond is a sacred thing and a gift to our kind, but I think even without it, if you really love someone then you will continue to love them."

Yes, like what happened with the Donovans, they lost the mate bond, but that didn't mean it was a problem, it just made the love between them feel more pure.

"I wish we could live forever like this, together with Edgar," Lana said affectionately while rubbing her belly. "Become a small family that is inseparable and live happily. That's my only wish."

Raphael smiled, his expression softening when he heard Lana's wish. The same hope he had. "I wish we could live forever with our children and watch them grow up and guide them to be better people in this more peaceful world."

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On a dewy morning with fog still covering the foot of the mountain, the air was cold and the ground was wet from last night's rain; came from one of the houses, a strong cry of a newborn baby.

The cry was so strong, breaking the silence of the morning with joy and happy laughter.

It was the cry of Baby Edgar, Raphael and Lana's first born.

Lana had been struggling since last night to bring Edgar into the world, but it wasn't until morning that Edgar could really breathe fresh air and announced his existence to the world.

Raphael couldn't hold back his tears when he saw his first son for the first time.

Baby Edgar was so small and tiny, so fragile yet he could hold his heart in his baby fists.

He was crying, but as soon as Raphael hugged him, his cries died down, as he started mumbling incoherently.

It was a magnificent sight for Raphael as well as the first time for him to hold a baby.

"Hi champ, I'm your father..." Raphael said while holding Edgar's small hand. He would hold his son's hand and guide him well throughout his life.

Raphael then turned his attention to Lana before laying their baby by her side. He bent down and kissed Lana's forehead gently.

"Thank you Lana, you two complete my life," he said. "I'll take care of you two forever."

#### **Chapter 1117: In another life (4)**

Raphael returned home in a hurry after he heard Edgar was sick through a phone call from Lana a while ago, who said that she had just returned from the healer's place.

Of course, as new parents with an eight- month- old baby, this left them both panicking.

Luckily, although Raphael and Lana decided not to live in the pack house, their house was not too far from the pack house.

"How is he now?" That was the first question Raphael asked as soon as he opened the main door of the house and stepped inside.

The Beta saw Lana nursing Edgar in the living room.

Lana lifted her finger to her lips, asking Raphael not to make any noise. "Edgar is fine now, but he had been crying since this morning and it was really hard to calm him down," Lana said quietly. The woman looked tired and although Edgar seemed fine now, it couldn't take away the worried look from his mate's eyes.

"What did the healer say earlier?" asked Raphael, this time in a much lower tone. He then sat next to Lana carefully, watching how Edgar was gripping the shirt Lana was wearing while his eyes were tightly closed. He seemed to have fallen asleep, but Lana was still afraid to lay him on the bed.

"He said Edgar was fine and not to worry," Lana said quietly, her eyes still on her son. "Although it's rare, it's still natural for shifter babies to get sick in the early years, because their immunity power isn't fully developed yet," Lana explained to Raphael about what the Healer had told her.

At first, Lana didn't want to worry Raphael by talking about this while he was at work, especially when Raphael had to leave his job, but when her mate called and asked how their child was, of course she couldn't lie.

"Have you had lunch?" Raphael glanced at the clock, it was almost noon and well past lunch time. Lana shook her head in answer.

"I can't put him on the bed, I've tried a few times, but as soon as I put him down, he'd start crying again," Lana said.

She was hungry, especially since Edgar was constantly suckling, but it was very difficult to eat while carrying him.

Raphael frowned, he didn't know that being a mother was so difficult. Even though he was so busy with work, at least he would have enough time to eat and could rest when he got home, but it was different for Lana...

And even though Raphael always cooperated well, there were things he couldn't do.

"Come here, let me carry Edgar." Raphael stretched out his hands. "You eat first."

Lana looked doubtful for a moment.

"You have to take care of your health too, it's okay... I will carry him carefully," Raphael coaxed her.

Then slowly, Lana moved Edgar who was still in a feeding position and moved the baby into Raphael's arms.

Edgar seemed almost awake for a moment, but after Lana patted him, he closed his eyes again.

"Okay, I will be right back," Lana said in a whisper, she caressed Edgar's cheek and gazed affectionately at her son and husband.

"I will be right here, take your time," replied Raphael. "Get some rest, you look really tired."

Lana smiled widely and kissed Raphael's forehead instead of thanking him. She was lucky to have a mate like this man.

But, even before Lana could take a third step, Edgar let out a mumbling sound and started to squirm, there was a faint crease between his eyebrows, before he finally burst into tears.

