

Alpha Garrett: A Baby for Christmas

[1,871 words]

CH 21

Garrett

He went through his list of contacts and found one Gregory Blackwell, dialled the number and waited. It took almost a full minute before it was picked up, "Mr Owens?" the man answered his phone. Which told Garrett he had his number saved to his phone, probably from their last meeting over a month ago; good it saved him making introductions.

"Mr Blackwell, my day is not so fun over here. I have a very upset secretary, who was literally

sick to her stomach at what she just saw in this morning's papers."

"Oh, yours isn't fun, my son is being dragged through the mud because of that secretary of

yours."

"No, he's not. From her reaction to the reports, which was complete and utter shock, and then her going completely pale at seeing the papers, I seriously doubt she did this at all."

"She is the only one that could have done this, she broke our deal and I will be coming after

her for this. We, Harmony and I had an agreement about that footage never being seen by the

public."

"What agreement do you have with her, and over what footage?" he asked curiously, even though he already knew, but he would play dumb for the moment.

"She has the video footage of my son and..." the man trailed off.

"Oh, of his actual cheating, actually having s*x with Chloe Silverton, was it? In front of her very

eyes.”

“Yes.” The man grated out “My son may have cheated, but she is the one that has spread it to

the world, in the most filthiest way there is. Wants to hurt my son and ruin him.”

“No, she’s not.” Garrett stated, “From all I saw this morning; she was horrified that the news

was out. I have also spoken to Rachael Greenbay myself about this matter, at length. Have

you yet?” he asked, knowing full well that Rachael would not be taking calls from him, or anyone affiliated with him until after Boxing Day. She had her own agenda.

“Not yet, I’ve not been able to get a hold of her. You have?” Gregory asked.

“Yes, do you know what it is Ms Greenbay hates the most in this world, Mr Blackwell...a cheating boyfriend or husband. Because she suffered that herself. I doubt you’ll be able to get her until she’s finished tarring your son to her liking.”

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Again there was silence, he would know that she was a bloodhound for society addicts that

were rumoured to be getting divorced, and she only ever took the side of the part that was

cheated on, or dug into the truth of the matter, and cleared one’s name if one party labelled the

other a cheater, in an effort to ruin them.

“Gregory, you did read the source line of the article, did you not? Or did you just listen to your

son, who I’m sure whined that it had to be his ex-girlfriend that did this to him. He lives in the

society pages, something you yourself, should have curbed in your what? 29-year-old boy.

“He should have grown out of that and become a proper man by now, that doesn’t care about

how people see him other than as a good businessman, getting ready to take over his father’s

company. So he should be fully aware of Rachael Greenbay, who she is, what she likes to report on, and how in depth she will be about it.

“As for the footage, and all those pictures. From what I can see, all those pictures are from security footage within my club. I’d consider it was someone from inside my own club who did

this. Someone that likely saw the whole thing, and thought it was wrong of your boy.

“Maybe Gregory, your boy is not so innocent, and maybe he offended someone within the club. itself, and they are now extracting a little revenge on him. Your boy is dumb, and should have known better, than *to* cheat on his longtime girlfriend. I wonder how many girlfriends he’s had over the years, that he’s *done* this *too*, that maybe saw an opportunity to get a little payback of

their own.”

“It is none of your staff’s business, Garrett, and you need to shut this down if it’s coming from

within your *own* nightclub.”

“Do I? I haven’t looked *into the* matter as of yet, and I probably won’t be either. This phone call is a common curtesy *to you*, because I don’t think it’s at all over. I feel it’s just the beginning of your son’s fall from grace. I wonder if his new girlfriend did this herself. To make sure he doesn’t try *to* apologise and get Harmony back. Considering that engagement ring he bought was what? Back in November, for Harmony, was it?”

“I seriously doubt Chloe would do something like this,”

“Oh, so the mistress is innocent, but you believe the girlfriend who, from all appearances, you liked and must have approved of for your son to marry, is not. Hmm, I think you’ve got things backwards. I think both of those two, Chloe and Damien, deserve to have their names tarred

with the same brush.”

“You will stay out of this, Garrett, it does not concern you,” Gregory muttered. And he knew he was putting ideas into that man’s head, about Chloe and it was his intent.

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“Hmm, after what I found out about your son this weekend, going around slandering Harmony’s reputation. From what I heard he’s been doing that for many weeks now. I think it’s only fair that the people of this city see him for what he truly is, a lying cheating scumbag.”

