

Accidentally Pregnant By My Alpha Best friends

We Listened to the Darkness by Sorin Pax

341

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341-She Is A whore Like Her Mother

Silver:

“That is not true. I did not even touch her. Yeah, I did push her away, but I did not touch her,” Elgin **roared, sitting** in front of my father, looking agitated.

A day ago, my dear husband decided to go to the mountain top and get himself involved in yet another controversy.

I found out through my father, but he told me not to say a word until my husband arrived or explained it to me himself.

Of course, my husband did not. That was why my father was sitting in front of me.

No, he had to come all the way because my husband had been avoiding meeting him and explaining the whole situation.

Ever since my father confronted him, Elgin had been repeating over and over again that he did not touch Madeline. Did I believe him? No. There was too much happening for me to believe it was entirely her fault.

“Why did the altercation start?” my father questioned.

I saw Elgin look down at his fingers. For a second, I thought he was finally going to admit he had made a mistake. But then he said something that completely changed everything.

“Madeline wanted us to give her a pack and also let her dethroned husband to be an alpha of a pack again. How am I supposed to do that? Her husband won’t even be able to transition in the next few months,” Elgin argued, and I began to drift.

That could be true, but it still did not explain much.

“Well, it is said her robe was on the ground, and you two were standing very close to her. Almost like predators,” my father remarked, questioning Elgin.

Elgin took a deep breath and then looked at me. I was sitting right next to my father, one leg crossed over the other, waiting for the words to come out. Waiting for the verdict.

I was furious with Elgin for going back to her. She must have been thinking he was unhappy with me.

“Fine, I will tell the truth since you all want it so badly,” he snapped, making my father and me look at each other before turning back to him in exhaustion.

“Madeline threw herself at me.” 1

The moment he said those words, my spine stiffened.

“She was trying to seduce me. That is why she took off her robe. Listen, she wanted us to sleep with her whenever we wanted, and in return, she wanted us to give her a pack. We disagreed. She started to claw at us and everything.” 2

My father watched him with a tired look on his face. But I could not bring myself to disagree with my husband. Knowing Madeline, I should have expected something like this.

She would try to take revenge or make me miserable by targeting my husband.

429 Bonus

“I believe you,” I told him.

The moment I said that, my father turned to me and then looked back at Elgin.

“Come on, you know Alpha Ron is also trying to get them a pack. You know how desperate they are. Should that not be enough to tell you they are trying everything they can?” Elgin continued.

“And tell me one thing. How can a woman who was raped in the rogue community, came out, had my phone, started threatening us, and then is suddenly being seen with Ron so quickly?”

As Elgin continued, I remembered Yuvonne. Yes, she was a liar and they were cooking something against my husband. She was definitely taking revenge on us for not supporting her when she was left behind by Baxter. That made sense.

“Elgin’s warrior told me today that Ron is headed toward the mountain top with so much food and supplies. They are celebrating,” I added.

I took my husband’s side even more after that. It all made sense. They had made it happen.

They were happy while our men suffered because Madeline had gotten away with her lies. “Do you believe him?” my father asked me, and I nodded.

There was a smile of appreciation on Elgin’s face, and that meant a lot to me. I did not know Madeline, so why would I take her side?

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“Well then, do not worry. They will be punished for it. They asking you to testify against the two of them, and I guess this is when we strike. We will trap them in their own lies and expose them as power-hungry people who want nothing but to regain power after willingly leaving *it*,” my father declared. 1

As he finished, Elgin stood and hugged him. Still, something felt wrong on my end.

When I heard Elgin had gone to the mountain top and gotten intimate with Madeline, I grew so angry that I made a decision on impulse.

Then my husband’s royal beta and my Ex’s message appeared on my screen.

“Those few hours were beautiful. My bed still smells like you, and I hope we can do it more often.”

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342-The Wedding **Of** Damned

Graham:

“Very soon, Yuvonne will be coming to court with Madeline, Baxter, and everyone else included to file a statement against you two,” My father had sat Elgin and me down to have this conversation.

He looked skeptical of us, but I knew it would not last long. He would get angry for some time.

He might even look at me differently, but he was my father in the end.

He would choose to protect me. He was already doing everything in his power to do so.

“Why is everyone hyper-fixated on Yuvonne?” Elgin argued. “It’s not like anything happened to her.”

As Elgin spoke, I pointed at him, silently telling my father that this was exactly what confused me too.

“Well, she is the only person who witnessed it and who called Lord Williams,” my father replied. “Besides, she is not part of the couple, and she is not a rogue. If she files a complaint, it will be taken seriously.”