Maybe because he felt the changes around him, since it was Raphael who was holding him. But, it turned out to be crucial as it made the baby feel uncomfortable.

It's a hard thing to explain, but Edgar would sleep longer when Lana carried him, and no matter how carefully Raphael held him, the baby could still detect the difference.

This was also one of the things Raphael couldn't help with, even though he really wanted to.

"Come, give him to me," Lana said softly as she sat back down in her original place. She held out her hands to ask for Edgar.

"But..." Raphael hesitated. Lana looked tired and hungry, but he couldn't stop Edgar from crying either. The baby wanted his mother and sometimes this made Raphael feel jealous.

"It's okay." Lana then took over Edgar from Raphael. "Edgar was in my womb for a few months, so naturally he's more familiar with me." Lana knew what Raphael was thinking and said this to make him feel better.

"Yes, I understand," Raphael said slowly, then he stood up and walked away.

Meanwhile, Lana could only stare at Raphael's back, which looked down, it seemed that her partner was very disappointed that Edgar couldn't feel comfortable around him.

Apparently, after calming Edgar down, Lana had to calm Raphael down too.

However, a few moments later, after Edgar was successfully put back to sleep, Raphael returned with a tray full of food, a gentle smile etched on his lips.

"If I can't calm Edgar down, I can at least keep you from starving," Raphael said with a grin.

Oh...



Lana laughed softly and felt that her life was perfect.

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By nightfall, Edgar's condition had improved and he was now playing with Raphael in the living room watching a cartoon on television, while Lana was cutting fruits for the two of them.

Edgar's fever had now subsided and he looked more cheerful.

"Ma..." Edgar said as he raised his hand when he saw Lana come back with a plate of apple slices.

"Humph, he really is his mother's son, he can't even focus when you're not here," Raphael grumbled, but of course he wasn't serious about his words, especially when Edgar kissed his cheek as soon as Lana hugged him.

After that Lana put Edgar back on the carpet and let her son engrossed in his toys.

"I love you," Raphael whispered into Lana's ear, which made her blush.

Raphael then reached out his hand, touched Lana's cheek and pulled her closer, he was about to kiss the most perfect woman in his life when Lana turned her face away in surprise, just before their lips touched.

"What hap..." Raphael immediately turned his attention to see what Lana was looking at.

And the sight made both of them gasp.

"Edgar is walking!"

### **Chapter 1118: In another life (5)**

Ethan was studying hard for the university entrance exam he was interested in, as he wanted to be a programmer which was quite surprising for both their parents, because no one had chosen that major before.

Nonetheless, his family supported him.

While Ian, on the other hand, did not have such enthusiasm to continue his studies to a higher level and simply gave up, instead of having to face difficulties which he thought were not worth it at all.

However, Ian started getting increasingly bored because Ethan was constantly languishing in his room and kept struggling with his books.

"You have to get out of your room every now and then," Ian groaned desperately, seeing Ethan immersed in the thick books in front of his face.

"Shut up," Ethan grumbled. "Get out of my room," he said irritably.

"You should get out of this room." Ian then got out of bed and grabbed the thick book Ethan was reading, and before his twin could protest, he added, "You know, resting is also necessary for you, if you push yourself too hard, then there will not be any information you can remember from reading this."

"No! Get out of my room," Ethan shouted, struggling against Ian who was trying to drag him out of the room.

And for a moment, a fight broke out between the twins until their mother shouted from downstairs for the two of them to stop and not make a fuss.

Well, in an instant they became quiet. Neither of them wanted to see the fury of a female werewolf.

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Ian finally managed to drag Ethan out of his 'study cave' and took his twin brother to one of their friends' house, who said his female cousin was visiting from another pack under Alpha Torak's territory.

Furious and unable to resist Ian's desire to separate him from the textbooks, Ethan followed his twin brother to Billy's house.

Ethan still wasn't done with his grunts, especially when he got a feeling that something was off about him by the moment they approached the house. There was something that made the beast inside him feel restless. Pacing around impatiently.

It's just that Ethan didn't understand what's really going on.

"Billy said his cousin is very beautiful, at least we can't miss this," Ian looked very enthusiastic to see Billy's beautiful cousin.

But, Ethan wasn't interested at all, he seemed to be breathing heavily, because of the discomfort that made his chest feel a little tight.

Then, the first thing Ethan noticed was the scent, a calming scent that could make the beast inside him suddenly turn very enthusiastic and stop being agitated.