“He has done nothing like that, as far as I’m aware. He’s devastated that Harmony would do this to him. He can’t believe she would do this to him, he thought she really loved him.”

“Oh, is he playing the pitiful I didn’t do it card Gregory, because he was the one that cheated on her. It is pretty darn clear, your son is in the wrong and trying to convince you, he’s innocent when the proof is right in front of you in full colour. He’s a liar.

“I also have proof he has been out there slandering Harmony’s good name; do you want to hear it? I’ve got a recording of it. He told me himself she was a bad employee, used her looks and body to get what she wanted, to stay employed there as well.”

“What?” Gregory muttered, and he heard the anger in him, but whether it was because he didn’t know this or because Garrett had found out about this, or because, as he suspected, they were trying to make her beg them to take her back for some reason.

“There’s more, he’s told at least six companies she applied for the same thing, I’ve have four recordings of him slandering her good name, along with the one I have, and for what? As far as I can tell, because she *broke* up with him.”

“He’s upset and likely retaliating from this article is all. That won’t stand up in court, he’s emotional at the moment,” Gregory stated.

“Oh, then *you* should *know* this was all before she worked for me. Before anything came out in the society pages, *so how does that work? What’s his excuse now?..*” he waited for Gregory to come up with something, and couldn’t it seemed “How do you think that is going to make him

look?”

There was silence *on* the line still; a full minute and Garrett waited. He knew the man needed a minute to think things through, how bad it could get for not only his son now, but his company as well. Were their plans *for* Harmony falling through? and how to get it back on

track?

“We should meet and discuss this in person, come to some sort of arrangement.”
Gregory finally stated.

“Hmm, and what if I’m not willing to do that?”

“Be reasonable Garrett, she is just a secretary. I’ll deal with my son, pull him into line, and he’ll apologise to her.”

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Baint

“Oh, will he! Will he mean it, tell her all the nasty things he said and actually beg for forgiveness, or will it be a blanket statement by your PR team that means nothing?”

“Clearly, I haven’t gotten all the information. Perhaps you could help me out and an agreement

can be reached.”

“Like the one you already struck with Harmony Preston, that I have just learned now, from you there is one. And you claim she broke it, is your word even good. She’s stressed out completely right now, that you’re going to think this is her doing, which you did. Jump right to

that conclusion.”

“How could I not when I know she has the footage,” Gregory muttered.

“For a start, because she worked for your company for how long, she would understand the expectations of a confidentiality agreement, and she would also know how you and your legal team would deal with it. Do you honestly think she would willingly break one she made with you, yourself, and risk your wrath when she had no one and nothing to her name?”

Again there was silence from the man and Garrett shook his head. “You reacted before investigating the matter and tried to lay blame before proof was given. I see where your son gets his lack of morals from.”

“That’s enough, Garrett...”

“No it’s *not*, *no one* messes with my people. I guarantee you it wasn’t Harmony Preston that released this to the world. And just *to* let you know, only myself and those that work

in the nightclub, have access to the security footage, she couldn't possibly get a hold of all of what is in the papers."

"She had footage on her phone." Gregory repeated himself.

"Hmm, someone sent it to her, likely the very person that has given Rachael Greenbay all the extra footage to expose your son's deceitful, betrayal of his girlfriend of three years. One that from only just a few days ago, it was reported that he was going to propose to her this

Christmas."

Again, silence on the other end of the line. "I'll tell you what Gregory, you keep Damien away from Harmony, have him accept responsibility and admit he was wrong, and also apologise. Then we'll talk again, but till then, I don't want to talk to either of you. And I certainly don't want to see or hear that your son is harassing my employee, by turning up here or at her place of residence. That will incur my full wrath, do you really want that?" he asked, and then clicked

the line closed and leaned back in his chair.

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+8 Point

Hopefully, that would make the boy leave Harmony alone and force him into an apology. There was more than one of those to be coming from him, by the time Garrett was done with him.

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[1,807 words]

CH 22

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CH 22

Harmony

Harmony sat at her desk and got ready for the day to begin. She had no idea how the other employees of the company were now going to see her. She had not wanted any of that to come out. Her sad, pathetic history with Damien was now out and exposed for all to see.

They would all now look at her as having blinkers on, that she had been blinded *to* the cheating ways of her boyfriend. She wondered just how dumb someone had *to* be, *to* never see their other half was cheating on them. And she'd not seen it, never *looked* for it, because she

had trusted him.

Was she really so blinded by her love for him? That she'd never once seen anything suspicious at all. In any of his actions or words to Chloe, she'd been right there most of the time to see it all. She should have seen the way they looked at each other, any glances or inconnotation in their words, from the moment that they had decided to start sleeping together.