My father almost snapped at us for not understanding something so simple.

“Well, then they should also ask her what the f**k she was doing in the rogue community,” I told him, hissing as I folded my arms across my chest.

“If she says she was there only for a few hours, she might get some leniency,” my father continued. “However, this is where the issue begins. She has been staying there for a while now. If we expose her living condition to the council leaders and explain that she had exiled herself without informing the council, things might shift in our favor.”

There it was, my father already speaking about business.

He pointed out everything that could get us in trouble or get them in trouble.

“Okay, then how do we get her in trouble?” Elgin asked, hinting at Yuvonne.

“It’s simple,” my father explained. “Once she comes and files a complaint, we counter it. We say she has been staying there for a long time and that she hasn’t visited her home even once. She took her belongings to the mountain top and only notified Alpha Ron, not a single council leader. She cannot just leave like that.” Elgin and I nodded. One night had ruined so much of our peace, and it was starting to get on my nerves.

“They will take her word seriously,” I asked, and my father shrugged.

There was disappointment in his eyes that had lingered since the incident.

Knowing my father, he hated being questioned, especially about his morals or the values he taught his son.

In this case, I had disappointed him. I could see that clearly. 1

“Just pray that something happens before she comes to court,” my father remarked. “Pray that she makes a mistake. Ron is also trying to help them. We are in serious trouble. Lord William saw enough during the video call.”

1/4

My father paused and turned to look at Elgin.

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We have to make sure something happens that disrupts their peace and turns their attention away from this case and us.**

My father turned to look at me again after staring at Elgin for a while. It was as if he was asking whether I had any plans.

I shifted in my seat and cleared my throat, adjusting my jacket with one hand while stretching the other out to rest my forearm against the armrest.

“So we summon the winged creature,” I murmured softly, my tone almost guilty.

The moment the words left my mouth, both my father and Elgin watched my face as if they had no idea what I was talking about.

“What does the winged creature have to do with this?” Elgin questioned. “Do you think scaring them out of their home would help us? If anything, they will get more agitated. They will want to enter a pack, and for that, they will try to ruin us so people feel sympathy for them and give them shelter.”

He spoke in one breath, releasing his frustration at the plan I had tried to slip in.

“And what do you mean by a winged creature?” he added, sounding irritated. “That’s just a myth. Let’s talk about something we can do without wasting time on stories.”

I understood his reaction. He was suffering too. His wife had barely spoken to him, and his father-in-law had sat him down and questioned him for hours before finally accepting his innocence. 1)

Still, no matter the situation, we had to outshine the fallen alpha and his mate.

“The rumor is real,” I replied quietly. “The fear will not only drive them away from their home, but it will leave them shaken enough to think twice before going to court against us.”

I watched disbelief settle on their faces, as if they were waiting for what I would say next.

“I heard Ron is preparing to marry Yuvonne,” I continued. “That means he will take her home and make her his Luna. Do you know what that means?”

I looked at my father and Elgin. Both of them appeared stunned by the news.

“That her statement against us will be taken very seriously,” I added. “And guess what? They’re getting married today. So how about an invitation to an unusual guest from our side?”

I watched a smirk slowly form on my father’s face while Elgin leaned back in his seat. We knew what we were going to do now. (1

Thankfully, Baxter stepped out of the room. He had taken a shower but had not changed yet. He was still wearing a white shirt and black shorts,

“Mother, come here, I need to speak with you,” he told her, gesturing for her to follow him.

“okay, but what the hell is going on?” she pressed. “Wait, why are there so many people outside?”

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She caught a glimpse of Ron’s warriors through the open door and immediately began questioning again, but Baxter had already led her back into her bedroom.

A few minutes later, Bazter came out and gave me a worried look.

“What happened?” I asked, stepping toward him.

“Oh, she did not take it well,” Baxter replied.

“What about your father?” I asked.

“My father, the poor man, is excited to attend something that is not just a bathroom,” Baxter joked.

I slapped his chest lightly.

I could tell his father missed royal life the most, mostly because he did not have much to do now.

As for his mother, she had a very important role here, annoying almost everyone.

“Just make sure my mother does not go near Yuvonne’s room,” Baxter warned. “She will emotionally pressure her into backing out of the marriage by reminding her she was supposed to marry me, and all that.”

As soon as he said it, his mother stormed out like a bullet, heading toward the second floor.

“Mom, no,” Baxter called, stepping in her path and blocking her.

