

Accidentally Pregnant By My Alpha Best friends

We Listened to the Darkness 391

391–Never Getting A Break

Madeline:

Those few hours felt like the end of the world.

First, I was told that my husband had died, and that my daughter was gone as well.

Then, a small piece of hope was given to me. My husband was alive, but his condition was critical.

I could not understand how I was supposed to feel. I did not know whether I should be happy that my husband was alive or cry for my daughter, who was no longer there.

They gave me a few injections and tried to stabilize me.

Yuvonne brought me back with her. She took me to the motel where my children were waiting for me.

They had no idea what I had been through. They did not know what kind of pain their mother had faced.

They also did not know that a huge change was coming into their lives, that they would never see their sister again. The injections and medication had left me numb.

When we reached the motel, Yuvonne immediately guided me into my room and made me sit down.

Lord Jonah, who had been sitting on the bed with my children, stood up at once. He adjusted the blanket over them and walked toward me. 1

“I put them to sleep,” he told me softly. “They were a little upset. They kept asking about you. They miss their father and their sister a lot.”

He then sat down beside me on the sofa.

“What happened?” he asked. “Is she okay?” Lord Jonah asked Yuvonne.

Yuvonne stood there holding back her tears, rubbing her hands together again and again. She sniffled and shook her head.

“Is it true?” Lord Jonah asked. I knew he could not even finish the sentence. Tears were already falling from his eyes before he could speak.

“Is my son really dead?” he asked again, this time pressing both hands to his chest. Tears streamed down his face.

My own heart felt as if it were tearing apart from the pain.

“There is no good news,” Yuvonne replied, standing close beside me.

She placed her hand gently on my shoulder to comfort me, but I was not truly present anymore. It felt as if the world around me was shaking, everything moving, while I stood completely still.

“So it is true?” Lord Jonah asked again. This time, he covered his eyes with both hands.

“No, Baxter is still alive,” Yuvonne said.

The moment those words left her mouth, I felt a small sense of relief settle inside me. But it did not last long.

Yuvonne added quietly, “But Gina is no longer with us.”

She had barely finished saying it when I broke apart. I started crying uncontrollably, even though I had been given

1/4

a lot of medication.

“What?” Lord Jonah asked, rising from the sofa at once. “What does that mean?”

“Please come with me,” Yuvonne said gently. “I will explain everything. It is not right to repeat all of this in front of her. The doctor has already given her medication.”

She spoke to Lord Jonah calmly, explaining my condition, then gestured that she would talk to him outside.

“Yes, please take care of her,” Lord Jonah replied. “I will tell Baxter’s mother that Baxter is alive.”

With that, Lord Jonah quickly left the room.

Yuvonne stepped closer to me and placed both hands on my shoulders. She helped me lie down on the couch and covered me with a blanket.

“Please rest, okay?” she said softly.

After gently squeezing my hand, she stepped out of the room.

I knew a lot was going to happen outside. Many questions would be asked.

I also knew that Yuvonne could handle everything.

After some time, she returned to the room. She had arranged a small bed for herself here.

Because she was a Luna, her words carried weight. (1)

Then, suddenly, in the middle of the night, her phone started ringing.

My eyes opened, but I did not sit up fully. I could not help listening.

“Hello? Why are you calling at this hour?” she asked quietly.

I thought it was a warrior.

She might have said a name, but I was too dazed to think clearly or focus on it.

“What?” she said suddenly. “What are you saying? When did this happen?”

The panic in her voice made my heart race. I sat up at once.

“What happened?” I asked. “Is Baxter okay?”

Tears started spilling from my eyes without warning.

“What? No, please tell me this is not true,” she asked desperately.

“Where is Ron right now?” Yuvonne asked into the phone.

The way she cried, broken and shaken, told me that something was very wrong.

We were both crying, but I waited for her to end the call and tell me what had happened.

“I am coming right now,” she said. “I cannot leave Ron like this.”

She ended the call and looked at me.

Fear filled both our eyes. Then she said the words I never wanted to hear.

2/4

Nover Cheating A Brook

“Ron’s grandmother is gone.”

The moment she said it, she broke down.

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392–Maybe A War Is Starting

Madeline:

“What is going on, Yuvonne?” I asked her as I set her down on the bench.

By the time we arrived, we had received more bad news. Ron's grandmother had passed away, and they had arrested Ron on suspicion of her murder.

Yuvonne had been out of it, almost as if she was unable to process everything.

"Why are they saying all that?" she uttered in her mouth. They know Ron would never do that even hurt a fly. Why would he hurt his own grandmother?"

and never

She turned to me, speaking softly. Tears rolled down her cheeks, but each time she wiped them away with the back of her hand, trying to appear strong.

"I completely believe you," I told her. "There must be a misunderstanding. We will deal with it, okay? There is no way they can punish him like this."

I tried to comfort her.

As she raised her head to look at me, probably about to say something, I noticed a frown form on her forehead. Someone who had appeared behind me caught her attention.

I snapped my head around, and my mood soured almost instantly.

"Heard about Ron, that's so sad," Graham remarked as he stood behind me, speaking to Yuvonne.

Yuvonne did not respond. She turned her face away.

"Anyways, I heard Baxter is admitted here too," he added. "What is going on? Why is everyone getting hurt or getting arrested?" 1

It was the way he spoke. It did not sound like genuine concern. Of course, I did not expect him to show any.