If that came about after her and Damien, she was as yet unable to get past her thoughts while inside Garrett's office of herself being the mistress, but if that was the case why would Chloe stand for it? She didn't understand anything anymore, about any of her relations with either of

them.

Or was her foolishness in trusting him, believing that he loved her and no one else, solely because she'd been *alone for* so long. That a part of her craved to have that family and love that she'd lost when her parents had died.

So, she had simply put blinders *on* herself, and refused to allow herself to acknowledge any of his faults, or things she might consider as flirting or odd behaviour between him and Chloe. Because if they did break-up, she'd *once* again go back to being all alone in her life.

She had been an only child and losing her parents and becoming an orphan had been very hard on her. There had been so much love within her family, she'd always known her parents loved and cherished her, were proud of her. Losing them had changed her, and she'd become a bit on the introverted side. Felt full of loneliness and sadness during her time of grief, something she'd suffered alone.

She still to this day, blamed herself for their deaths and how could she not, when that car accident they'd all been in was her doing. She'd been the one to get the job out here with Blackwell Industries and they, of course, had wanted to drive her out here and help her settle into her new apartment and new life.

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+8 Point

Only to have them be run off the road by another driver, that had fallen asleep behind the wheel, and careened into them and their vehicle had gone off down a steep embankment and rolled over and over to crash at the bottom, where only she had survived.

She'd not known a single person out here, to help her through her grief over their deaths. She knew that their deaths had been caused because she had chosen a job in the next state over,

and they wanted to be with her for as long as possible before only being able to see her in the

university breaks, between semesters or trimesters. If she'd never taken that job, they'd still be

alive today and she knew it.

Harmony had to deal with a lot in the two weeks that led up to her start date at Blackwell

Industries, not only funerals and insurance but learning to be alone, she'd ended up just

burying herself in the new job that first year, until Damien had come along and coaxed her out

of her shell, and convinced her to go on a date with him.

His life had been happy and filled with people, much like her parents' old life had been, and it kind of helped her as well. She'd not really made many friends, just worked and had

co-workers she would sit and talk to, but kept things work related most of the time.

Even now, after they'd broken up, she'd gone back to being alone, because all of her friends now were actually his friends, and not just his, his and Chloe's at that. So her social circle was

once again down to nothing.

Her life was lonely once more, she'd lived inside her apartment only going out for interviews and food shopping. To avoid, and she knew it, his very large social group, not one of them had called or *texted* her to see if she was okay, even though he was now openly dating Chloe.

It was clear that they were all his friends and none of them were willing to be separated from him and his wealth and status. To remain her friend, they were likely never actually her friends at all. Or were just *like* Damien himself and only concerned about their status in the society

pages.

She was hoping that coming to work here at Owens Construction she could make a fresh start for herself and meet new people, make some friends of her own, outside a relationship. Friends that were not attached to her because of some boyfriend she had.

She knew she needed to do that, or she was going to be lonely for a very long time. This place did have nice friendly people working here. She had liked it here those first two days. Now though, they all got to see the things in her life she didn't want them to see.

Everything about her had just been exposed to all here in Owens Constructions, just how very

screwed up

it was,

when all she really wanted was a normal, happy life, with a few happy

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smiling friends around her. Friends that she could talk easily with, have lunch with, and maybe come the new year go shopping with, go out to eat with or see a movie with.

Was that too much to ask for, really?

She was called down to HR, Deidre wanted to speak to her. It was mid-morning, and she sighed and got up, 'So it begins.' She thought to herself, wanted to stay positive but really couldn't manage it today, it seemed. She had turned to her work and not even at this point

taken morning tea.

"Please take a seat, Harmony." Deidre waved at the chair in front of her desk.

"How can I help you?" Harmony asked her.

"You're not in any trouble, Harmony, but it has been brought to my attention. There are some sensitive issues going on. You're in the paper I saw, along with your *now* ex, and his new girlfriend." She shook her head a little. "Why people can't leave things alone I don't know..." she kind of sounded disappointed, to Harmony "How are you feeling today?" Deidre asked her.

Harmony frowned a little. "Um, confused to be honest." She finally answered her with full

honesty.

Deidre nodded her head. "I feel that, did you know I once had a similar issue myself?" she huffed. "Not a good memory and it's not a good feeling to find yourself suddenly in the papers without warning. My husband is 15 years older than I am, and I too went through what you're going through right now, having *to* be seen in the papers, I mean. Not the same situation."