However, the sudden emotions were too confusing for Ethan, so he couldn't grasp what was really going on quickly and made him feel lost for a moment.

"Hey, are you all right?" Ian tugged at Ethan's shoulder, as his twin kept shaking his head strangely. "What happened? Do you have a headache?"

It's rare for shifters to get sick, but it's not impossible, thus if they did, then the odd situation should be taken seriously.

However, what Ethan felt right now, wasn't some kind of pain, even though his heart was beating really fast and his head felt like it was spinning.

Because now he knew what was the source of these weird and foreign emotions.

The cause was a girl, who was standing right at the top of the stairs, with a slightly lowered head, looking at him intently.

Their gazes met and then, everything started to make sense, as the shifter's most sacred word left the lips of the two.

"Mate..."

Ethan and the girl whispered almost at the same time and gasped at the sudden realization.

The cute girl with black curly hair that reached to her waist, covered her mouth with a stunned look directed at the man at the bottom of the stairs.

Meanwhile, Ian who heard and witnessed all this fell silent instantly. He was pleasantly 'shocked.' Ethan has a mate now? Was that true?

But, seeing how the two looked at each other, made Ian believe what was going on was true.

"Hey, can you two stop staring at each other like that? How about giving each other a hug? Or a kiss?" Ian said in a low voice, hoping to burst the bubble of surprise between the two who had just met.

However, the goodwill to remind them, became a boomerang on Ian, and he got the most cynical stare he had ever gotten from Ethan.

Sob sob... his brother even became very mean to him right after getting a mate...

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It had been two months since Ethan met Ella, who was Billy's cousin and his mate. It was an extraordinary coincidence and Ian should have gotten a medal for bringing them together by forcing Ethan out of his hermitage cave behind a pile of books.

Ian should have gotten a reward for what he had done, but Ethan was actually super busy with his studies and Ella even more, so he didn't have time for Ian.

Like this afternoon, Ella came to visit their house with a homemade sponge cake, of course the girl was warmly welcomed by all family members, and after that she immediately went to meet Ethan in his room.

Ian could only complain and grunt because he hadn't found a life partner of his own and was starting to look uninspired, and cursed more often, which made Rossie feel annoyed. She directly threw him out of her room because Ian kept complaining.

"If you have so much time, why don't you just help me?" Rossie grumbled. "Get my scissors in Ethan's room, he borrowed them yesterday and they haven't been returned."

Inevitably, Ian complied with his dear sister's orders and walked languidly to Ethan's room.

It was Ian's habit to go straight into his twin's room and open it without knocking on the door first.

But, this time he finally learnt that he had to change this habit.

As soon as Ian saw what was going on in there, he automatically closed the door, followed by an angry growl from Ethan; "GET OUT!"

"I... I was looking for scissors!" Ian stammered.

And to be sure, what Ian saw was not what he was looking for...

**Chapter 1119: In another life (6)**

"Can you stop staring at him?" Dageus asked Serefina resentfully. His voice sounded very unpleasant to hear. "He is an asshole," he grumbled.

Hearing how Dageus was badmouthing Jedrek, Serefina glared at him hostilely.

"What? Did I say something wrong?" he asked irritably.

"If you are not my childhood friend, then I am sure I will beat you to nothing," Serefina grumbled, no less annoyed.

"If you were not my childhood friend, do you think I would want to waste my precious time and breath telling you that you are so stupid to think of him?" asked Dageus irritably. He then smacked Serefina's head, hard enough to make the woman groan in pain.

"What are you doing? Looking for death huh?! It hurts, you know!" Serefina rubbed her head.

"Oh, sorry, I thought your head had turned to stone for not listening to other people's words anymore," Dageus said nonchalantly, shrugging his shoulders indifferently. "After all, I didn't hit you that hard, so don't overreact."

"You hit me really hard, so don't think you didn't hurt me," Serefina didn't want to concede.

"Of course it's not that harsh, there is no way I mean to hurt you."

"Of course it hurts." Serefina glared at Dageus and her green eyes looked so lively.

Dageus liked the spark in Serefina's eyes, especially when this girl thought she could beat him at everything, especially in an argument. Even though in the end Dageus would relent, at least he could see the spark in her beautiful green eyes and that was enough for him.

"YOU TWO OVER THERE! THIS IS A LIBRARY, NOT A FIELD, IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT, GET OUT NOW!" cried the librarian, Mrs. Andrew.

Dageus and Serefina were well known throughout the campus, where they were often seen together.