But to sound this cocky at such a sensitive moment, I honestly could not understand how much Graham had changed.

I knew that he and Elgin had shown their worst sides to me over the past few months, but I never expected them to turn out this bad.

"The doctor said he is in a very critical condition. I did not understand why he would summon a monster when he did not have a solid plan."

As Graham continued speaking to me, I felt like I had to give him a fitting response.

I rose from the bench and turned to face him, and I immediately noticed that he did not like my body language. I did not come across as a devastated woman to him. Even though I was, I refused to show it to him or anyone else. “He’s a father, Graham,” I told him. “Fathers never think about consequences when it comes to finding their children.”

My taunt hit him hard. He nodded with slight movements, almost as if he was trying to show me that he understood what I was saying.

“Well, did he get any good luck?” Graham demanded. “Hmm? Because *by* the end of the day, my Gina is still dead.”

His voice cracked when he mentioned Gina. I pointed my finger at him before clenching my fists and turning my head away.

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398

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–Maybe A War is Starting

“She’s not your daughter,” I replied. “You lost all your authority over her when you broke her heart.”

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As I spoke, I remembered the days when they brutally rejected those children, after constantly telling them they were their parents.

They were selfish and never thought about how a child would cope with knowing their father did not want them

anymore.

“It doesn’t matter what you say,” Graham argued. “I was going through a lot too at that time. Why are you acting like I am at fault? Didn’t you tell me that you used me to get over Baxter?”

I knew he would throw that in my face.

1. jo. Right now, ‘t act like my

“That’s the thing about you and Elgin,” I remarked. “You both try to do everything to sat you’re holding on to something that wasn’t even in your mind when you hurt your daug words had any impact on your decisions. I still don’t believe you’re affected by what happened to her.”

My lips quivered as I spoke. Every time I talked about her, I wondered how much she must have cried when the monster took her. I wondered if he kept her alive for as long as he did Baxter. I wondered if she died on impact, or if she suffered.

Graham would never understand what I had been through.

“Anyways, I’m not here to listen to you taunting me,” Graham told me.

I smiled at him, but it came out as a cocky grin.

“So what are you here for?” I challenged. “Are you planning something else? Who are you going to hurt this time?” 1

I took deep, heavy breaths, holding his gaze without looking away.

“I was brought here by my father,” Graham explained. “He informed me that Ron has been helping a rogue who turned down the crown for a woman. Do you know that’s a crime? He’ll face a heavy penalty. He will have to pay a heavy price to keep Baxter in the hospital and give him treatment.”

That was when it became clear. It was not just information he was giving me. He was threatening me.

“And my husband can pay.”

Finally, Yuvonne rose, speaking on my behalf and on her husband’s.

“No, of course I know he can,” he replied. “But I wonder when. For now, he’s in serious trouble himself.” Graham grunted and stepped back.

“So I suggest you two ladies use your brains and keep your tongues under control when talking to me.”

That was a clear threat as he walked away.

I turned to Yuvonne, and we shared a heavy look. It was true. Ron was in serious trouble.

What I did not understand was why there was poison in his jacket, and why he would take it out in the hospital if he was guilty.

I knew he was not the culprit, but these were things I kept note of, details I held onto, so they could be used when Ron needed someone to defend him. (2

B03-Mommy's Princess

393-Mommy's Princess

Yuvonne:

From childhood until today, my mother always told me the same thing, that I was lucky, that I was born with good luck.

Somewhere along the way, I started believing it too. That is why when I did not get something, I wanted to take it by force.

It was much later that I realized none of that was true. You have to create your own luck.

You have to fight for yourself. Even then, I started going in the wrong direction.

I fought the wrong people. Instead of making my life better. I started taking things from

By the time I understood it, time had already passed.

Still, I had made a promise that I would not make any more mistakes.

And it felt as if the Moon Goddess liked my change, because she sent a very good man into

I never thought Ron would start liking me, and that I would fall in love with him too.

What it truly means to love someone with everything you have, I learned that from Ron.

Ever since I fell in love with him, my way of looking at love completely changed.

my

life.

I only wanted to do everything for Ron's happiness. It was as if I no longer had any wishes of my own.

Being happy in his happiness was enough for me.

But then my husband was struck by such a great loss that I was in pain just thinking about how troubled he must be.

I knew what his grandmother meant to him. So when I found out that his grandmother had passed away, my heart was in my throat.

I wanted to comfort him, but I never even got the chance. They arrested him and took him away.

It was as if someone had played a very big game, but for now, nothing could be proven.

“You should go back. Madeline, your children will be upset when they wake up and don’t find you,” I told Madeline, holding her hand and giving it a gentle squeeze.

On our way here, we had woken Baxter’s father and told him to stay with the children.

Still, if the children woke up and did not see their mother, I knew they would be very distressed. When Madeline had gone home earlier, they had already been asleep.

“But what about you?” Madeline asked, giving me a very concerned look.

“I’ll handle things here,” I replied. “I’ll speak to the Royal Beta and the Royal Gamma. Ron has to be released.”

I told Madeline this with a very faint smile. I was trying hard not to hurt her. She was already going through so much, and now we were all struggling as well.