"I *don't know* why it's in there, we've been over for nearly two and a half weeks now." Harmony

sighed, and she didn't understand it at all.

"Hmm, try and breathe, don't let it suffocate you, I got all sorts of names tossed at me, it wasn't pretty or fun, and can be downright demoralising at times. Lucky for me, I had Scott right there to back me up the whole time and didn't we show them. We have been married for 39 years now and are still happy."

"It's a bit different for me though." Harmony huffed "I don't have that."

"Actually you do. I believe Garrett is going to back you, like his father did I."

"Why? I don't understand that." And she didn't. She had been his secretary for all of two days

now, it was a bit weird in her books.

“My son, likes things to be fair, and well,” she sighed “On the quiet just between you and me now. He was going to marry at 18, found his fiancée cheating on him, caught her in bed with

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+ Points

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another, much like you did your man.”

“Oh, I didn’t know that.” And she’d not, couldn’t imagine anyone cheating on Garrett. He was happy and charming, seen to be liked by all those around him.

“Hmm, it was a long time ago, but it burned him. I’m still trying to get him to date.” She chuckled a little “But my boy is stubborn. He’s going to help you, it’s his nature, so it might seem as though he’s meddling a little bit. But really, he’s on your side and just wants to help.”

“He doesn’t need to, I imagine it’ll blow over at some point. I think the best course of action is to ignore it.” Harmony stated “I’m just a bit concerned as to how it will affect my *job* here at the company.” She sighed, telling her truthfully.

“Oh, there will be none of that. You, my dear, were wronged by that boy Damien and everyone

here will see that. We also don’t approve of gossip, so none will talk about it, likely just want to

know how you’re doing. We’re big on caring.”

“I kind of got that feeling,” she smiled just a little “I felt very welcomed into the company right

away.”

“Good that is what I wanted to hear. Now off you go back to work, Garrett was a bit concerned about you, called me to talk to you. Said you were more quiet than usual, and it was bothering

my boy.”

“Oh, I didn’t mean to do that.” She shook her head.

Deidre waved it off. “Not a problem, he’s observant is all. Take a breath, try and relax and just *go about* your day like any other. This company takes care of all its employees. I assure you of

that. Regardless of new or old.”

That was *nice to* hear, and Harmony walked out of Deidre’s office feeling a little better than when she had entered it. She was not in any trouble, just a check on how she was doing. It

was actually a nice feeling to know they cared.

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CH 23

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CH 23

Garrett

He could see Harmony was unhappy out there as she worked at her desk, she was only actually speaking to people when it was necessary. Nodded to them and accepted things

from them as per her job requirements, used that intercom *to* tell him if he had something important delivered.

But other than that, he could see there was a stack of things in her in-tray, that were for her to

come in here and be given to him. She was, he noted, sorting it into important need to have

now deliveries, or non-important it can wait until later deliveries. She thanked the staff with a

half-smile.

She was not her usual happy, friendly self, she was very unhappy out there, knowing that

everyone in the city, as well as in this office, he supposed, now knew that her boyfriend had cheated on her. He'd called his mother to have a chat with her after he'd realised she'd skipped

morning tea.

She was, he knew, burying herself in work. He understood that, but she needed to talk to someone, and who better than a Luna who could project calm and confidence, engage her trust and get her to talk openly about how she was feeling. He wasn't about to have Ryan go

and do it.

His unit were already all looking at him a little bit weirdly about his interactions with Harmony. Their eyes were all on him and her for that matter. Though they all knew he'd never been near her on a full moon, Wyatt was *of* the opinion he might know before that.

He was 38 and un-mated still, and they, like his mother were all waiting on the day when he

scented out a Mate.

His interest in the human woman had gained Wyatt's undivided attention, and he was certain those three had discussed it between themselves. Likely right down to what Wyatt heard in the club, how well a human girl had responded to him, handled all of him.

Just like his intervening in Harmony's life had gained his mother's attention, until he'd given her the reason as to why, and she'd backed off herself. Between what had happened to herself and himself, his mother could see why he'd wanted to and was going to step in. Had actually asked him if he was going to, because she wanted him to.

So her attention was diverted away from him, and why he was looking to help his secretary, as

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should have been his unit's, but it wasn't often he went out with anyone or sated his needs.

Wyatt had heard it all in that nightclub, and that one girl out there, a human girl, had more than been able to do that. He'd put it down to the fact that it had been awhile. Wyatt was of another opinion and liked to sit and smile at him about it, thought she could be his human

mate.