“Do you not feel ashamed?” she snapped. “She was supposed to marry you, and now she is with another alpha. Does it not occur to you that this happened because you are no longer an alpha?”

She threw the words out harshly. Even though Baxter did not show it, I knew every time she mentioned him not being an alpha, it affected him.

“So you would rather have her cling to a married man?” I snapped.

She looked at me, then at her son. Baxter had made it clear to her that she was not to be rude to me.

That was why her jaw tightened now. She knew she could not speak to me the way she used to.

“I’ll just say you stay in the room if you are going to ask Yuvonne not to marry Ron. Because trust me, even if she does not marry him, I am never accepting her. Let her live her life. He wants her and she wants him. That is a perfect mate couple right there.”

He stood with his hands on his waist, his eyes searching for any sign of resistance from his mother.

“Fine. Whatever,” his mother muttered, stomping her foot before stepping back into the room.

It was obvious to her that we were not going to *let* her ruin Yuvonne’s day.

The APC

And finally, it was time. Everything had been prepared for the perfect evening

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344-The One After The Dance

+25 Bonus

the wind. Soft lights hung around the area.

They were bright enough without being harsh. A short path led to the center, lined with a few simple flowers placed on either side.

There were no rows of chairs, only open space, which made the area feel quiet and private.

The sky was clear above us, and the open surroundings made the setup stand out.

Ron stood near the fence under the hanging lights, dressed in a white suit, waiting for his bride to arrive. Yvonne stepped out of the house with her arm wrapped around her father's arm.

My children started jumping up and down when they saw the bride. Then she walked down the small path toward Ron.

Baxter wrapped his arm around me and gave my hand a gentle squeeze. It was a special night for her, and the sun was already starting to set.

Ron smiled and held his hand out to Yvonne, who quickly placed her hand in his.

Yvonne's parents stood nearby as the vows began. They were simple, and then they accepted each other.

I kept my focus on my children, smiling, but there was a slight unease in me. I could not understand what it was, and I did not want it to show on my face.

I did not want anyone to think I was still upset about Yhvonne getting her happy ending. I wasn't. I did not care about the past.

She had been through a lot, and I believed that anyone who tries to make things right after redeeming themselves deserves happiness.

Still, it was not just that. It was something else. I had a feeling deep in my gut that something bad was going to happen. I wished it was not true.

Then the servers came in with trays and began placing the food as Ron and Yuvonne marked each other. Applause broke out around us.

"Now let's have a feast," Ron announced, gesturing for everyone to sit as chairs were placed around the table.

Music started playing from one of the warriors' phones, and Ron and Yuvonne stepped into the open space to

dance.

We all sat down, giving them room, while my children immediately turned their attention to the food.

As darkness settled in, the dance grew even more beautiful. The lights hanging around the lanterns lit up the

area.

The food was good, even though there were two people sitting across the table whom I did not like. I ignored them. Sitting next to Baxter was enough to lift my mood.

"Can we please dance too?" Bodhi asked for the fifth time.

We had not let the children disturb Ron and Yuvonne's moment, but this time, Yuvonne answered him herself.

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345-It Was Not A Myth

Madeline:

“What the heck was that?” Karla spoke up instantly, looking around.

My children ran back to hide in my and Baxter’s arms. Yuvonne and Ron stopped dancing. We all looked up, staring at the clouds above us.

“It was probably just the rumbling of the clouds,” Yuvonne’s father remarked.

As quickly as the tension had risen, it faded. Over the next ten minutes, the thunder proved that it really had been the clouds. We went back to eating.

There was all kinds of food prepared for the evening. I heard that some of the alphas had found out about the wedding and had sent dishes.

There was so much food that I knew my children would remember it for days.

We finished dinner in about half an hour, chatting and talking about plans after the wedding

Ron wanted to take Yuvonne on a honeymoon as soon as possible so he could return and help us with the pack. I

noticed that whenever he spoke about helping us, Baxter stayed quiet.

I understood why. Hearing that kind of talk was not easy for him. Still, he stayed calm and smiled.

He had always been hard to read.

“Goodnight,” Yuvonne told my children, kissing them on the cheek before stepping away.

I hugged her, smiling.

Ron and Baxter exchanged a few words.

“May you have many happy days and nights ahead,” I told Yuvonne. She gave my hand a gentle squeeze.

The warriors were already carrying her belongings out of the cabin. I saw Yuvonne turn to look back at it before facing me again.

“Do not think we will leave and forget about you,” she said softly. “We will not rest until something is done for you and your family.”