“All right then. Contact me, okay?” Madeline said. “Call the motel manager if you need anything.”

After saying this, Madeline said goodbye and left.

Now I was alone in the hospital.

393 Mommy weg.

+25 Bonus

I still had to collect Ron’s grandmother’s body, but even the thought of it frightened me. I did not want to give her a funeral yet.

I had heard that Lord Eldon had requested that she be laid to rest quickly, since she was already a known figure in her time and should not be kept waiting. 2

But I was trying to delay the process as much as possible. I did not want them to bury Ron's grandmother without Ron being there. It was Ron's right to be with his grandmother in her final moments.

I was waiting for the Royal Beta to arrive when I received a call from my mother.

"Hello," I answered the call, glancing around.

Seeing Graham, Elgin, and Eldon nearby made my anxiety rise. I knew they did not get along

In fact, they did not get along with anyone anymore. Wherever they saw an alpha falling, they immediately

"I just received some news," my mother said on the phone

"Yes," I replied. "I'm in a lot of pain right now. Can you come?"

I asked anxiously, looking around.

"Of course, I'm coming."

There was something strange in my mother's voice, as if she was hiding a secret.

husband.

there

"What happened? You're not saying anything," I asked her. At that moment, I really needed someone to talk to me, even for a little while.

"Yuvonne, I am proud of you."

The moment she said that, I got goosebumps.

"For what?" I asked in a very low voice.

"You already know," she replied. "You did exactly what I told you to do."

Her words passed through my heart and reached my mind, and a sharp pain started in my temples.

"I don't know what you're talking about," I tried to deny it, because I did not want her to say those words.

“That’s exactly what I’m talking about,” she continued. “I told you, didn’t I? To get rid of Ron’s grandmother. I am proud of you. I don’t know how you did it, but good job. 1

As soon as she said that, my hands started shaking.

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394–Big Mistakes

Yuvonne:

“So don’t worry, and don’t try to cry too much,” my mother told me. “She wasn’t your grandmother. Nobody will suspect you if you don’t cry.”

My mother kept talking, and it wasn’t just that her words were getting on my nerves, but also that I realized I was not alone.

There was someone standing with me. I also knew that one thing I always do is keep my phone set to a very loud volume.

Graham was standing in front of me, and Elgin was standing behind me. They were standin

“Mom, I’ll talk to you later, okay?” I said and ended the call immediately.

close.

“That’s strange. Why did you get so scared?” Graham asked, smiling as he slipped his hands into his pockets.

“Why would I be scared?” I replied, shrugging my shoulders.

“No, it’s just that you were probably talking to someone,” He remarked. “Sometimes voices come through the phone a little.” Graham smirked.

“Isn’t that odd?” Elgin added.

I turned around to face him.

“I don’t know what you people are talking about,” I said. “And right now, I’m in a lot of pain, so please don’t make it worse.”

I tried to dismiss them, and when I attempted to walk past them, Elgin stepped into my way.

“What kind of behavior is this?” I asked. I did not raise my voice, but my tone was firm.

“What’s wrong, Yuvonne?” Elgin replied. “We are alphas, and you’re an alpha’s wife. Why are you talking to us like this? You should speak to us properly. You never know when you might need us to get your husband released.”

Elgin’s words stopped me in my tracks. I stood there, staring at him.

“I know my husband is innocent,” I replied confidently. “He has not done anything wrong. So I don’t need anyone’s help. An innocent person will get released anyway”

I said this because I knew damn well Ron would never do something so ridiculous. But the look on their faces was filled with a scummy attitude.

Elgin licked his front teeth while smirking, and Graham lowered his head to chuckle. They were purposely doing this to get to me.

“And if you think you both smirking and chuckling would get to me, then you are wrong,” I snapped at them.

The two looked at each other and then began to smile.

“Come on, Yuvonne,” Graham remarked. “Why would we hurt you? I mean, we want you in your sane mind because you’re going to be taking care of Madeline, right?”

Graham slipped his hands into his pants pockets and hunched forward, almost getting too close to my face. It was close enough that I had to pull away from him. When I did, accidentally bumped into Elgin’s chest. I pulled back at once, making sure there was a good distance between us.

“Oh yeah, Madeline,” Elgin remarked. “She must be crying alone in her empty cold bed.” He clicked his tongue as

he spoke those words.

+25 Bonus

My heart started beating loudly just from hearing them talk about her. There was something off in their eyes when they mentioned her name.

“Oh, poor Madeline,” Graham uttered, placing a hand on his chest.

He slowly slipped it under his shirt and rubbed his bare skin while holding deep eye contact with me.

“If only she hadn’t been so stubborn, I would be so close to her right now, taking care of her in many different ways,” Graham continued, causing goosebumps to rise on my skin. 1

“You two are married, and so is she. Have some shame,” I snapped, my voice breaking.

“Oh, Yuvonne. You’re so not fun,” Graham remarked.

With that, Graham rolled his eyes and gave me a look that showed he was going to stop talk

Madeline.

“And I heard you are going to testify against us,” Elgin continued. “Think about it, Yuvonne. Right now, you should be on your husband’s side, not creating more enemies.” 2

I understood what his words meant, and I was scared. I was not that wise, nor was I confident enough to stand firmly with what was right or wrong.