Hearing Ryan tell him she was annoyed, and concerned about how people were going to see her within the company now, after he'd walked passed her; he had felt her out with his Gamma Charm, of his own accord, had made Garrett frown and ask his Gamma why he'd done that.

"Because she was sick to her stomach, boss." Had come out of him. "Literally so," he'd shaken his head "I've felt that before but not many actually go and throw up. People are disgusted with others, or things they see all the time and gag occasionally, but she ran from the *room*

and threw up. That is odd."

"That's all it was though, right?"

"Yes, I got nothing else from her, she's pretty easy to read actually, likes her new job here, is happy to be working here or was on Thursday and Friday, just having a bad day today, and can you really blame her boss?"

"No," *he* shook his head, and he couldn't. He looked at his watch and mind-linked to his warriors on guard duty downstairs about the reporters. They were gone for the moment, which was *good*. He needed them *to* leave. He had one of them bring his car around to the front of the building. "I've got an errand to run Ryan, you and the boys hold the fort, so to speak."

"Where *are you* going?" Ryan asked, though Garrett looked right at him and his overly casual

tone.

"I have *need* to buy something. While I'm gone, please organise a security detail for Harmony's apartment. I don't think she needs reporters hanging out there, trying to get her to talk to

them."

"I can do that. Where are you going?" he asked once more.

“Out.” Garrett stated simply and stood up, it was almost lunchtime. He grabbed his jacket and headed out of the office. “Oh Ryan make sure Wyatt sees to no reporters around the building

entrance, or the car park.

“Of course, Garrett. How long will you

be?”

Garrett looked right at him and the man snorted and walked away. He shook his head and turned his attention to Harmony. She was looking right at him standing before her desk. “Are

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you going somewhere?” she asked “You have a meeting in an hour and a half.”

“I’m aware.” He nodded “Up, we have to go somewhere.” He commented.

“What?” she frowned at him, but watched her get up.

“Part of your duty to go with me on certain occasions. This would be one of them.” He nodded “Get your...” he looked at her sweater. “Coat, we’ll be leaving the building.”

“Oh, I don’t think.”

“Not your choice. Come I’m on limited time, as you’re aware.” He tapped his watch “Got to be

back for my meeting.”

She grabbed her sweater, and he watched her flag one of the receptionists *on* the way passed their desk. “Could you please take calls for Mr Owens while we’re out?” she asked the girl on

the desk.

“Of course, Harmony, just let me know when your back.”

“Will do.” She replied.

Garrett smiled as she stepped into the elevator with him, still doing her job diligently, making

sure her unmanned desk was still attended to. He'd watched her pick up her work diary, an A5 sized book with sections for notes and appointments, tasks to be done, his schedule was all

in there and he knew it. It had been his previous secretary's diary.

"Do you want a new one?" he asked her, tapping the diary.

"No, it's fine and this close to the new year, there is no point. Your mother already gave me a

new one for the new year. I've already started transcribing next year's appointments for you

into it."

"Ah, she's on the ball, I see."

"Yes. Where are we going?" Harmony asked as they stepped out of the elevator into the lobby.

"I have need of my secretary's opinion on some Christmas shopping." He smiled at her, "I have

two sisters and a mother to shop for."

Her eyes moved right to him and then to her watch, "You left it this late. Two days till Christmas, you'll be lucky to get a park in the allotted time you've given yourself."

Garrett chuckled "Who said anything about parking? We'll have a driver today."

"The lines will still be quite bad, it's going to be completely crazy out there. You know that,

right?"

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+4 Peasts

"That's the fun part of Christmas shopping." He chuckled softly "Besides, it's not like we're

about to hit the local malls. We'll be exclusively shopping."

“Oh.” Was all she stated, as she pulled on her sweater, and he knew she understood what he

meant.

They were in the car and gone a moment later. “You should pick up a new winter coat while we’re out. That is not warm enough.” He stated.

“It’s all I have for the moment. I’ll get something at the Boxing Day sales.” She replied simply.

Garrett nodded and sat and watched her in the car. He had the driver turn the heat up. He didn’t feel that cold, but she would. Rarely ever did he turn the heat on in his car, but Harmony

was human, so would feel it all.

They got out, and he walked her from the car across the footpath and right into Nordstorm and right to the women’s coat department section. “Find something suitable.” He motioned for

her to browse the racks.

“What?” she frowned up at him.

“You need a new coat. I’ll be buying my mother and sisters coats as well. Mother is about your size, help me pick something out for her.” he told her when he realised, she wasn’t just about

to let him purchase her a coat.

