

Accidentally Pregnant By My Alpha Best friends

We Listened to the Darkness 401

401-The Character Of A Luna

Madeline:

“Well, only they can tell us why they were doing that,” Graham said,

That was the best answer he could give.

“I just know they were planning against us,” he added, looking visibly uneasy.

“It is strange how suddenly you know nothing, when earlier you were able to say so much about what Madeline and Graham wanted,” Henry remarked.

Henry wore a wide smile, the kind meant to make it clear that their lies would no longer work. I finally relaxed in my seat.

“And since there is such a debate about why a rogue’s words should be heard over an alpha’s, how about we use a witness who is also a pack member and an alpha’s wife, Luna Yuvonne?” Henry continued. “She witnessed everything. She was the one who called for help. Would you mind telling me why your phone was not in your pocket but inside the cabin?”

Henry directed the question at Elgin, who looked around anxiously until his eyes landed on Silver.

I snapped my head toward Silver, watching her reaction. She studied his face as if she needed an answer, one that would present him as innocent. The tension between them was clear.

“Well, when I came in, I took my phone out and placed it on the table,” Elgin explained.

“You don’t have a code on your phone?” Henry questioned. “For an alpha, why would you not have a code? Or did you ask your warrior to record everything so they could not fight back, while you could?”

Henry’s words were met with stern looks from both Graham and Elgin.

“Maybe fighting back was not the reason,” Graham replied. “How about we discuss why we wanted to record?” He looked straight at me, the meaning behind his stare clear. If Henry pressed further, Graham would openly admit that he recorded it so I would not transition.

“Is that an admission that you did record?” Henry asked.

His words once again forced silence from both Graham and Elgin.

“Dear council leaders, I would like us to turn our attention to the witness now,” Robinson said, finally standing.

I noticed Kaylee growing anxious. I wondered if their wives truly were that unaware **of their** husbands’ **actions**.

Mr. Robinson walked past him.

“Luna Yuvonne,” he muttered, though his eyes stayed fixed on me. He gave me **a** smile before turning back **to** Yuvonne. That smile was unsettling, almost like a quiet threat.

“So, Luna Yuvonne, first of all, congratulations on your wedding,” Robinson began. “It was done rather **quickly**. I mean, I’m glad you managed to move past your trauma involving **men**.”

3/4

+25 Bonus

He started by taunting her, mocking her trauma.

“And yet another man deciding when a woman should be over her trauma,” Henry remarked sharply.

“Not at all,” Robinson replied. “I’m sorry if it sounded like a taunt. I was only questioning how reliable Luna Yuvonne’s testimony truly is.”

His words stirred whispers across the hall.

“Oh, please,” Robinson added quickly. “I don’t want anyone thinking I’m questioning a victim. **O**f course I’m not. But don’t you think we should still ask?”

As he finished, all eyes turned toward him. Once again, I noticed Yuvonne glance around in confusion before looking back at him.

“So, you were attacked in the rogue community,” Robinson continued. “You were briefly in a coma for a few hours. You woke up screaming. You asked the nurses to remove all the men from your room because you couldn’t bear to see them. But then you returned to the rogue community, and within days, you were in love with Ron and married Alpha Ron.”

The way he laid out her trauma made my chest ache for Yuvonne. Even she looked close to tears.

Before anyone could interrupt, he continued. “That day, when you were returning from the motel in Alpha Ron’s car with his warriors, who were you texting?”

This question made Yuvonne wrap her arms around herself. The reaction alone felt wrong.

I turned my head toward Elgin and Graham and saw them smiling, as if they already believed they were winning.

“My dear council leaders, this has nothing to do with Yuvonne’s incident,” Henry interjected. “The way Mr. Robinson is presenting this is harmful and insulting to a victim.”

“Oh, it has everything to do with Miss Yuvonne’s character,” Robinson replied, turning toward Henry. His voice was harsher now as he pointed at Yuvonne.

Gasps rippled through the room as he returned to his table and gathered several screenshots, projecting them onto the screens.

“This is a conversation Miss Yuvonne was having with someone,” he said. “Let’s read it aloud, shall we?”

I watched Yuvonne cover her eyes, then her ears, as if trying to block out what was coming.

Robinson began reading.

“Miss Yuvonne wrote, ‘Fine. It’s three **men** only, right? Tell them to drag me into the woods, and I’ll scream and pretend I’m being raped. But I will not allow them to penetrate me.’”

As he finished, my head snapped toward Yuvonne. She slammed her hands against the railing of the witness stand and closed her eyes to hide from everyone’s judgmental glares.

2/4

Sara Lili

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We Listened to the Darkness 402

402-Backfired Badly

Madeline:

All eyes were fixed Yuvonne now. I could not even express what I was feeling. It did not matter because there was someone else staring at her hard enough to show that he was also upset. That person was none other than Ron.

“What do you have to say about these messages?” Mr. Robinson pressed her.

Tears began to roll down her face as she looked around the room, likely noticing how everyone was watching her with the same expression, a look of disgust and disbelief.

“I admit to sending those messages,” she replied, pausing as the leaders began to shake their heads in disbelief. “But I swear I did not expect it to go that far. Whatever happened to me truly happened. I did not lie about it.”

She let out a small, hopeless cry.

“They were supposed to stop. I understand that I seem like a liar and someone who brought this upon herself, but the truth is much darker. Those men were supposed to stop, but they did not. I became a victim.”

As she cried and spoke about her pain, I looked around and noticed that nobody, not a single person, seemed to show empathy for her except Ron. He carried mixed emotions, and I could only wonder why. 1

Earlier, she had been furious with him and accused him of sending warriors who could not save her.