When they started hinting that if I went against them, no one would save my husband, I immediately began to hesitate. (1

“Think about it,” Elgin said. “Our court hearing is tomorrow. I hope you’ll excuse us.”

Saying that, Elgin and Graham moved past me.

But the way Elgin deliberately brushed his arm against mine sent goosebumps through me.

Realizing they were going to stay at the hospital, I decided to leave. I could not deal with them.

The royal beta and gamma were going to stand guard outside Baxter’s room, with cameras pointed toward it and live coverage sent to the rest of the warriors, just in case someone tried to do something. 1

Once I was certain Baxter was in safe hands, I decided to go back home. I called my mother and told her not to come. I needed to get away from there for now.

P

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395-The Arrogant Woman I Want For A Night

Elgin:

I had only caught one glimpse of Madeline today, when she was leaving the hospital and heading back toward her motel.

I do not know what it was about that night, but seeing her without makeup, without any fancy clothes, stirred something in me again. It made me angry, mostly at myself

I knew exactly what kind of person she was.

Difficult.

Rude.

Arrogant.

So arrogant that when she finally decided she did not want us anymore, she said it to our faces, that we had only been an excuse for her.

I had a perfectly devoted wife at home, someone who loved me and was ready to do anything for me. 2

And on the other side, there was this woman who had betrayed people more than once.

Still, my eyes reacted to her in a way I could not ignore.

Or maybe I understood it all too well.

Maybe I just wanted to taste her one more time. If I did that my pride would be satisfied.

And even if she chose Baxter afterward, I would not feel regret, because deep down I would know that Baxter ended up with a wife who had been with someone else while being married to him.

Maybe then I could convince myself that she was not worth it, that she was unfaithful. Maybe that was how I would quiet my mind.

What am I thinking?

I forced myself out of those thoughts.

“You saw Madeline?” Graham asked me.

“She looked completely broken because of her husband.” I gave him a short response.

He rubbed his chin slowly.

“Don’t worry,” he told me. “We just gave Yvonne a warning,” he replied. “If she’s smart, she won’t come to court tomorrow. And if she does, she has no idea what’s waiting for her.”

As we spoke, we started walking toward the parking lot. The sound of keys broke the silence as I pulled them out and let them jingle between my fingers while we moved closer to the car.

“Everything is under our control. But there’s one thing I don’t understand.”

I ran a hand through my hair, roughing it up slightly, then shoved my hand back into my coat pocket. It was cold, and exhaustion was settling in.

“What is it?” he asked as he rolled his shoulders.

“What really happened to Ron’s grandmother?” I asked. “Do you think Ron actually killed her?”

1/4

395 The Arm Woman want For A Bight

I was genuinely curious. As far as I knew, Ron would have given his life for his grandmother. I could not understand how things had reached a point where poison was involved.

+25 Bonus

“I don’t know,” Graham said. “But if you ask me, Yuvonne has a hand in this. You have no idea how harmful she can be,”

There was truth in his words. Even back then, when Madeline used to live with her, Yuvonne had treated her badly. She had bullied her, pushed her around, and made her life miserable.

“If that’s the case,” I said quietly, “then Ron and Yuvonne are finished.”

Graham must have noticed that I was hesitating, struggling to bring up what was really on my mind.

We were standing outside the hospital, the cold wind brushing past us and carrying the smell of disinfectant from the entrance behind us.

I jiggled the keys in my hand, the metal clicking softly, then stopped. Instead of unlockin, keys back into my pocket and turned to face him, shifting my weight on my feet.

“So what’s next?” I asked, hesitation clear in my voice.

“What do you mean?” Graham questioned.

He stood relaxed, shoulders squared, hands loose at his sides.

slipped the

There was confidence on his face, the kind that told me he already knew what I was talking about and what he planned to do.

“Come on, Graham. You know who I’m talking about,” I insisted, tapping my foot against the pavement as the wind tugged at my coat.

“I don’t know,” he replied calmly. “Say it out loud.”

I rolled my eyes and looked away for a moment, exhaling through my nose.

“What are we doing next?” I asked. “Are we doing all this just so we can make Madeline cooperate using the situation?” 1

The moment I said her name properly, I noticed the smirk forming on his lips. It was the kind of smile someone gives when they catch another person saying exactly what they wanted to hear.

“I thought you were done with her,” he remarked, the corner of his mouth lifting slightly as he leaned back against the car.

“Don’t act like you didn’t say you were over her too,” I shot back instantly.

He raised his hands in surrender, palms out, letting out a short laugh.

“Fine, relax,” he replied. “I was just having fun with you.”

I knew him well enough to know that was only half the truth. Things had previously gone a little messy between

1. us.

Still, here we were again, standing side by side in the cold, because we always ended up this way.

“I think we can use this moment to make Madeline listen to us,” he said at last.

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396—Let The Fun Begin

Elgin:

He tilted his head slightly and held my gaze, the wind brushing through his hair as he left the rest unsaid on purpose..

“She’ll need our help,” he added. “For Baxter to be treated in the hospital, she’ll need us.”

His eyes stayed on mine, unblinking. It felt like we were circling something forbidden, both of us aware of it, neither willing to say it first.

I waited a moment, then straightened my shoulders.

“Say it.”

He inhaled slowly, my jaw tightening as words kept fighting to slip out of my mouth.

“I want one night with her,” Graham said, his voice lower now, the want clear in his eyes.