I noticed how her parents disliked every moment she spoke to me. In their eyes, I was still their enemy.

“Do not worry about us,” I replied. “Go and enjoy your life first.”

She shook her head. “I will not forget about you.

Then she stepped away. Her parents were already walking down the path. After I congratulated Ron, he left as well.

The warriors cleaned the area within half an hour.

When we went back inside, I noticed that Lady Eugenia and Lord Jonah had finally come out of their rooms, only

to eat.

+25 Bonus

They had not come out to congratulate anyone, but they were more than ready to enjoy the wedding food. Lady Eugenia and Lord Jonah ate their dinner without speaking to us. They did not interact with anyone. Baxter and I took the kids inside and helped them change and get ready for the night.

When I stepped back out, I noticed that Lady Eugenia had left all the food on the table, including the dirty dishes. She had not lifted a spoon or cleared anything. Before, Yuvonne had been taking care of her needs.

Now she was probably expecting me to do it.

“You don’t need to do it,” Baxter told me from behind, his voice soft, as if he had sensed my thoughts.

“It’s fine. It’s not something I feel ashamed of,” I replied, gesturing to reassure him. Still, he reached for the dishes anyway.

At the same time, Elara stepped out of the room, looking upset.

“What is it?” I asked, kneeling in front of her and gently cupping her face. “Why are you crying?”

“Mommy, I left my teddy bear outside,” she said, her voice shaking.

“It’s okay. We can get it tomorrow,” I replied, but she immediately shook her head.

“No. I like to sleep with my teddy bear,” she insisted.

“You stay here. I’ll go get it,” Baxter said, gesturing toward me while holding the dishes.

“No, it’s okay,” I said. “It’s probably right near the tree.”

I took Elara’s hand and walked her toward the door.

“You stay here. I’ll get it for you, okay?” I told her before stepping outside.

The cold breeze hit me immediately. The storm had grown worse, and the air stung my skin like tiny needles.

I hugged myself, stepped off the porch, and walked toward the large tree. Just as I expected, the teddy bear was there.

I picked it up and turned, only to see Elara stepping outside.

“Mommy, did you find it?” she asked softly.

“Elara, what are you doing outside?” I frowned. “It’s cold. You’ll get sick.”

I handed her the teddy bear and lifted her into my arms, turning back toward the house.

Then a loud growl echoed again, and this time I knew it was not the clouds.

“Mommy, what was that?” Elara asked, looking around.

I froze for only a second before running.

2/4

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25 Bora

I rushed toward the porch with Elara in my arms, but it felt like something was flying behind me.

I heard wings beating hard through the air. The sound made my skin prickle, but I did not stop. What stopped me were claws. Something large brushed against my back and shoulders, like a massive bird trying to grab me.

I dropped my body low to avoid it, tripped over a rock, and fell to the ground. Elara rolled a short distance away

from me.

“Elara!” I shouted, scrambling up.

“Mommy, what is going on?” she cried.

Everything happened too fast. I reached Elara and covered her with my body just as claws scraped across my back. That still was not the worst part.

I saw Bodhi come out of the house. He had just stepped outside when he tripped and fell. As he did, the winged creature attacked him.

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346 It Took Her

Madeline:

The winged creature tried to grab him, but his fall helped him avoid it.

“Bodhi, come here. Go back inside,” I screamed, lifting Elara into my arms again and running toward him. “What the fuck is going on?”

Thankfully, Baxter rushed out moments later, holding a large butcher knife. As I ran, I stretched my hand toward Bodhi. I saw the creature swoop back toward him, but this time Baxter charged forward and swung his arm, stabbing the creature in its foot.

The creature screeched, blood spilling onto the ground. Baxter grabbed Bodhi and pulled him back, but the creature attacked again. This time, it was faster and angrier.

The creature came at Baxter with immense force. Its wings beat violently, throwing dirt and loose gravel into the air, while its thick, bird-like legs struck him again and again.

They were massive, shaped like a bird's, but built with something far more beastly.

Baxter moved as fast as he could, pushing himself forward despite the blood spreading across his clothes. He gripped the knife tightly, fighting to keep the creature away.

The creature shifted suddenly. One claw snapped out and closed around Bodhi.

“No, Bodhi! Run!” I screamed, still carrying Elara.

Baxter heard my scream and turned toward Bodhi. He lunged forward and stabbed at the creature's legs, but it lashed out at him, forcing him to drop the knife.

He immediately grabbed the creature's free leg with both hands. His grip stopped it from lifting Bodhi. Bodhi slipped from its grasp and hit the ground.