But now it was revealed that throughout the messages, she was the one who informed the men how to stop them, where to look for the weapons first, and everything else.

“That, however, is not what this case was about.”

Suddenly, Mr. Robinson pulled his hands back, moving away from the topic.

“It was only to show that Luna Yuvonne is capable of twisting narratives,” he remarked.

The leaders began writing something down.

“Now let us talk about your home,” Mr. Robinson continued. “Your home life has been very disturbing. Madeline lived with you. The woman you are supporting right now.”

He questioned her, and she nodded. She could barely turn her head toward me.

“Well then, let’s discuss that,” Mr. Robinson told her with a wide smirk on his lips.

He looked like the kind of man who would quietly kill someone and then attend their funeral to pay respects.

“Can you tell me how much you bullied her?” he asked. “How much pain did you and your family cause her?”

The question made Yuvonne look around in desperation.

“I was just a child back then, and when everything happened, I tried to-” she started, but she could not finish.

Mr. Robinson chuckled.

“Now let’s talk about you defending her,” he continued. “Are you supporting a woman who went rogue because **of** you in the first place?”

He stated this as he pulled out another receipt.

“These are text emails and messages Yuvonne sent to news outlets, especially Sherry’s channel, to expose Madeline’s background, her secret diary pages, and everything on her wedding day.”

He submitted the files, and I lowered my head. How did I forget about it? How did I forgive her so quickly?

“Like I said, I am a different person now,” Yuvonne muttered.

AU-BURERVICE ENTERTY

+25 Bonus

She had no more excuses.

My gaze shifted toward Ron. He already looked defeated, and now discovering that his wife had been acting like the same people as Elgin and Graham before marrying him was devastating.

“I am sorry, but what does this have to do with Madeline’s character?” Mr. Henry snapped at Mr. Robinson, though I could **tell** his words no longer carried much weight.

Mr. Robinson was not finished.

He walked to his table and returned with a plastic bag filled with candies, chocolates, and cookies of different kinds.

“These were taken from Yuvonne’s home yesterday,” he stated. “Her mother was preparing them.”

He leaned forward.

“Care to tell us what these candies and cookies contain, Luna Yuvonne?” Mr. Robinson demanded in a harsh tone.

“I do not know. My mother prepares these,” Yuvonne responded, turning to look at me directly, because I remembered that the same candies had been brought by her for my children.

“So, respected council leaders, these cookies contain poison,” he continued. “A poison that clouds a person’s judgment and convinces them of things that are not real, along with other symptoms and effects that we cannot fully identify.”

As soon as he said that, it struck me. I remembered how she had insisted that my children eat them. Why? What was she trying to do to them?

In the end, it was clear that no one, not a single person in the court was looking at Yuvonne the same way they had before. “And maybe that was how Luna Yuvonne convinced Ron that she was the right woman for him. Maybe he was never in love with her. Maybe she trapped him by feeding him those candies. She spent most of the time cooking in the cabin, did she not?”

As Mr. Robinson continued speaking, I began to feel dizzy, as if I could no longer tell what was true anymore.

“And that is how, when Graham and Elgin arrived that night, Madeline and Baxter had already been fed that poison,” he stated. “They were following Yuvonne’s orders. So yes, in a sense, I must say Madeline is innocent because she did not act on her own. Graham and Elgin are as well, as they are telling the truth from their side.”

As he finished, the entire court erupted in gasps.

Sara Lili

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We Listened to the Darkness 403

403–They Destroyed Her Character

Madeline:

I watched Ron attempt to get up and leave. However, she suddenly yelled, “That is not true,”

The room fell silent once again. Eyes shifted toward her.

“This is not what these cookies are used for,” she remarked, looking drained, as if there were no tears left to cry.

“Those cookies are used for shape-shifting, and only some people from my tribe can do that.”

The moment she said that, I felt goosebumps cover my skin.

“All right,” Mr. Robinson said, his hands clasped in front of him with a confident smirk. “What do you mean by your tribe?”

“I am from a very small group,” she replied. “A tribe with very few members left. A tribe that can shape-shift if they feed the person they want to change cookies mixed with their blood.”

As she finished, I placed a hand on my chest, almost trying to feel my heartbeat to make sure I was still alive.

It reminded me of something. Baxter. Baxter had seen me speak badly about him. Those videos. That had not been me.

That had been Yuvonne pretending to be me. It all made sense.

“And may I ask if you have shape-shifted?” Mr. Robinson pressed. “Because magic of that kind is forbidden, Miss Yuvonne.”

I could tell that even Graham and Elgin had no idea the trial would take such a turn.

She answered by lowering her head and staying silent.

“That sounds like an admission of guilt,” he remarked. “In any case, this is not the matter before us today. However, I would like to ask you one more thing. Did you and your husband, Ron, plan the murder of Lady Riva?”

The question landed heavily. Everyone turned their heads as Yuvonne began to shake hers in denial.

“No, that is not true,” she insisted. “We did not. Ron would never do that. I would never do that to him.”

It was the first time she had responded clearly to any accusation directed at her.

“Are you sure?” Mr. Robinson asked. “Because I have a text conversation between you and your mother.”

The moment he said that, we all knew he was about to pull out more evidence, and I was not ready for it.

The text appeared on the screen. It was a conversation between Yuvonne and her mother.