He looked at me, searching my face.

“What about you?” he questioned.

“I think she owes us that much,” I replied. 1

That was all I said.

1

He stepped closer, the space between us shrinking, and pulled me into a brief hug, his hand pressing against my back as if thanking me for not judging him, for agreeing without spelling it out.

I knew he had been craving her, partly for pride, partly for control. But there was something else driving us too. We wanted to ruin what she had with Baxter. (1

And we both knew this would leave a mark they would never forget.

We were ready for it.

*

As he broke the hug, he patted my back a little too hard this time, just to show he was proud of me. However, I had one more thing to say.

“Since all the ruckus is beginning, it will push her even further if you cooperate,” Graham uttered, hiding something in his voice.

“Cooperate?” I asked, placing my hands on my waist. “What do you want me to do?”

“If you can kind of demand Elara,” he replied.

The moment he said that, I started shaking my head.

“No, Graham, I’m not going to ruin my marriage,” I sternly stopped him, “My daughters don’t like Elara. Let’s not do that. I made a huge mistake when I told Elara last time that I’m her father. At the end of the day, she’s my daughter, and I don’t want her to suffer by

being rejected or used for games,” I explained, avoiding his gaze while playing anxiously with the ring on my finger.

“You don’t want your daughter?” Graham questioned, taking a different approach, trying to make me feel uneasy for refusing.

“Graham,” I grunted. “We’ve already been through this. Besides, I know Silver will have a problem with Elara, and Elara will keep asking for her mother. Let’s not think about anything that has to do with me taking care of Elara. I can’t do that. I can’t take on that responsibility,” I replied firmly, making sure the topic would not be

1/3

196-101 The Ton Bega

+25 Bonus

brought up again.

But I noticed Graham zoning out slightly as he watched my face. For a moment, I thought he was judging me.

“And before you judge me,” I spoke out of guilt.

He shook his hand to let me know that was not the case.

“It’s just that I was thinking, you know, if I had a chance, would have stolen Gina from Madeline. But I guess I have to live with the fact that my daughter is dead,” Graham confessed. T

This time, his voice carried genuine pain.

For a moment, my heart flipped inside my chest. Was I being stubborn and arrogant because I knew Elara was fine? What if it had been Elara whom I had lost?

I quickly clenched my jaw and grunted under my breath, stopping the thoughts.

“Anyway, what is planned for tomorrow?” I asked, changing the subject. “I don’t think Yuvonne will step back, but what if she does then what? Will we listen to her demands in exchange for her stepping away from the court case?”

The topic of Elara was too heavy for me. I remembered the last time I thought she was the one who had died, and how I had lost my senses.

It seemed that we alphas, somewhere along the line, realized how wrong we were.

Our pride and ego stood far above our love for those close to us, until they were hurt and it was too late.

“Of course not, Elgin. Do you think I will let go of this chance to control Madeline’s life?” Graham spoke in a way that made my skin crawl, but I couldn’t judge him because I had thought the same thing. 1

“So don’t worry. Once Yuvonne take one step back, we will attack, and then everyone will hate her for lying about us. All the people who have been judging us will apologize once they find out that night was a made-up lie by people who were kicked out of the packs and were too bitter to become rogues.” Graham finished with a cocky grin on his face.

The fun has only begun. 2

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397-We Are Comered

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397-We Are Cornered

Madeline:

Being in the hospital had been difficult. Before leaving, I stood outside Baxter’s room to get a glimpse of him, but the doctor asked me to leave for now.

I could not see his face at that moment, but they promised that I would be able to see him tomorrow, so I held on to that hope.

When I returned to the motel, I slipped into bed with my children and hugged them as they slept.

The next morning, Yuvonne arrived. She had come late at night and told me that she had arranged for Ron's grandmother, Lady Riva, to be transferred to the funeral home.

Her body was kept in refrigeration, and the burial was put on hold until Ron could be released.

Today was a big day for us, with too much happening at once. I wondered how Yuvonne would prepare herself for the hearing.

"Kids, go and play with Grandpa Jonah," I told my children. "But please don't bother him, okay?"

I sent them away so I could speak with Yuvonne in peace.

"What is it?" I asked her as I stood in the parking lot beside her car, which had come to pick her up.

She looked anxious ever since she woke up.

"I don't know," she uttered, rubbing her hands together and turning her face away. "I don't know if I can do this."

"You don't have to," I replied. "It's okay. We're already going through so much. What happened, happened. The public shaming was punishment enough for them."

I reassured her that I was not going to push her. It was okay if she did not want to go through with it. I truly meant it.

That night had hurt me too, but now they were no longer on my mind. I was only thinking about Baxter, Ron, and Lady Riva.

"Are you sure?" she asked, looking hopeful, but guilty as well.

"Come on, Yuvonne. It's okay," I told her with a wide smile. "We need to focus on getting Ron out and making sure Baxter gets proper treatment."

She stepped forward and hugged me, and I patted her back gently.

Just then, a warrior's car pulled in urgently, and we both stepped apart.

The warrior stepped out, glancing at Yuvonne as he put his call on speaker.

“Alpha Ron wants to speak with you,” he informed her.

We both knew Ron was calling about the court hearing.

174

397–We Are Cornered

+25 **Bonus**

“Ron,” Yuvonne replied into the phone while the warrior held it out for her.