I rushed forward, scooping Bodhi into my free arm and holding Elara tightly against me as I turned and ran toward the cabin.

Behind me, I could still hear Baxter fighting. His boots scraped across the stone as the creature beat its wings, trying to rise.

Baxter planted his feet and leaned back with all his weight. I saw him grunting, using every bit of strength he had to pull the creature down.

The force dragged him forward anyway. His body slid across the ground until both of them lost balance and crashed together.

The winged creature thrashed and flapped wildly as it rolled with Baxter. Every time it was forced down, **it** screeched and fought harder.

I could tell Baxter was facing something far stronger than him. He had no wolf, and that made everything worse.

I stumbled as I ran, nearly falling. My heart pounded in my ears. My children were crying and screaming behind

1. me.

346 #Took Fior

+25 Bonus

I slowed to a stop, swallowed by the sudden silence of the forest. My body shifted back as strength drained out of

1. me.

Panic crashed all at once. My knees buckled, and small, broken sounds escaped my mouth.

I turned just as Baxter reached me. He was breathing hard, his eyes wide as he searched the darkness, just as

lost as I was.

“Gina is gone,” I told him, pressing my hands against his chest. “Baxter, it took Gina. It took our daughter.”

I shook him, tears streaming down my face, though I could barely breathe through them. Everything inside me felt like it was tearing apart.

“That creature took my daughter,” I screamed. “It’s gone. It’s gone.”

My legs finally gave out, and I dropped to my knees as Baxter tried to keep me upright.
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347–Frozen

Baxter:

The monster took my daughter away

right in front of me. I watched Madeline break in front of me. I had **to carry** her back to the cabin after she passed out. She had cried so much in those few minutes that I could still hear her cries in my head.

When I arrived back, I saw my children hiding behind the big couch, hugging each other. As soon as I placed Madeline on the couch, the kids jumped up to check on their mother.

“Daddy, where is Gina?” Bodhi asked me, his with tears as he held my hand and looked up at me.

yes!

It was as if he was waiting for an answer from a man he believed would protect them. At that moment, I had no answer for them.

I gently patted his cheek and stepped over to close the cabin door. Now the home felt like a curse.

I rushed toward my parents’ bedroom door and started knocking on it forcefully. I knew they were not asleep yet.

My father opened the door slowly, looking like he had been getting ready for bed.

“Did you two not hear all the commotion outside?” I shouted. I knew I was taking my anger out on the wrong people.

“Wait, what is going on?” my father asked as he pulled his headphones out. I realized then that the two of them had been watching a movie together.

I placed my hands on the doorframe, taking deep, heavy breaths.

“That thing took my daughter away,” I told them, pointing outside.

A frown spread across my father’s face while my mother climbed out of bed, watching me with confusion.

“What are you talking about?” she asked.

She glanced over my shoulder at Madeline. “Is she throwing a tantrum because Yuvonne got to be a luna of a pack now?”

My mother's words hung in the air. Before she could say anything else, I punched the doorframe, and everyone's attention snapped back to me.

"Have you lost your mind?" my father yelled.

"Did you not hear what I said?" I shouted back. "That monster came, and it took her."

I was about to explain again when my eyes landed on Elara and Bodhi. They stood there, pressed together, watching silently.

"Why do you have so much blood on you?" my mother asked. "And what monster?"

She finally snapped out of it and rushed over once she noticed the scratches and injuries covering my body.

"I just told you," I cried. "it took my daughter away."

"Wait, Baxter, calm down. What monster?" my father asked me. As he studied my eyes for a moment longer, he realized what I was talking about.

1/3

25Bonus

But it was my children who spoke up.

"The monster with the wings. The bad bird. He came and took her," Bodhi cried out, while Elara buried her face in her hands.

"Come here, kids. We will find her, okay?" my father told them as he quickly reached for the children and pulled them into a hug.

I stood beside the couch, feeling defeated, when my mother turned on me.

"A monster fucking came here, and what the fuck were you doing?" she screamed, slapping my chest.

"What if it had gotten inside?" she continued, placing a hand against her chest as she complained. Of course, to her, her own safety meant everything.

"What are you doing, Eugenia?" my father finally spoke up against my mother.

It was the first time I had ever heard him raise his voice at her, and I could tell she did not like it. She stared at him in disbelief.

“Don’t you think it is strange that an alpha was right outside, and a monster came, attacked him and his wife, and also took his daughter?” my mother screamed, running her hands through her hair. “What would have stopped the monster from attacking us?”