“So your mother tells you that she should be the one to become the mother of the pack now because she is the mother of Luna,” Mr. Robinson explained. “However, she also states that the position is still held by Lady Riva. You then respond that you do not understand what she means. After that, she tells you that if Lady Riva dies, she would take the crown as the mother of the pack, since one of the parents of either an Alpha or a Luna gains that privilege.”

As he spoke, my head snapped toward Ron. His eyes were wide with shock as he stared at Yuvonne.

“No, I understand why it seems strange, but I never acted on it,” Yvonne replied. “My mother did tell me that, but I never acted on it and I never agreed to it as well. And my mother was not serious either.”

She began to smile as she explained herself, looking around the court, but no one showed sympathy.

“Are you sure?” Mr. Robinson asked. “Because it seems that you two were the only ones who would benefit from this. My main question is this. How did you convince your husband to do it? Your mother mentioned in the text that you should be able to convince him, but how did you do that? Did you feed him cookies? Did you shape-shift into someone?”

As he questioned her, Yuvonne began shaking her hands, trying to prove her innocence.

“No, I did nothing. I swear,” she cried. “I was at the motel. I promise. I did not even go back home. The food was **prepared** much

mhotel.

latet ”

As she spoke through her tears, Lady Abigail lifted her nose in disgust.

I could tell that none of us expected the court hearing to go this far.

“Of course you did not do anything,” Mr. Robinson suddenly remarked, taking her side.

Yuvonne lifted her head, looking at him with hope.

“Because your husband did it,” he continued. “He was the one who held the food. He had the poison bottle in his pocket, and he was the one who fed his grandmother the food, was he not?”

He raised his voice as Yuvonne turned to look at Ron.

Ron slammed his hand on the table and stood up.

“That is bullshit,” he shouted. “Why would I do that? What do I have to do with Yuvonne’s mother? Why would I want her to be crowned?”

“That is because we do not know what these cookies are used for,” Mr. Robinson muttered. “You could have been drugged by her into killing your grandmother. It is only her word that these cookies are used for shape-shifting, yet she never explained who shape-shifted into whom or what crimes were committed. It is safe to assume that our conclusion is correct. These cookies are poisonous, and they are used to control innocent people.”

Mr. Robinson spoke as if he had witnessed everything himself and was completely certain of Ron’s guilt.

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We Listened to the Darkness 404

Madeline:

“In any case, this is not about Ron’s hearing,” Mr. Robinson added, as he often did.

“Well, it is,” Mr. Henry replied. “Or should we say that you have lost track of the case, since you have been drifting away from the main subject?”

Mr. Henry tried to intervene, but nothing could be done. Yuvonne’s actions had ruined everything.

“I do know that the people involved in this case are highly controversial,” Mr. Robinson continued. “Scandalous as well. It is safe to say that neither party is perfect.”

He paused.

“My two Alphas may have made mistakes by going there at night, acting aggressively when they were seduced, wronged, or threatened into fulfilling the demands of a woman who was likely not in her right senses,” Mr. Robinson stated. “However, that does not exclude the other party from their wrongdoing. We cannot say for certain that both the people from the couple were innocent. Perhaps only Madeline is.”

As Mr. Robinson said that, I rose from my seat.

“You better not talk about my husband,” I yelled.

I watched his smirk widen, and I already knew where this was going. He began to smile at me.

“Of course not yet,” he replied calmly. “But I must say that once your husband wakes up, there are quite a few accusations against him as well. We will discuss that later, shall we?”

He finished, and my jaw dropped. I could not even ask what he had found out about my husband because I was afraid someone might have framed him.

“Anyway, I will leave these matters in the hands of the court,” Mr. Robinson continued. “Leaders, I hope you reach a fair decision. That is all.”

He stepped away from Yuvonne, who was crying and breaking down.

“We have heard everything,” Lady Abigail stated. “And I must say, I do not wish to sit here any longer and listen to that woman

cry.”

She directed her words at Yuvonne, who sniffled and shook her head.

“To have men come and assault you, to have lied repeatedly, drug people, trap an Alpha with a love charm, and then accuse two Alphas of attacking a helpless woman,” Lady Abigail continued. “These actions show that today’s hearing was about Luna Yuvonne’s character. Whether Graham and Elgin wish to pursue a case for defamation is their decision. As for the rumors regarding Ron’s grandmother’s murder, that matter will be discussed in a different court.”

She paused.

“For now, this case is dismissed, and we apologize to the true victims,” she announced. “Alpha Graham, Alpha Elgin, Madeline, for becoming victims of a night that never happened.”

and

I looked down, clutching the edge of my seat. For a moment, I was unsure. Had she really felt something that night? So much had come out about her. Had Graham and Elgin truly done nothing to me?

I sighed and closed my eyes, sniffing softly.

“As for Luna Yuvonne,” Lady Abigail continued, “you will remain Luna until the murder case and the cases regarding your crimes are formally opened. Your lies and deceit have been exposed. I hope you find the shame to come clean about your actions. You are free to return to your pack, but you will no longer hold a position that allows you to make major decisions.”

actions.

She concluded firmly.

13

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+25 Bonus

“The court has reached its decision. Have a good day.”

With that, everyone began to stand.

There were murmurs throughout the room. Some people threw comments at Yuvonne, calling her a slut and a whore for what had happened to her.

There were other remarks that were deeply traumatizing and inappropriate, but everyone was so angry that they did not want to hear Yuvonne’s cries or her explanations.

The main point now was that Ron remained standing in his place, looking at Yuvonne with nothing but resentment in his eyes.

“Ron, please, listen to me. Believe me, I did not cast any spell on you. 1,” Yuvonne tried to explain, reaching for him and gripping his arm, but he pulled away.