“Are you ready for it?” Ron asked. “I hope you know that I am with you.”

Even from prison, he sounded determined.

Yuvonne looked at me, as if asking for help.

“Ron,” I began slowly, “I’ve been thinking. We’re already struggling so much. I don’t want to pursue this court case. Making enemies right now would be dangerous for us.”

“What are you talking about, Madeline?” Ron demanded. “Did you forget what they did to you? How they treated Baxter?”

There was anger in his voice. He was clearly shaken by our decision.

“Ron, Graham and Elgin were at the hospital last night,” Yuvonne said. “They hinted that if I go through with this court case, they might cause us more trouble. We’ll lose the only vote we have to help Baxter.”

She finally said what had been bothering her.

I had felt that something happened after I left the hospital, but I did not know those two had frightened her like this.

“So that’s why you’re stepping back?” Ron demanded. “They’ve already caused enough trouble. I’m already in jail. Do you really think that if you deny the court hearing and forgive them, they’ll just step away?”

Ron’s voice was filled with anger.

I could only imagine how he must have felt. He was being accused of killing his own grandmother, locked away, unable to be by her side or attend her funeral. He was suffering, but he was not giving up.

“At least they’ll let Baxter be treated in the hospital,” Yuvonne urged.

“Are you kidding me?” Ron snapped. “Do you seriously think that’s what they’ll do? No, Yuvonne. This court hearing is only part of it. They’ll use this moment to control Madeline, force her into taking care of sick children, and then ask for more.” 2

His words made my chest tighten.

“So whether you go or not, it won’t matter,” he continued. “The control will still be in their hands.”

Ron’s tone was sharp, and as I listened, I realized he might be right. The thought frightened me.

Would they really use this to control me? 2

I would help sick children if that was what they asked. I would do it without hesitation. I would do anything for

Baxter.

“Anyway, the driver is here,” Ron said. “He’ll take you to court. Trust me, even if you don’t go, they’re already thinking of summoning you.

}}

His words made both of us look at each other.

2/4

397-We Are Comeredi

+25 **Bonus**

“What do you mean?” I asked. “What do you know?”

“My lawyer told me that if Yuvonne steps back, they’ll counterattack,” Ron explained. “They’ll accuse her of lying about their character. They’ll paint themselves as victims, gain public sympathy, and prove their innocence again.”

That changed everything.

I was relieved we had spoken to him. Without this conversation, we would have walked straight into their trap.

“So if you don’t want to go, that’s fine,” Ron continued. “But they’ll summon you anyway. You’ll still have to prove the same things you would today. Either way, we’re cornered.”

His voice steadied.

“So we might as well fight. We’ve done nothing wrong, and we have nothing to hide. Let’s face it.”

Ron’s words gave us strength.

Yvonne and I looked at each other again. This time, we both nodded.

There was nothing else to do.

We would fight.

Ron ended the call, and we got into the car, ready to go and face them.

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We Listened to the Darkness 398

398–And The Public Humiliation Began

Madeline:

We arrived at the council's court together in one car. I knew it was controversial for a Luna to be sitting with a rogue, but at that moment, we did not care.

I also knew that Yuvonne wanted me beside her. She was anxious for some reason, and I understood why. 1

When we reached the court, we saw Ron sitting among the warriors they had brought with him, either for some reason or as moral support for his Luna.

At the same time, Henry Volkov, a senior elder, was preparing to present his case. He had previously served as the royal beta of Ron's pack under Ron's father.

Ron had grown up knowing him well and trusted him more than his former royal beta.

After the position became vacant, Henry was appointed once again as royal beta, this time serving Ron instead of his father.

"Don't worry, just answer truthfully," Mr. Henry told Yuvonne, while I sat down among the warriors of Ron's pack.

There were three rows. One was where I sat, along with several warriors from Ron's pack. The middle row held Ron, his warriors, and some of the pack alphas.

The third row, farther from mine, was filled with Elgin's warriors and Graham's warriors, with four seats left open, likely meant for Graham and Elgin.

Once we settled in, the main door opened, and Elgin and Graham came in together. My body reacted with goosebumps.

The reminder of that night and all the interactions we had ever had rushed to me in the most horrific way.

But I kept my calm and looked straight at them, letting them know I was not afraid.

The two arrived and gave Yuvonne a nod as a greeting, but it felt odd. Silent words passed between them through their eyes.

Yuvonne did not want to meet their gaze. They were intimidating her.

Of course, Lady Eugenia did not come, and Lord Jonah stayed with the kids. I was glad they did not attend. Lady Eugenia was not a very reliable person anyway.

After they finished giving Yuvonne those strange looks, their attention turned to me.

The two stared at me in silence before attempting the same nod as a greeting, but I looked away before they **could** do it.

Once they **sat** down, the **leaders** entered. Lord Eldon, Lady Abigail, and Lord Williams. Seeing Lord Williams was **the** only thing that made **me feel** it might be a fair trial. Aside from him, none of the others could be trusted.

As **they took their** seats, Lady Abigail glanced at me and rolled her eyes, as if she was already showing her exhaustion with **me** always being involved in one thing or another.

1/3

398-And The Public Humiliation Began

+25 Bonus

Yuvonne was standing in the witness stand, facing everyone. Her eyes lingered over the crowd, resting on Ron every time.