But this was his goal for their little outing. “I don’t know what they like,” she muttered.

“Something warm and well-fitted, drapes beautifully. Anything I buy them will be appreciated.” Garrett smiled at her as he gave her a little push towards the racks. He strolled on passed her, to look about himself, but kept her in sight as well.

He was looking for something for her himself, found a lovely dark blue double-breasted three-quarter-length winter coat with a flare from the waist out down to below the knee, and smiled to himself as he held it up to her. “Try this on for me.” he stated.

She raised an eyebrow at him but took her sweater off and reached for it just as he spotted a lovely grey three-buttoned mid-thigh-length coat that would also be good for her, for when the

weather started to warm up.

Garrett walked over to it to take it from the rack, and turned back to look at her as she called out his name. That coat on her was lovely, and he watched her pull her hair from the neck of it, and it splayed about her, making him smile. "It looks good on you." he commented and

checked the size of the coat in his hand.

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It was her size and as he made his way through the racks towards her, he held up the grey one,

"I'll take that, try this one on for me." he stated as he saw a woman grab on to her and spin her

around.

"Well, well, well, look who it is, Harmony, and your still trying to play the wealthy card, even

though your dirt poor."

He heard Harmony gasp as his eyes moved to the woman, Chloe Silverton. His jaw tightened

as he made his way over there. She was looking to pick a fight with Harmony. Had the woman

not done enough to Harmony, already?

"Let me go Chloe." Harmony yanked her arm from the girl's hand.

"You can't shop here, you can't afford it." Chloe sneered at her. "Damien will never spend a

scent on you anymore." Shot at Harmony and pulled out a bank card, he saw Damien's name

on it, "He's mine now."

"You can have him," Harmony stated simply and turned to walk away.

It didn't look like she wanted to talk to the other woman.

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CH 24

Harmony

She turned at the sound of a voice she did not want to have to deal with, knew it was Chloe, and she was standing there with her younger sister, both of them looking all smugly at her.

She didn't care that Chloe was with Damien, the woman could have him and his money as far as she was concerned. But she didn't have to stand there and put up with being grabbed onto by her. Told her she could have him, and she could. He was nothing but a cheating pig. That Harmony no longer wanted anything to do with him.

Yes, she was poor and on limited funds, but it was her money, she wasn't out there buying things with someone else's money, flashing that card around and flaunting that she needed someone else to buy her things. She could support herself, work hard and earn her own

money.

Though she came to a halt as she saw the angry look on Garrett's face as he stepped passed her and turned in time to see his hand clamped around Chloe's wrist, as she looked to be going to grab Harmony by the hair, she wasn't yet ready to let go of their interaction it seemed.

"I wouldn't touch Harmony." Garrett grated out "And if anyone isn't worthy of being in this store it's a homewrecker, you're nothing but a mistress." He sneered nastily down at her.

Harmony reached out to touch him *to* stop him. There was no need to intervene, she could just walk away, as could he. That was all that was needed right that minute, she didn't care what Chloe had *to* say *or* thought. She knew she'd not done anything wrong. This was just Chloe being spiteful and vindictive because she'd been outed as Garrett had just said; as being a

mistress.

She saw Chloe's eyes widen as she stared up at him. He was very tall and well-built. He was also not of the girls' social circle, and was much older than she was. It looked to

Harmony that Chloe didn't know who he was. "How dare you touch me, get your filthy hands off me, I'm Chloe Silverton." she tried to pull away from him "She's nothing but a..."

Garrett suddenly yanked that woman right up to him as he leaned down and put his face close to hers. "I wouldn't go there, or I will turn the press on you, and your filthy need to ruin others' lives. Do you want to see how much dirt I can dig up on you, Miss Silverton?" his voice was low and menacing, and it sent a shiver of almost fear down her own spine.

"You, your nobody." Chloe arched her other hand up to slap him.

1/5

CH 24

Harmony watched him lean back out of the way easily, of the hit she tried to land on him, and

then the woman was flung away from him, and she stumbled and fell on her ass in an undignified manner, and Harmony thought it was his intent.

She grabbed on to his coat. "Garrett, it's alright, let's just leave." She murmured at him.

"Why should I, why should you?" he asked right back, and took a step away from her. "Stay there Harmony, I will deal with this horrid woman, of no class."

She saw Chloe's sister stoop down to pick her up, and ask her if she was okay, and she saw

two store clerks run this way kind of frantically. "I'm sorry Mr Owens, for this inconvenience,

I've called security." One of them told him.