Even though they were separated during high school because Dageus couldn't enter the same school as Serefina due to insufficient grades, they met again in university.

But, it's not only Dageus, even Jedrek and his fiancé were in the same campus, yet they were both in a different department from theirs.

"Get out you two!" grumbled Mrs. Andrew, when she saw Dageus pulling Serefina's hand to get out of the library.

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"You got us kicked out of the library." Serefina tossed her hair that she had just dyed red and glared at a female student who was glaring at her because she was walking side by side with Dageus.

Yes, this man was handsome, Serefina had to admit that this man was very popular among the girls.

However, of course Serefina wouldn't say that to Dageus directly, this man's head would only grow bigger.

"Well then, I will be going. Bye," Dageus said lightly and walked away, not giving much thought to the fact that he had just been kicked out of the library.

Well, it wasn't the first time for either of them, so there was nothing to fuss about.

After Dageus left, Serefina intended to return to her classroom, but the female student who had been looking at her with a disapproving gaze earlier came up to her and blocked her way.

Serefina really didn't like this kind of stuff. Especially when the latter and her two friends surrounded her.

"Get out of my way," Serefina said coldly.

They didn't know each other, but that didn't mean the three didn't know Serefina.

"You better stay away from Dageus, seeing you two is really annoying," said Nessie. This girl looked very fierce when she spoke, especially since she had two other friends backing her up.

"Oh, I thought so too," Serefina imitated Nessie's gestures and speech. "It's so annoying when he's around me."

It was the same as saying that it was Dageus who had always clung to her and not the other way around.

"Don't twist my words!" Nessie became very angry because she felt ridiculed. However, her two friends couldn't help her because when they saw Serefina's smile fade and the girl's expression turned serious, she gave a very scary vibe.

Her green eyes seemed to say that they better not touch her, or something bad would happen.

"Why? You like Dageus?" Serefina asked, without taking her piercing eyes away from Nessie, if Dageus had been around, it was certain that the man would have been mesmerized by how 'lively' the look in his little friend's eyes was.

"You... if so, what can you do about it?" Nessie stuttered, she was afraid to look Serefina straight into her eyes, so she looked at Serefina's forehead. "I don't like you being around Dageus."

Serefina snorted, then she grinned. "If you like him, just make a move on him. I didn't expect it, your taste is so bad."

After saying that, Serefina pushed Nessie so hard that she fell to the ground, but the former didn't care at all as she sauntered away, leaving screams behind her, cursing her with harsh words.

Serefina had no time and didn't want to waste her energy on something unimportant.

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"What did you say? Bad taste?" Dageus narrowed his eyes at the girl in front of him who was yawning.

"She pissed me off," Serefina said, while resting her head on her hands on the table. "If she likes you, she should come to you, not to me."

"But, that 'bad taste' is too..." Dageus growled in annoyance, how could Serefina say that so casually?!

"Don't hit me again, I'm sleepy, I don't want to be kicked out of here. I want to sleep."

Dageus and Sereфина met in the library to discuss their assignments, but because last night she had lacked sleep, she came to the library early to take a nap.

But, who would have thought that Dageus had arrived earlier and was working on their assignments?

"You should come here to finish this, not sleep," Dageus rebuked.

"We promised eleven, while it's only ten-thirty, so I still have thirty minutes to sleep," Sereфина muttered with her eyes closed.

Seeing Sereфина who seemed unable to hold back her sleep, Dageus finally fell silent and let her sleep.

It wasn't until eleven o'clock that he intended to wake the girl, but after several times of calling her name, Sereфина didn't show any signs of waking up.

The midday sun shone on Sereфина's face and made her frown, thus what Dageus did was; stacking the books right in front of her face to block out the sun and allow her to sleep a little longer.

### **Chapter 1120: In another life (7)**

The light of the afternoon sun fell on Raphael's, who was fast asleep. He had just slept this morning, because there were some creatures, who boldly broke through the border and made a fuss, so he and Calleb had to take care of the matter, therefore, it was only this morning that he was able to go home after solving this ridiculous problem.

But, as a father of a four- year- old son, a curious and impatient little boy, of course, noon was not the time to rest.

"Mom, why is dad still sleeping?" Edgar asked, jumping up and down in the kitchen, where Lana was preparing lunch for them. "I want to play with daddy," the little boy whined to his mother. He was displeased that Raphael spent most of his time outside, but once he was at home, he was sleeping.

Lana smiled and crouched down in front of her son. She kissed his rosy cheeks. "Daddy is very tired because he just got home from work this morning, so let him sleep for a bit, okay? How about playing with mom?" asked Lana, offering a solution.