Once everyone settled, Henry stood up and stepped toward the three council leaders, who were seated behind a large table.

“I’m Henry Volkov, the royal beta of Alpha Ron, and I will be presenting Yuvonne’s side,” he announced.

I turned my head toward Graham and Elgin’s side and saw Mr. Robinson, Kaylee’s father and Graham’s royal beta, stand up and walk toward the council leaders.

“I’m Robinson, the royal beta of the Dark Silver Pack, and I will be presenting and defending Elgin and Graham,” he stated.

As he finished, I began to wonder how careless Elgin must have been not to have his own royal beta to defend him. That alone might have been the most foolish decision he had ever made.

The moment Robinson felt they were being cornered, he would only try to protect Graham. Graham would always be his priority.

“Alright, we will begin by asking Yuvonne to recount the events she is here to testify about,” Henry remarked.

Yuvonne clenched her fingers together. She then recalled everything that happened, starting with waking up to noises downstairs. When she went down, she saw them pinning us in place, and she was too afraid to act until she realized they had dragged us outside. That was when she grabbed her phone and called Lord Williams.

-As she finished, I noticed Mr. Robinson let out a small chuckle, as if he did not believe her.

“So this is the story Luna Yuvonne has been spreading, one that caused humiliation and pain for my clients, who are clearly innocent,” Robinson commented.

There was a personal edge to his words. The werewolf council court was different. Many things were allowed. there, which made it unsettling.

“How about we ask Lord Williams what he saw that night?” Henry countered.

With that, Henry silenced Robinson at the very first opportunity.

“I woke up quite sleepy because I’m an old man, and of course, I’m not going to wake up fully alert,” Lord Williams spoke honestly. “But I do remember waking up to a very panicked call from Luna Yuvonne. She was mumbling things, and then I remember her exact words, that Graham and Elgin had attacked their home and were torturing Baxter and Madeline.”

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We Listened to the Darkness 399

399–It Is One Big Joke

Madeline:

I knew that man did not have a filter, so whatever he remembered, he would say exactly as it was.

“And what did you see then?” Mr. Robinson questioned him.

“I saw Baxter being held down by warriors, and Madeline standing between the two alphas, looking terrified, with her robe on the ground,” Lord Williams replied. “It seemed like Graham and Elgin were in charge.”

As he finished, everyone began whispering. I noticed several reporters in the room. I even recognized Sherry, Yuvonne’s friend. As Lord Williams spoke, I saw an anxious look spread across Graham and Elgin’s faces. They could not openly call him a liar, so they were clearly panicking.

“Now that everyone has shared their side, I will allow Graham and Elgin to explain theirs as well,” Robinson announced.

Of course, that was bound to happen. They would never allow a rogue to speak for herself. That was why Yuvonne was so important in this case.

Graham and Elgin stood up and walked together to the stand directly across from Yuvonne’s. I could already tell their presence was intimidating her.

“That night, we went there not for ourselves, but for the children of our packs,” Graham began.

I clenched my fists as he spoke.

“And we did it after informing the council,” he added.

Lord Williams shook his head.

“Two of the council leaders had supposedly been informed. Perhaps Lord Williams had found the message late,” Elgin quickly added to the statement, likely to support Graham’s claim and prevent it from being dismissed. “So when we went there, we were only going to ask her for help,” Graham continued. “Earlier that day, Elgin’s daughter had fallen ill.”

He said this and then nudged Elgin to speak.

Elgin avoided my gaze. At least they had enough shame not to look at me directly while lying.

“My daughter was struck by the sickness in a severe way,” Elgin said. “She had not woken up for hours. So we went to ask for help from the human researcher.” He paused. “I mean, the rogue researcher.”

At that, Elgin glanced at me, and I turned my face away.

“I asked her to help my child,” he went on. “At first, she was reluctant. We had to beg her to save **my** daughter, but she refused to listen.”

Elgin was now lying openly. I looked at Henry and then at Yuvonne, knowing that was not how it **had** happened. “I helped your daughter without you begging,” I snapped.

399 It is One Big Joke

Lady Abigail glared at me, “You are only allowed to speak if requested. Otherwise, you should not interrupt”

Her words made everyone turn their attention toward me.

“And will I get a chance to speak?” I retorted, watching her look at me with the same expression she always wore, as if questioning my audacity,

“You’re a rogue,” she remarked, while Lord Eldon smiled at her words.

“And a victim to the gracious alphas standing beside you,” I taunted, watching Lord Eldon roll his eyes.

Elgin and Graham shared a glance before the proceedings continued.

“So what really happened when you went there?” Robinson asked. “She must have given you a hard time, so why did she agree to help you in the end?”

“Well, she only agreed if we listened to her demands,” Elgin replied, pausing as Robinson turned toward me before looking back at him.

“And what were those demands?” Robinson questioned.

At that moment, the door opened again. The brief interruption was caused by the arrival of the two Lunas. I could already tell they had deliberately avoided coming earlier, when Yuvonne was recounting the events of that night.

Silver and Kaylee stepped in side by side, both wearing their crowns, making the difference between them and me clear. I knew it the moment they entered,

because the first thing they did was lock eyes with me instead of checking on their husbands.