“Did you even get raped?” Ron demanded.

The moment he asked, she raised her hands to her mouth, covering it in shock.

“Or did you consent to it?” he hissed, referring to the messages.

“You think I got carried away?” she cried. “You think I told them I changed my mind when they touched me? That is **not** true That is what they were trying to make it seem like. I know I messed up, and I should not have done that, but trust me. I-”

She began to cry, but I could already tell that nobody was going to believe her. I was not going to believe her either. Aside from the fact that she had been assaulted, I could not believe her about anything else. As for the assault, I could tell it had been a plan that went wrong, and somehow, I believed her when she said that.

“I will get out, Yuvonne,” Ron told her. “I will. And I will fix my mistakes. I will start by rejecting you.”

His eyes showed that whatever love they once shared was gone.

He walked away with the warriors while Yuvonne fell to her knees, crying.

At that point, I could no longer stay either. As I stepped past her, I felt a hand brush my foot. Her fingers wrapped around my

ankle.

“Please forgive me for my past mistakes,” she begged. “I was jealous. I was wrong. There is no other explanation. But please believe me. I have changed.”

I pulled my leg free and walked away.

D

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We Listened to the Darkness 405

405—Surrender To Me, My Lost Love

Graham:

“You did an amazing job,” I told Mr. Robinson, offering him a handshake.

“Thank you, Your Highness. I am here to serve you, and I told you would do my best,” Mr. Robinson replied, smiling at my flattery.

I did not expect things to turn out this way. I had hoped there would be some back and forth, and that it would eventually be dismissed as a matter of conflicting stories.

That was until Mr. Robinson began pulling out secrets.

Kaylee helped him. She and Yuvonne had been friends briefly, and it turned out to be useful.

“However, I do not understand why you asked me to secure Madeline’s character,” Mr. Robinson remarked. “I could have simply said that Madeline lied about everything, or that she was feeding you the cookies.”

As soon as Mr. Robinson started to explain the alternate narrative He had considered, I shook my head.

Last night, Kaylee told me there was a story being prepared. One where it would appear that Madeline and Yuvonne used cookies

to control my mind, to control me and Elgin, and force us into making mistakes. I shut it down immediately.

I requested to speak with him alone because I did not want a single stain on Madeline's character. She already hated me. If I allowed that, she would never look at me again. 2

Besides, I wanted to give her some hope. I wanted her to know that everything is not ruined for her.

That way, when I become the only person she can rely on, she does so without worrying about what I might do to her reputation afterward.

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"Anyway, you should take Kaylee home. I will be back shortly. I need to celebrate with Elgin," I told Mr. Robinson, gently touching his elbow as I noticed Kaylee standing by the car, waiting.

"Are you sure you are not going home with her?" her father asked. "It is her doctor's appointment."

I rolled my eyes inwardly but remained silent for Kaylee's sake.

"No, Mr. Robinson," I replied oversweetly. "I hope you can handle it today. I need to clear everything before I go home to her. But I will have dinner with her later."

With that, I stepped away and moved to stand beside Elgin. We waited for everyone else to leave, so that once Madeline came out, we could speak with her.

"She was bound to get her karma," Elgin commented, laughing at Yuvonne. "Did she really think she could do all that over the years and then redeem herself just by acting kind after marrying an Alpha?"

We knew her history. We knew how messy she was. Thinking that everyone would believe she had changed just because she said so was almost laughable.

“Of course she changed after getting another Alpha,” I added, shaking my head with my hands on my waist. “Otherwise, she would have kept going after Baxter and made their lives miserable.

Thankfully, everyone came to us and apologized for ever doubting us. As they wandered off, we waited for Madeline to come out, and eventually, she did.

She was alone. Her eyes landed on

for a brief moment before she looked away and tried to walk past us quickly.

I tapped the back of my hand against Elgin’s elbow, signaling for him to follow me toward her.

“Ithou

might think you owe us an apology for accusing us of things we did not do,” I remarked.

She stopped in her tracks.

1/3

To Me My Lost lovg

“I know you have a strong ego,” Elgin continued, “but we do not. So we will apologize for reacting aggressively believed you were trying to intimidate or threaten us.”

Madeline turned around and looked at both of us.

“You know what? I can believe that Yuvonne might have done us wrong in everything, but that night, I am not stupid Event she fed me something to make me feel that way, it is still something I would expect from both of you. So no, I do not anorge yo apology, and I do not owe you one either.”

She spoke with the same attitude she always had. This time, though, her confidence carried no weight

She was a broken mother and a fallen wife, and a gorgeous helpless woman walking alone among people who could take advantage of her, yet she did not realize she needed to change before others turned their anger on her.

“I feel bad for you,” I said. “But more than that, I feel bad for Baxter. Now that Ron no longer holds power and Yvonne has been stripped of hers, I wonder how Baxter’s treatment at the hospital will continue.”

The moment I said that, realization hit Madeline. It showed clearly on her face as she swallowed hard.

“Are you threatening me?” she asked.

Elgin and I glanced at each other before looking back at her with small smirks.

“Of course not,” I replied. “We are just offering help.”

I spoke slowly, making sure she understood every word.

“All you have to do is,” Elgin stepped to her other side and leaned closer to her ear. “Surrender,” he whispered. “And your husband will receive the best treatment possible.”

He straightened and clicked his tongue.

“Tsk tsk tsk, or he will be removed from the hospital and left to die on the road.”
(3

When he finished, the fear on Madeline’s face told me we were heading in the right direction.