"Yes, call security. I want to press charges against him." Chloe stated as she stood up finally

and brushed out her dress.

Harmony stepped to Garrett's side and tugged at his arm to try and make him leave. He was

causing a scene and people were starting to mill about "Garrett please." She hissed at him.

He didn't move, just glanced at her before she saw both the store clerks turn and stare at

Chloe nearly horrified, and one gasp out. "You want to press charges against Mr Owens?" kind

of sounded mortified about that turn of events.

"I don't think I want to shop where people like this." Garrett suddenly stated, and waved his

hand in Chloe's direction, "rude, ill-mannered woman shops, either remove her, or I'll take

myself, my family and all my company's business elsewhere." He stated, and Harmony saw

horror cross both those clerks faces.

"Oh, like your *some* big hot shot." Chloe stated, "I'm going to be Damien Blackwell's wife."

"I'm Garrett Owens of Owens Constructions." Garrett smiled right at her, and Harmony saw

Chloe's eyes go very wide at the news.

He was a full 10 years older, a generation gap between them, he was also responsible and

respectful and didn't go out there to be seen swanning about in the society pages. He was

only in the business world news, not something Chloe would read on a daily basis, but would

know his name and company.

"And you're just a mistress, nothing more, never will be." Garrett stated "Either she leaves the

store or I will."

She could see the store's security coming this way hurriedly. "Garrett please," she murmured,

taking off the coat.

2/5

CH 24

"I've got this Harmony, I can see why you left the Blackwell's company," he announced loudly. "No one working there has any class, or brains. Certainly, no loyalty to those around them. I'm glad you've come to work for me."

She watched as Chloe's younger sister started pulling her away from them. "Stop it, Damien's father will be furious with you if you, anger Mr Owens. He's already angry at you and Damien. Don't make things worse." She heard Margarete hiss at her sister.

Chloe glared at her, and then turned and stalked down the aisle away from them. She sighed and found Garrett's eyes right on her. "Are you alright?" he asked her gently, reached out and

took her arm "Did she hurt you?"

"No," Harmony shook her head. "You shouldn't involve yourself in things like that."

"That girl was going to grab you by the hair and try to humiliate you. I will not stand for that, when she was the one that ruined things for you."

"It's fine, just let it go. I don't want to be a part of it, Garrett. Let them be together, if that is what they want." She sighed "I only wish he'd left me before going to her is all." she shook her

head a little.

He sighed and touched her face, "You're too forgiving, do you know that," He murmured "Come *on*, let's get these coats and get something to eat."

"I'm *not* really hungry." She muttered and she wasn't.

He collected the coat she was *now* holding and walked to the counter. "I'll take both of these."

He stated and held out a card *to* the clerk.

"We should get back to the office, Garrett, perhaps being out in public is not a good idea for me at the moment," she murmured as they walked away.

She heard him sigh, "*You* shouldn't have to hide away, Harmony. They should be the ones hiding from public view, after what they did to you. Not the other way around."

“They like the limelight,” she muttered. “And I’d much prefer not to be in it.”

“Alright.” He nodded and they headed back outside.

She huffed as she realised she’d left her sweater back there in the store and turned to look back as the bracing cold of the winter’s day hit her. Only to find Garrett putting that blue coat

around her. “Here, put this on,” he stated.

“I can’t wear that, it’s for your

mother.”

“Is it really? Or did I trick you into thinking that, so you’d allow me to buy you a proper coat.”

3/5

CH 24

He smiled at her.

Her eyes widened as she stared up at him. “You needed one; had to return the last one. It’s winter and snowing, cold to freezing, you need a proper jacket.” He shrugged “Come on, here comes the car.” He stated as he buttoned up that jacket for her. He grabbed her hand and tugged her towards his car that was now pulling up at the curb.

She’d not even seen him call for his car. That was weird. He pulled her right into the car next to him and nodded to his driver, then looked right at her. “Harmony have you checked the trending topics today?” he asked her “To see who the press are siding with.”

“No, and I don’t want to know either,” was her only reply.

“Hmm, well, I think you’d be pleasantly surprised, 90% is in your favour. The people are calling Damien a bastard, and the lowest of low. There is also, from what I’ve seen this morning, a comparison going on between you and Chloe, likely why she came at you just now.

“You’re winning that, by the way, she’s been labelled as the mistress who ruined your up-coming engagement and future marriage into the Blackwell family. You did see the time and date stamp on that piece about Damien buying an engagement ring.”