“That would not happen. The monster does not come inside the house,” I told her.

I said the truth instantly to comfort her, even though her words stayed in my mind. She was not wrong.

I had been right there. If I had my alpha strength, I would have tackled it, at least long enough for my wife and child to get inside the cabin. I felt like a loser.

“Oh, sorry. I forgot you cannot even do anything. Why? Because you fucking let the crown be snatched away from you. So tell me again, Baxter, how is the rogue life, huh? How does it feel to be a fallen alpha? Did you protect the children you left the crown for?” my mother screamed, going on and on. (1

I stood in front of her. I knew I had to go to my kids. I knew I had to wake up my wife, but I could not move.

I felt like if I did, I would be seen. And for the first time, I wanted to disappear.

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348—I Thought It Would Be A Good News

Graham:

“I don’t understand how much you two are going to drink,” Kaylee remarked as she stepped into my office, complaining about me and Elgin celebrating for what was probably the last ten hours.

Ever since we were informed that the warriors had summoned the monster on the mountain top, we had been extremely happy.

We had done a great job ruining their night. I was pretty sure Yuvonne and Ron did not get married. That felt like a win for us.

And then there was the court date coming up. If they did not get married, Yuvonne would show up looking like a rogue, and a rogue’s statement would never be taken seriously.

“Come here,” I told her, holding her hand and pulling her closer. Kaylee glanced shyly at Elgin and then back at

1. me.

“You smell like alcohol,” she complained softly.

“Yeah, but baby, come on. Give me a little kiss,” I requested, puckering my lips toward her.

She rolled her eyes dramatically, then leaned down and gave me a gentle kiss on the lips.

“Now serve me a drink,” I asked.

Once again, she sighed, rolled her eyes, and then, with her delicate hands, poured a drink for me and handed it

over.

“See, this is what a good wife is. Not someone who drags you out to nowhere and makes you a laughingstock,” I remarked, commenting on Madeline and how, because of her, Baxter was now just a rogue.

“Okay, can we not talk about them every minute we get a chance?” Kaylee requested.

I could tell she was done with us talking about Madeline and Baxter nonstop.

“Okay, done. We will not. Besides, we won the case,” I told her as I wrapped my arms around her back and kissed her pregnant stomach.

“Really? But Yuvonne has not come to give a statement yet?” my maid asked, her voice innocent and unsure.

“Well, she will not be coming anyway, so there’s that,” I replied.

She frowned, looking confused. At the same time, my phone started ringing with calls from my warrior. He was about to tell me what had happened, and I was eager to hear everything.

“Babe, you go and rest. Elgin and I will talk with some of the warriors now,” I told her.

I tried to stand, feeling tired, but we had been drinking all night, and I was still unsteady so I sat down again.

“Okay, fine, but please don’t drink too much, okay? No more drinks,” she warned me before giving Elgin a nod in greeting and leaving the room.

1/4

348-1 Thought It Would Be A Good News

+25 Bonus

“So who is trying to speak with us?” Elgin asked, so drunk he could barely keep his eyes open. “We celebrated a lot last night,” I said.

Just thinking about Ron running around trying to save his bride in that big gown made me laugh.

We all knew Yuvonne was not very powerful. She would not have been able to run around in something that heavy.

“A warrior came to give us information about what went down last night,” I told him.

Even though he had looked like he might pass out moments earlier, he was wide awake now.

“Wait, really? That would be so good. I thought we would never get to know,” he replied, looking excited to hear about the ruined wedding.

Lately, none of the weddings around us seemed to end well.

“Yeah. He is going to come in, and while he tells us what he did, we will have one last drink. Then you can sleep in the guest room. You should not stay up. We deserve some rest,” I told Elgin, smirking.

He had already poured himself a drink, and I was ready too.

A warrior walked in with a smile on his face. Of course, it had been a success, and we were all pleased.

“So start talking,” I told the warrior, sliding a glass of wine toward him.

There was a large table to the side with my laptop and several case files spread across it.

Elgin sat across from me, and I remained in my seat. I gestured for the warrior to take the remaining chair.

He looked surprised when I offered him a glass of wine. Sitting at the same table as the alphas and drinking with them was a privilege few ever had.

He accepted the drink happily, took a sip, and adjusted in his seat.

“So, as you advised, I threw in the bait for the monster,” he began, not fully explaining what the bait was.

Elgin was my friend, but some things were better left unsaid. He was also too drunk to question it.

“Okay, then?” I asked eagerly, tapping my fingers on the table.