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Comments

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We Listened to the Darkness 406

206 Lifeless, Still So Pretty

Madeline:

I glared at the two and noticed their smirks.

“So it was you two that night,” I remarked.

“Yuvonne must have done everything wrong, but I knew it, I continued,

“I knew you fuckers were behind what happened that night I told them.

As soon as I hissed at them, I noticed both of them looked uninterested and worn down, as if I were being excessive for pointing out that I had caught them.

“As for Baxter, no, I do not need to beg before you two,” I snapped, stomping my foot and stepping away toward the road.

I had to go meet Baxter and also hear about his condition. After everything that had happened, I was not even sure how I would face anyone.

Even though it was not my fault and it had been proven in court that I might have been a victim of some kind of poison that night, I still knew the truth. They had used Yuvonne’s mistakes to ruin my case.

Instead of going to the motel first, I had come to the Pack’ border requesting to get in. They did let me pass, but I noticed they were tense and constantly sharing looks, as if they were reminding each other that next time, they needed to give me a harder time.

I had to fucking walk on my foot all this time. I did not have money. I did not have a cell phone to contact anyone. They had stripped us of almost everything. I had a few pennies with me, but I planned to save them for later because it seemed like life from here was going to get very tough.

There was a crowd gathered outside. It was a small one, mostly pack members, but it was noticeable. Some stood near the steps and railings, pretending to be busy with each other the moment they saw me.

As I moved forward, I noticed heads turning toward me and fingers lifting to point briefly in my direction. Quiet whispers followed. I avoided them and continued into the hospital.

Maybe they were talking about the recent court hearing. I could not be sure. I was related to their Luna in the sense that we had been in court together today.

They had definitely heard what happened there. The humiliation of Luna Yuvonne must have been shown on every channel by now.

The moment I stepped into the hospital, I noticed the change in the air. It smelled clean, almost stinging. Sounds surrounded me. Distant voices, rolling carts, and steady footsteps filled the space. I approached the front desk and rested my hands on the counter.

“I am here for Baxter,” I told the nurse, keeping my voice barely above a whisper. “He was brought in yesterday.”

She looked at her screen, then back at me, studying my face before nodding.

“He is in the intensive care unit,” she replied, standing up. A doctor will speak with you first.”

I nodded and followed her down a long hallway. The farther we walked, the quieter it became. She stopped near a set of glass doors marked ICU and asked me to wait.

A few moments later, a doctor approached. He wore his lab coat neatly, his posture professional, a tablet held close to his chest.

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was wearing "He is on resistant ventilation, and we are my internal injuries that required immediate intervention,

supporting his body as it renvers

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When he finished, I food a deep breath and slowly released, trying to steady myself

"Can I see him?" I asked quietly.

"Yes," he replied. "He has been moved to 164 room four. Curse will take you in. There will be equipment attached to him, and that is expected"

Another nurse joined us and guided me through the glee doors. By then, all I could hear was my own heartbeat. I knew seeing him would drain whatever strength 1 had left

Inside the room, the lights were dimmer. Marines lined the walls, each producing a steady sound.

I stopped at the entrance when I saw him lying motionless on the bed, surrounded by monitors and tubes.

A ventilator moved in a slow, controlled rhythm. His skin looked pale, His chest and stomach were fully covered in clean bandages

I stepped closer and stopped beside the bed, my fingers hovering before resting on the railing I stood there for a moment, watching his chest rise and fall, listening to the chines that were keeping **him** alive.

"I miss you," my lips uttered as I closed my eyes. "I wish you were there today. There was one mystery solved. I was not the one who had spoken badly about you, Baxter, was someone else, someone shape-shifting into me."

I finished and opened my eyes, hoping Baxter would be awake so I could celebrate it with me.

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Comments

admin

We Listened to the Darkness 407

407-Bless Me

Madeline

Sadly, that was not the case. He was not looking at me, and he was certainly not awake.

“I cannot see you like this, Baxter. You need to wake up. Your Madeline needs you. Your children need you,” I continued, sniffing, my hands tightly wrapped around the railing as I wondered how my life would continue from

here.

“Just know, Baxter, that your Madeline is nothing without you. Please, please wake up,” I pleaded.

“I will go now, but I will come back, and I promise I will come every day. I have to tell our children that you are here so they can come and visit you. They miss you a lot,” added, glancing around as tears filled my eyes.

That was when my head snapped up, and I noticed the nurse was about to ask me to leave. I had not realized how long I had been standing there. It had probably been half an hour. They needed to take care of him.

“Please come back to me, Baxter,” I whispered, lowering myself just enough to kiss the tip of his finger. I was careful not to hurt him. He was in a very critical condition.

I stepped out of the ICU and noticed several doctors standing together, including the one who had briefed me

earlier.

They were looking at me, but quickly turned away. It felt like something was going on, some kind of issue. I avoided them, gave a small nod in greeting, and continued toward the exit. 1

That was when I realized what the whole fuss was about.

More pack members had gathered outside, and this time they were not hiding the fact that they were there for me. Their faces hardened when they saw me. Standing beside them were Lady Abigail, Lord Eldon, Graham, and Elgin, along with their wives. Penny was there too, visibly pregnant. 1

My steps halted at the top of the stairs while the others stood below, watching me.

“We are very sorry, Madeline, but the pack members are having a hard time understanding why a rogue is receiving VIP treatment,” Lady Abigail remarked, finally revealing the reason for the gathering. 2

I knew she would take the lead. She always did. She seemed proud whenever she had the chance to tell me something meant to hurt me.