But, Edgar wrinkled his nose, he pouted. "Edgar wants to play with dad. Edgar has been playing with mom every day."

The corner of Lana's lips twitched when she heard that. Did his son mean that he was tired of playing with her?

"Let dad sleep for a bit, okay?" Lana said, she understood that Edgar missed Raphael, but she also understood that Raphael's position as a Beta sometimes required him to spend more time outside the house.

"Until when?" Edgar lowered his head and stomped his feet in annoyance. Lana didn't know where he got this traits from. "I have been waiting a very long time to be able to play with dad. It's sooooooo long." He confirmed his sentence with a cute hand gesture.

"How about later after lunch you wake daddy up to play with you? Maybe by that time father was already awake?" Lana remembered that Raphael told her not to wake him for lunch, because he wanted to rest, her mate seemed really tired.

But, she couldn't ignore her son too.

Huft, it turned out that being a mother was not an easy job...

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Edgar couldn't wait until lunch, so he went into Raphael and Lana's room and found his father sleeping on the bed, sprawled, on his stomach. There was a soft snoring from his slightly parted lips.

Edgar carefully climbed onto the bed and sat on Raphael's back.

At that time, Edgar looked happy to see Raphael open his eyes because his instincts that noticed someone nearby, made him alert.

However, when he saw his son smiling at him happily, Raphael's wariness dropped drastically and he fell back asleep in no time.

This annoyed Edgar. He tugged at Raphael's ear. "Daddy, wake up!" he said in a childish cry, jumping up and down on Raphael's body. "Get up. Come play with me."

"Hm," Raphael muttered incoherently with his eyes still closed.

Because Edgar's body was small and meant nothing to him, so when the little boy jumped on his back, he was not bothered, precisely because of Edgar's distinctive scent, it made Raphael feel even more comfortable, he really felt like he was at home and fell into a deep sleep.

Meanwhile, the four-year-old boy who didn't get the attention, was getting more and more annoyed. He tugged at Raphael's hair while biting his ear. "Father wake up! Get up!"

He bit Raphael's hand with his tiny teeth, his cheek as well as his neck, but still didn't get the response he wanted.

Thus, his green eyes began to water. Edgar didn't understand why his father ignored him, he felt neglected.

It was only when Raphael heard his son's sobs that he woke up from his sleep and saw Edgar who was already crying, tears running down his small face and this took the Beta by surprise.

"What is it? Why?" he asked frantically, turning carefully so that Edgar wouldn't fall, for his son was still sitting on his back. "Are you hurt?" Instinctively, Raphael looked for the scars on Edgar's small body, but found nothing there. "Why are you crying?"

"I'm hurt," Edgar sobbed he then rubbed his face roughly.

"Hurt?" Raphael was surprised. He then sat Edgar down in front of him and began to look more closely at where his son had been injured.

Was it possible that while he was sleeping earlier, he had accidentally dropped Edgar on the floor? But Edgar had been on his back. Or maybe he hit or scratched him by accident? However, Raphael swore that he didn't move at all, the beast inside him couldn't possibly take over his consciousness and perceive Edgar as a threat.

"Did you fall?" asked Raphael in a bit of a panic, because he couldn't find the wound. Edgar shook his head. "Did dad hit you earlier?" Again Edgar shook his head. "Then where you hurt?"

Edgar then pointed at his chest. "My heart," he replied.

And then Raphael realized what that meant, at that moment he was at a loss for words.

Not that Edgar was taught to say those cheesy things, but he learned it from Lana. Because often when Raphael didn't grant his wife's strange wishes, Lana would pretend to be sad and say that Raphael has hurt her.

Lana used to say that right in front of their son, so naturally, Edgar remembered it.

"You really are your mother's son," Raphael grumbled, but then he burst out laughing.

=====

Lana had already prepared lunch, but after calling Edgar so many times, the little boy still hadn't shown up.

Therefore, she looked for him and ended up in her own room.

There, on the bed, Raphael was hugging their son and Edgar clenched his fists on his father's chest. They both fell fast asleep.

Lana sighed. "I have cooked and you two are sleeping..."

But then she took her cell phone and captured the moment, smiling at the two of them. This was a small family she would always be proud of...

Two men who would fill her days with the unexpected. Two men she loved with all her heart.

Slowly, Lana walked over to the bed and lay beside Raphael, who instinctively hugged her body, while Edgar drifted off to sleep between his parents, feeling safe and comfortable.