They wore branded clothes, shoes, and purses, with their makeup done perfectly. Kaylee had a soft glow to her face because of her pregnancy, and it was clear she had come far along, as her belly was now visible.

The two sat down beside their husbands' empty seats.

After they had sat down, the proceedings continued.

“She needed leverage, we had been her mates at one point, and she was using the children to control us,” Elgin continued. “She demanded that we ask the council to bring her and her soon-to-be-turned human husband into a pack and make him an alpha again.”

Elgin completely avoided my gaze at that point. I let out a low sound and rubbed my hands together.. This proceeding felt like a joke. They were allowing these two people to lie openly.

“Are you noticing this, council leaders?” Robinson added loudly. “She wanted power for her husband.”

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We Listened to the Darkness 400

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400–Never Initiated By Me

Madeline:

I shook my head. Of course, I was not allowed to speak for myself. The moment I tried, Lady Abigail and Lord Eldon exchanged a look before turning to me, their expressions clear at this point.

However, it was Lord Williams who gestured in my direction.

“We will have to listen to her,” he stated. “This is about her. I will not allow anyone to turn this court into a joke.” (3)

His voice silenced the room. The confidence on several faces faded as they realized how firmly he had taken a stand.

“Now, William,” Lady Abigail responded, “I know you have a daughter, and you see your daughter in every woman, but let us not forget the rules. A rogue is not entitled to-” she paused. (1)

“There are no rules, no regulations, no protections, nothing for rogues,” she continued, lifting her hand in emphasis. “That is how it works.”

“Well, rules do have certain boundaries, and in this case, we have to listen to her because two of our alphas are accused of something serious,” Lord Williams continued. “Not only that, the same rogue you do not want speaking here is the same rogue you expect help from during sickness. So either you remove her completely from our lives and all related matters, or you give her an equal chance, since you will return to her whenever you need her help.”

Lord Williams continued firmly, putting the older woman in her place as he explained that they could not expect my help after the way I was being treated.

“Lord Williams, it is only if she agrees to help us,” Lady Abigail corrected him, pointing back to Elgin’s earlier claims that I had refused to help the sick children.

“Well, that is exactly why we need to do justice, so there is no hostility between us,” Lord Williams snapped.

He then gestured for Robinson to continue.

“Alright, so she presented all of this, and then she agreed to help your daughter, and she did, correct?” Robinson asked.

There was a brief hesitation from Robinson, likely because Lord Williams had already made it clear that I would be allowed to speak later.

“Yes, she helped my daughter, but before that, she demanded that we both leave her cabin,” Elgin replied. “So we are not sure what she did or how she did it. She kept it secret.”

“Then what happened?” Lord Williams asked, **as** Robinson turned toward Graham this time.

“After we discussed how quickly she healed Hailey, we decided to go speak to her again,” Graham continued. “It was good news that she had already found a cure. However, when we approached her again, she started making **excuses**. She said she did not remember, then one thing after another. What hurt us the most was when she made **it** clear why she did not remember.”

1/4

As Graham paused, everyone’s eyes turned to me. I rolled my eyes in exhaustion.

“And why do you think she did not remember?” Robinson asked.

“She said that if we cheated on our mates, took care of her needs and desires, stayed available whenever she called, and gave her husband a position, she would tell us,” Graham lied openly.

I clenched

my fists and buried my face in my hands, not out of shame, but out of anger.

“And why was she standing between you two without her robe?” Robinson asked.

“She was seducing us,” Graham replied. “She was attacking us and threatening to tell everyone that we had done things to her if we did not agree to her demands. When we finally reacted, we had to pin her husband to the ground to stop her behavior.”

As Graham finished, I looked toward the crowd behind them and noticed several people shaking their heads at me in disgust.

“That will be all. You heard, dear council leaders, how that venomous woman took revenge on the alphas by causing a rift between them and their mates, seducing them, and using her knowledge to control them into surrendering a pack for her husband, who now lies in the ICU, unable to survive even a small monster attack,” Robinson concluded.

His words were sharp enough that I clenched my fists and took slow, heavy breaths.

As he stepped away, Henry moved forward.

“Alpha Elgin and Alpha Graham, do you two sleep talk?” he asked.

His first question made everyone smile, as if it were a light joke.

“No,” Graham replied.

Elgin rolled his eyes in an exaggerated way. “Maybe sometimes.”

His response was met with warm laughter from the crowd, and Elgin looked proud, as if enjoying their reaction.

“Right,” Henry continued. “Because it seems you two are quite the storytellers. Maybe you see things in dreams and later speak of them as reality.”

The smiles faded immediately. The mood shifted, turning tense.

“How is it possible that everything was initiated by you, yet somehow it was Madeline’s plan?” Henry asked.

His words were met with scrutiny. Everyone watched him in silence, their faces unreadable.

“She did not ask you to visit her for a cure. She did not ask you to come at night for a cure. And you are telling me that her husband was present while she was openly seducing you, and he allowed it for the sake of a crown he openly rejected,” Henry continued. “A crown he was known for abandoning, as the rebellious alpha who cast **it** aside **as** meaningless. Yet now you claim he allowed his wife to seduce two of her former mates for **a** crown he never wanted.”

Silence filled the room. No one looked unconvinced. In fact, many appeared stunned as they turned **to** Elgin and Graham, waiting for an explanation.

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