“What are you trying to say?” I asked, not wanting to explain why my husband needed to stay here.

“You see, there is one requirement in the council,” she continued. “For your husband to be treated at a pack hospital, that vote came from alpha Ron. At present, he has been stripped of his powers, so he cannot approve it. So tell us again why we should break the rules for you and continue treating your husband here.”

When she finished, Lord Eldon stepped forward beside her.

“In short, you need to take your husband and leave right now,” he stated.

My jaw dropped. My eyes snapped toward Graham and Elgin, and I remembered the earlier threat they had made.

“That is ridiculous. You cannot do this,” I protested. “I understand he is no longer a pack member or an Alpha, but he is still a human being. He was once close to all of you. How can you ask me to take my dying husband?” 2

I stopped briefly to swallow, my fists shaking.

“The moment I unplug him from those machines, he will lose his life, and I will lose him,” I finished, pointing to my chest as my voice cracked.

+25 Bonus

“That is a strong emotional appeal, but rules are rules,” Lord Eldon replied with a shrug

No, I will not let this happen,” I said firmly.

The warriors did not agree. The moment Lord Eldon finished speaking, they began to move.

“No, stop!” I shouted, rushing after them. I grabbed one of their arms, but he shook me off, nearly causing me to fall down the stairs. I clutched the railing, hearing quiet chuckles from the crowd as they watched.

As soon as I turned to face everyone, ready to tell them that if they wanted to drag Baxter out, they would have to walk over my dead body, I did not get the chance to say it.

A car suddenly pulled up, and everyone stepped aside. The crowd parted without question. Lord William stepped out, one hand raised toward the warriors, stopping them at the hospital entrance. (15

“I am sick and tired of all of you,” he commented as he walked up the stairs. 3

He stopped in front of me, his gaze moving between me and the crowd. I steadied myself and looked the old man **in** the eye, holding back my tears.

The moment he lifted his hand and placed it gently on my head, I broke. Gasps erupted again at the sight of a council leader blessing me in front of everyone.

He turned away and faced the council members.

“What are you, twelve?” he demanded. “What is this nonsense? Why are you all after this girl? She is just a child. A child trying to survive in a harsh world. Instead of helping her, you are casting her out. Why?” a

Lord William raised his voice, forcing me to take deep breaths so I would not cry in front of everyone. Someone standing up for me like this was not something I was used to.

I never had a father. The man I once thought of as a father figure had always disappointed me. Seeing someone else step in like this hurt more than I expected.
1

“Lord William, you are just being emotional,” Lady Abigail spoke, attempting to dismiss him.

“No, you are emotionless,” he replied, making her eyes widen.

She immediately glanced at the crowd, searching for their reaction. They looked uncertain and confused.

“We are not bad people,” Kaylee added quickly. “We are only following the rules, Your Highness. I am a mother myself. I would never do this to another woman.”

She rested a hand on her belly as she spoke, her voice trembling, but Lord William raised his palm to stop her. “Then do it,” he said sharply. “Do not stand there claiming you care while you are standing among people who are tormenting a woman in distress. And which woman is that?”

He stepped forward.

“The same woman you all called a whore because no one knew who her parents were. Because someone claimed her mother sold her body to survive.”

Murmurs spread through the crowd. Faces twisted, noses wrinkled, as if they believed this was the truth I deserved to hear about myself.

admin

We Listened to the Darkness 408

408-Keep Following Me

Madelines

“But did any of you ever ask why women do that?” he continued. “Because you push them to it. Look at her. She has nothing left, and all you are doing is cornering her until she reaches the same breaking point. And even if she does

choose it willingly, why do none of you question the society or the men who line up to sleep with her?"

As he spoke, I watched faces lose their color.

"That man stood at a wedding and admitted he was unsure if he was the father," Lord William went on. "That was an admission of guilt. He slept with her. He paid her. Yet he faced no consequences."

He was speaking about Yuvonne's father. I took a deep breath, feeling lighter for the first time in a long while. Someone finally understood what it felt like to be cornered

"That is a wonderful speech, William, but let us not forget that we still have rules to follow. So what do you suggest we should do?" Lord Eldon finally spoke up. The disdain on his face was clear, both for me and for William defending me.

"I know you will never do anything for her unless it is a sickness you need help with."

The moment he mentioned sickness, pack members began exchanging looks and nodding.

"How are you all going to ask for her help?" he questioned.

One of the elders from the crowd raised his hand like a child asking for permission to speak. When attention turned to him, he lowered it, glanced around the crowd, then looked back at us.

"But they did ask her for help, and she refused," he stated. She has not even told anyone about the cure."

When he finished, people nodded in agreement, some pointing at him as if urging others to listen.

"And I wonder why," Lord William remarked calmly.

"I do not expect any of you to help her," he continued, his voice firm. "But I will not stand here and let you throw her husband out when this child has shown nothing but understanding toward all of you."

He took a deep breath and straightened his posture. The crowd went silent. I watched their expressions change as they realized he had reached a decision.

“She has my vote.”

The moment those words left his mouth, I snapped my head toward the council leaders and the crowd.

“William, think about this. You cannot just help someone,” Lady Abigail began, but she fell silent halfway through. She had almost revealed her hatred for me.

“I have heard enough,” Lord William stated. “This is my decision. Just as no one interferes with yours, no one will interfere with mine. You will not change my mind.”

He turned slightly, addressing everyone.

“As of now, her husband will continue to be treated here. She will also be allowed entry whenever she wishes, along with her children, to visit their father. That is all. Now go back to your work. You all enjoy gossip far too much.”