“Then the chaos erupted. It was frightening,” he continued. “I had to hide in the trees, deep in the wooded area, because that is where the monster never comes down. The night-vision binoculars helped me see everything.”

As he spoke, Elgin’s smile widened, and so did mine.

“Perfect. Tell me what happened more,” Elgin spoke up this time.

“I saw the researcher Madeline cry like never before. She was running around, panicking, when the monster took her baby girl.”

The rest of the words hit me hard. For a moment, the entire world went silent around me. **2**

Ruby Walker

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We Listened to the Darkness by Sorin Pax

349

349-He Never Wanted Her Anyway

Graham:

“Wait a minute. Say all of that again. I do not think I heard you correctly,” Elgin requested.

I could tell he had picked up on the same thing I had.

“I said the monster took one of Madeline’s daughters,” he repeated, and our eyes met.

It meant one of our daughters, because Baxter was only the father to the boy.

My gaze stayed on the warrior. He still had not picked up on the worry on our faces.

“Can you please explain everything instead of taking these little breaks?” I snapped when I noticed him busy taking a sip of alcohol.

He startled and set the glass down, looking confused. Just moments ago, we had been treating him well.

“I think what happened was that after the wedding ended,” the warrior began, then paused when I raised my

hand.

“What do you mean, the wedding ended? You were supposed to do that during the wedding,” I told him, smiling tightly.

I tried to convince myself it was a slip of the tongue, that he had said it wrong but still done the job properly. “No, Your Highness. I did the work during the wedding,” he replied. “But I guess you do not know much about the monster. I have no idea why it took so long to arrive.”

He swallowed before continuing. “The monster came late at night. I noticed it fluttering around, but it stayed silent most of the time.”

He paused again, because once more, Elgin and I were looking at each other in confusion.

“So, basically, I saw the human researcher, Madeline, come out with her little daughter. The daughter wanted something, I think, because she came out with her mother, and Madeline was looking for it. It was a teddy bear.”

As soon as he said that, Elgin pulled out his phone anxiously. I noticed his hands shaking.

“Was this the little kid?” he asked, pointing at the screen and showing the warrior a picture of Elara.

“Yes. This one. This kid,” the warrior replied. He paused again when he noticed Elgin dropping his phone. “That monster took my Elara. My daughter?” Elgin demanded, pointing at his chest.

For a brief moment, I felt relieved. I could not imagine how I would have felt if it had been my daughter.

I had dismissed her, just as Elgin had dismissed Elara, but the thought of them being in pain and taken away would have destroyed me.

I had been holding my thoughts back, forcing myself not to think about her, because I believed Madeline would

take care of them.

349-He Never Wanted Her Anyway

+25 Bonus

I truly thought I did not care much until that moment, until the warrior said the monster had taken a daughter. For a brief second, I wondered if it was Gina.

Thankfully, it was not. But that did not mean Elgin was spared the pain. He jumped up, trying to rush out, and I had to run around the table to grab his arm.

“Stop it, Elgin. What the fuck are you doing?” I demanded.

“What the fuck do you mean, what am I doing?” he yelled. “He just told you the monster, that fucking bitch of a monster, took my daughter away. Did you not hear that?”

He screamed at me, trying to pull himself free, but we were both so drunk that neither of us could keep steady. When he shoved me, he fell, and I crashed into the table with him.

“I heard it, okay? I heard it,” I snapped. “But what can be done? The monster took her hours ago. Elara is gone now.” 1

I pushed myself up and crouched in front of him as he shook his head hard.

“No. Don’t fucking say that. My daughter is fine. I will find her,” he hissed. I grabbed his arm and shook him

back.

“Do you want trouble?” I questioned. “Kaylee is in the mansion and if she hears what you are saying, she will tell Silver. Do you understand how Silver will take this?”

I kept going, not stopping myself. “You already have two daughters. Why do you care?”

The moment the words left my mouth, I saw the look in Elgin’s eyes. There was pain there, like I had betrayed

him.

“Look, we do not need to go there in person,” I said quickly. “We will send our warriors to search for her. Be honest. Did you not hear what the warrior said? That monster is out of control, and this is not our fault. We did not plan this for her. We planned it for Yuvonne.”

I groaned as I pushed myself off the floor, suddenly dizzy.

“I cannot think this way,” Elgin murmured. “Just because I have two daughters does not mean Elara is nothing. Everyone has their own place. And it kills me that the last time my daughter was with me, I yelled at her. I upset her.”

His voice faded as he slipped into sleep, or more likely passed out.

“I had no idea this would be the outcome, Your Highness,” the warrior said quickly. He stood, bowed his head, and looked genuinely upset.

“It is not your fault,” I replied calmly. “What is done is done. There is nothing we can change now.”

A child had been taken, and it was unfortunate, but Elgin had never wanted her. Why would he care so much? He had two children of his own. Crying over Elara would change nothing.

“So what should I do with him?” the warrior asked.

“Take him to the guest room and lay him down,” I told him. “I will sleep it off too.”

214

349 He Never Wanted Bor Anyway

At least one thing was certain. They would be far too shaken to show up for the court hearing.

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We Listened to the Darkness by Sorin Pax

350

350-Devastated Mother

Madeline:

+25 Bonus

“We will cover this area, and then we will check more spots over there,” I said frantically, tying a torn piece of cloth around a tree to leave a signal and remind myself that we had already searched this area.

It had been more than twelve hours since the incident, and I was angry with myself for briefly passing out.

Ever since I woke up six hours ago, I had been running around, searching for my baby. I could not stop thinking

about it.

My daughter must have been terrified. She must have believed her mother would save her. Every time these thoughts crossed my mind, my heart broke.

“Madeline, why don't you go back home? I'll continue the search,” Baxter requested, reaching for my elbow, trying to get my attention for the sixth time.

“No, I'm fine. I just think we should not waste a minute,” I said, looking around with empty eyes.

The tears on my cheeks had already dried. A few hours ago, my eyes had been swollen shut, so I considered myself in a better state than before.

“Madeline, our children are worried too. They have seen things they should not have. They have been crying, and they want their mother to comfort them. As for looking for Gina, I will do it,” Baxter told me as he finally held my arms and pulled me closer.

I could still see the marks on him. His wounds had not healed. They were not going to heal either.

He would heal like a human now. I had already lost someone. I could not lose him too.

“Then you should go take care of them, Baxter. I will look around for Gina. If anything, my wolf will be faster,” I replied.

The words left my mouth without thought. At that moment, I was not considering his condition. I only wanted to be practical.

I noticed a pause in his body language, as if he hesitated.

“No, no, no. That is not what I meant,” I said quickly, shaking my head. I placed my hands on his chest and gently fixed his shirt.

“No, I understand. Anyway, I have informed Ron,” Baxter uttered, slowly removing his hands from my arms. “But I think we are looking in the wrong direction,” he added as he stepped away from me.

“Then where is the right direction?” I asked, tears slipping from my eyes.

“Do you not remember?” he asked. “The monster only comes down in open areas. This place is full of woods, trees, and bushes. Why are we here?”

For a moment, I did not have an answer.

“Unless you think,” he paused, turning his face away.

1/3

350-Devastated Mother

+25 Bonus

“No. Of course not. I do not think he has killed our daughter. She is alive. I can feel it. I can sense it,” I spoke frantically. Tears rushed back into my eyes.

“Then let’s go back and see if Ron has arrived. Then we can start our research and look for places where the creature could land and where we might find our daughter alive,” Baxter said.

He stepped closer again, this time placing a hand behind my head and pulling me in until my forehead rested against his chest. I listened to his heartbeat. It was uneven.

“Fine. Let’s go,” I replied flatly. I sniffled as I tried to swallow the tears.

We started to hike back toward the cabin. I was afraid to look into my children’s eyes. They would ask me the same question they had asked when I woke up.

“Mommy, where is Gina?” Bodhi asked again once we reached the mountaintop.

“We are looking for her, okay?” Baxter told him as he lifted him into his arms.

Baxter’s father took care of the children while Lady Eugenia lost control. She stayed hidden in her room. ¹

Every once in a while, she came out to ask if we had any plans or any idea how to kill the monster. She was too scared to keep living in this area.

“Guys, when did this happen?” Ron asked as he arrived from behind us, looking panicked. Yuvonne was right beside him, with several warriors at his back.

Yuvonne rushed toward me and pulled me into a hug, rubbing my back, while Baxter told Ron everything that had happened.

“But how did the monster arrive?” Yuvonne asked as we broke the hug. “It was not here for so many days. Why yesterday?” ⁽¹

“There is no time for that,” Ron said. “I have brought in all the warriors. I also have jets and helicopters ready. Fly the drones around and see what you can find,” he instructed another warrior.

He then turned to me.

“Madeline, please be at ease. I will find your daughter,” Ron told me, giving a reassuring nod.

“Please do. You are my only hope now,” I whispered, noticing how many warriors he had brought with him. With their help, I believed we could find my daughter. ¹

Comments

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