He waved his hand, dismissing them.

I watched the crowd scatter, guilt visible on several faces. Elgin and Graham remained behind, silently staring at

1. me.

1/3

*25 Bonus

“I am deeply disappointed in what this world has become,ord William said, speaking directly to me. “As a Council leader, it feels like I wasted years allowing this behavior.”

He looked so burdened that he could not meet my eyes.

“You have no idea what you have done for me,” I whispered wiping my tears with the back of my hand before bowing to him in respect. “Thank you.”

After that, I walked away successfully, feeling triumphant and relieved, at least for now. At least there was someone who was not blind or deaf to what was happening around him.

As I passed Silver and Kaylee, I noticed them look me over from head to toe before turning their faces away in disgust.

But as I began to walk away, I started to hear footsteps behind me. I turned briefly, and when I saw Graham and Elgin there, I sped up. I had no idea why they were following me, but I was already nearing the end of the path, with the border clearly in sight. T

They had waited deliberately before coming out of hiding. The moment I sped up, they did too. Within minutes, one of them stepped in front of me, forcing me to stop, while the other stayed behind.

“What the hell is wrong with you?” I snapped, clenching my fists as I looked at both of them. “You cannot harass me like this.”

I quickly scanned my surroundings, making sure no one was watching. If they tried to touch me, I would tear them apart.

“We did not come here with hostile intentions,” Elgin replied quickly. “We came to offer you a job. Now that your husband is in the hospital and no one else is helping you, you might need money.” 1

His words only made me raise my eyebrow.

“And what makes you think I would accept a job from either of you?” I questioned in disbelief. “If I need help, I will go straight to Lord William. So fuck off.”

The confidence in my voice surprised even me. Knowing someone was on my side reminded me of girls who grow up with fathers. That kind of support gives them a different strength, something I never had.

But the moment Lord William placed his hand on my head, felt like I was standing under his protection.

“And how will you do that?” Graham asked. “Will you walk to his home or fly to his place?”

It was his way of reminding me that I had no means to contact Lord William in an emergency. I did not have a phone. I did not have much money, only a few pennies left.

The realization hit me hard. 1

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admin

We Listened to the Darkness 409

400-Two Hungry Hyenas

Graham

We arrived today to give her a warning. However, it backfire, and Lord William appeared out of nowhere, pretending to be a hero.

I did not understand why that old man had to involve himself in the drama. He could have gone home and disappeared, and nobody would have cared.

I never understood the need for people to act overly good while ignoring the fact that rules still need to be followed.

Of course, we had to follow Madeline and make sure she was far enough from everyone so she could hear us and understand the point we were making.

“Fine,” she snapped. “Then I will turn around and tell Lord William how to contact him in an emergency, because there are two hungry hyenas circling me whenever they see me alone.” 1

The moment she started speaking, I let out a laugh. Not because I was trying to be clever or unsettling, but because it reminded me of her tantrums. She had always been like this, always different.

For a brief moment, as Elgin and Madeline stared at me, I realized that somewhere along the way, I had sunk so low that she would not even look at me without lifting her nose in disgust.

If I was already the villain, why not play the part properly? That was how I convinced myself I was doing nothing

wrong.

“If you choose to do that, go ahead,” Elgin warned quickly when he saw she was about to speed off. “But do not forget, you will be in serious trouble. He will have to listen to us too.”

When she still did not stop, Elgin and I shared a glance and turned to watch her back. She was walking away again.

I was surprised by her strength. Her wolf was special. That wolf was the last threat I planned to use against her whenever I felt she was slipping out of my grasp.

“And maybe Lord William would love to hear about Baxter’s crimes.”

I knew my words would catch her attention.

She stopped in her tracks so suddenly that she nearly lost her balance. She turned around and looked at me like she would kill me if she could.

“Baxter did nothing wrong in his life,” she snapped, her jaw clenching.

“Of course not,” Elgin replied calmly, “not until he handed the files back to the forbidden Alpha Byron.”

As Elgin mentioned Byron and the crime connected to the files, I watched realization spread across Madeline’s face. She closed her mouth at once and swallowed hard.

“That is not true,” she argued. “The files were in our home. Byron stole them.”

The words slipped out of her mouth too easily.

Byron is no longer considered a banned Alpha. Because of the files he holds, he will soon receive an official letter lifting that status. He did not need to steal anything. And there are no rules against taking files from a rogue’s

home.

That is why she was using that lie to cover up her husband’s crime, also not putting Byron in trouble as he wouldn’t get punished for stealing from a rogue that was rightfully his.

+29 Bonas

“I wish that were true,” Elgin continued, clicking his tongue and shaking his head. “But Baxter spent the rest of that day with Byron. He called him repeatedly from the motel phone. We even have footage from outside the motel. It looks like your husband was keeping Byron close.

He paused before adding,

“Why would Baxter do that?” 1

“There is no proof,” Madeline insisted, still trying to defend him.

“If you want proof,” I interrupted, my voice sharpening, “there is enough to show your husband summoned a monster and unleashed it on the world. That creature has tasted human flesh again. Now there are sightings everywhere. Open ground, nighttime, it keeps appearing. What about that?”

She clenched her fists and rubbed the back of her neck, avoiding our eyes.

“There is no proof he summoned it,” she replied quietly. “The monster came on its own, just like the first time. Just like when it took my daughter. You said it tasted human flesh.”

She stopped speaking and closed her eyes.

“The monster tasted human flesh,” she repeated under her breath.

Even my fists clenched when she mentioned Gina. I looked away, blinking back tears.

“Then what about the murder he committed?” I snapped suddenly.

I was no longer calm. Hearing her defend the man who failed to save my daughter filled me with anger.

My words finally caught her full attention. She studied my face, waiting for an explanation, but I did not give her

one.

She stepped closer, only a few steps.

“He never hurt anyone,” she said. “What the fuck are you talking about?”

There was a slight tremble in her voice.

I let Elgin take over. I was drowning in my own emotions.

“Do you remember the old witness who was found dead?” Elgin asked. “You and Ron were the ones who pushed the Alpha to reopen the investigation by calling him incapable. And he did. I am glad he did.” (1

He spoke with forced emotion, his hand pressed to his chest, pretending to grieve for an old woman we did not care about. His eyes stayed fixed on Madeline.

“And what makes you accuse Baxter without any fucking proof?” she hissed, stepping even closer to challenge us.

I could tell even Elgin did not like her tone.

“The fact that his pendant was found beside her,” Elgin replied sharply. “It was clutched in her fingers, covered in her blood. The fact that he was the last person to visit her. The fact that he got information from her before she was brutally killed.”

The color drained from Madeline’s face.

admin

We Listened to the Darkness 410

410-I Surrender

Madeline:

I felt as if they had sucked the soul out of my body. The way they spoke about Baxter, the way they hinted at everything they could use against him, none of it felt right,

Lord William could only defend him to a certain point. By the end of the day, he would have to sit in court and listen to everything. I knew how easily they could twist the truth. 1

I would be left alone.

There were not one, but three offenses attached to Baxter’s name.

The monster accusation alone would spark rage among the people, especially once they learned that his pendant, the one he never took off, had been found in the victim's hand.

It looked as if she had tried to save herself in her final moments.

My breathing grew heavy as I tried to calm myself.

“We can open a court case,” Elgin continued, “and you know what will happen. Until the case is resolved and you prove his innocence, he will not be allowed in the hospital. Even Lord William will not be able to stop that. It will be one voice against many, and he will have to listen to the complaints.”

He did not stop.

“For now, he protected you because you and your husband were seen as innocent people whose only crime was choosing each other. But once the truth comes out, that your husband has been breaking rules so carelessly, Lord William will not have the power to keep him here. Not even for a few days. And you know every minute matters for him.”

By the time Elgin finished, I felt like my knees would give out.

“Why are you so determined to make my life miserable?” I snapped. “Was Baxter never your friend? Did he never mean anything to you? Tell me one thing, just one thing that we did to you that turned you into this.”

The words poured out before I could stop them. I did not know what I had done wrong. All this time, I thought they were hurting me for no reason. Instead of guilt, instead of facing consequences for their actions, they kept placing punishment after punishment on me.

After I asked, both of them stared at me in silence.

“You let my daughter die,” Graham said suddenly. 3

“And you accused us of touching you,” Elgin added quickly. That led to my children being bullied.”

It sounded like an excuse, something he had convinced himself was enough to justify everything.

“What about before that?” I asked.

They looked at each other, then swallowed hard.

“You said you used us,” Elgin replied.

“That was after everything,” Graham corrected him quietly

They had nothing else to say. They just stood there, staring at me.

“Whatever,” Graham said finally. “We are not here to explain ourselves. You will listen to us.”

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We are offering you in turn, we will be open your headed. He will stay here and recalve

five revés tes pay. That to All”

P1

He he found his footing again, donging the seed once or after realizing they could not justify what they were doing to the

“So you have to toes,”

stated, slipping his hands into his pockets and taking a deep breath, as if eaper for thy answer, “You can walk away today, go to Lord Willia, tell him we are threatening you, and explain exactly what those threats are so we can openly discuss Baker’s crimes, Or you can accept our job

He paused briefly.

“And you will also need to explain your wolf,” Graham added casually, “I am just saying, we could slip that into the discussion as well.”

I watched their faces with disbelief and disappointment. What had 1 done to these people? Nothing. They were simply cruel.

They were content with their lives, and from what I could see, their only problem was that they did not want me to be happy. They would rather tear me apart than see me at peace. That was their victory.

“Think about your children, Madeline,” Graham whispered “They are alone now. They do not have a father. And if their mother is also taken away for investigation,

whether for her wolf or her husband's crimes, I do not think they will survive this world”

He spoke softly, as if he wanted me to believe he was grieving Gina. I did not believe him.

“What is the job?” I asked.

As I took a steady breath, the way the two of them exchanged an excited glance and stepped closer sent a chill through me.

“It is nothing harmful,” Graham explained quickly, “You will come over and discuss the sickness with us. That is all”

I did not believe that either. If sickness were truly their concern, they would have gone to Lord William.

“And what else?” I demanded,

Their expressions shifted. The frowns disappeared, replaced by something blank, almost offended. Elgin scratched the back of his neck,

“We will see,” he replied. “There may be moments when you need comfort, and we are willing to provide it.” 3

His words hit hard. I closed my eyes and turned my face away.

“We just want to see how far you are willing to go for your husband and your children,” Graham added. “Because Madeline, you already lost Gina. I do not think you are ready to lose anyone else.”

I looked back at him. He rested his hands on his waist and looked away, glancing back only once as he waited for my decision.

“So tell us,” Elgin said calmly, “Should we expect you to come to work on the sickness in two hours, or should we go to Lord William and inform him that we are threatening you over the case? The choice is yours.”

They were not afraid. Not even of admitting what they were doing. Their words were chosen carefully and deliberately,

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