“Yes, and we discussed it just the week before, he was caught cheating on me.” she nodded “I was expecting him *to propose on Christmas Day.*” She sighed.

“The high society socialites also understand this, that, that ring was for you, because they track everything in their world *to* keep up with the goings–on, even ones older than I am, because they are *looking for good* marriage material for their own children or grandchildren

even.

She did *know* all that, had *seen* it with Mr and Mrs Blackwell themselves, sitting at breakfast talking across the table about the other wealthy children they knew who were in the society pages of the papers. They were looking for a match for their 22–year–old daughter themselves

in the same way.

“The other 10%?” she muttered.

“Well, not everyone is going to be on your side, everyone has their own opinion,” Garrett commented. “There is a little bit of backlash along the lines of ‘what did she expect, she’s poor and comes from nothing. Did she really think she could hold onto a wealthy Batchelor

like Damien’?”

Harmon looked at him and shook her head. “Well now, they are right, I guess aren’t they.”

“It’s not your fault, Harmony, you do understand that, right?” he commented.

4/5

CH 24

“I know he was the one to cheat. I was faithful, but they are also not wrong. I came from nothing; my parents were university professors, nothing more.”

E

14K

Watch Ads (0/20) >

Vote

5/5

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,818 words]

CH 25

Garrett.

Garrett had strolled into the office with Harmony right there next to him wearing that new coat,

he'd reached out and removed the tag from it while in the car, and as they'd gotten out, he'd

handed her the other bag and leaned over to her ear "This one is yours *too*." he'd murmured "Just to help try and cheer you up. I like it when my secretary is happy." He'd stated simply.

She huffed at him "I can buy my own things."

"I'm sure you can, but payday isn't until tomorrow, and being you've only worked here for two days, I think your pay will be small."

"I'll pay you back for them." She'd told him, and he'd nodded at her, she was independent.

"Okay, I'll draw up the p*****t schedule if you like." he'd chuckled softly "Say over, oh, ten years. So you'll have to agree to work for me for that long." He winked at her as they'd walked into the building, and she'd shaken her head at him a little.

He'd returned to his office and watched her sit at her desk; he'd wanted to take her out for lunch as well, but after that incident with Chloe there was, he thought, no hope of getting her to agree to sit in a nice restaurant with him. Not when it was a possibility that Damien and all

his friends could see her there.

He sat at his desk and checked on the stock market and the continued trolling of Damien Blackwell's name, and to see just what kind of damage was being done out there. Blackwell Industries share price had fallen, with the news of the heir to the company's blatant public display of s****I behaviour, in a nightclub that saw him cheating on his long-time girlfriend. It

was still losing its value, he saw.

Damien, the future of that company, was now seen to be as irresponsible and unfaithful. Disloyal and untrustworthy were the words that were being used in the business world. And those two things you did not want attached to any of your company's CEO's or higher-ups, let

alone the future of the company.

Investors would see it as Damien wasn't going to be a good leader, that they wouldn't be able to trust him to make an honest deal with them and their company. Some would see it as he would make a deal, and back out of it if he felt like it, uncaring of what the other party's

investment was.

He could see that Gregory Blackwell was due to hold a press conference that afternoon. That

1/5

CH 25

+3 Points

man was on damage control and Garrett knew it. His son's actions were affecting the shareholders' and investors' opinions. That company was run much like his own was.

With a family vibe, passed down from one generation to the next, Damien had gone off to university and studied the right degrees, and was, from all accounts, intelligent and a good businessman, who had learned the ropes well, was expected to be a good CEO when the reins

were handed over to him in a few years' time.

He was currently a Junior Vice President of the company, and had worked in many departments, done the hard yards to earn his place over the years. But it was *now* his playboy reputation that was now hindering everything. For the past three years he'd been seen to be well settled with a steady girlfriend, and the company's shareholders and board members were likely expecting Damien to get married and become a family man in keeping with the

company's image.

He'd had everything he wanted, until that night he just couldn't seem to keep it in his pants. His true nature was now being shown to their company's board of directors and shareholders, and all their investors now wanted answers. He was curious as to how Gregory was going to

handle it.

He would sit and watch that press conference, considering there was more to come on Boxing Day. Damien should never have made Harmony cry. Come Boxing Day, Gregory Blackwell and his shareholders, investors and potential investors, those that were now trying to broker business deals with Blackwell Industries, were going to see just how vindictive and cruel Damien Blackwell truly was and those other companies and businesses were going to be backing out. Could well see his banks calling for loan repayments before the company takes a

further dive in the stock market.

Whatever spin he was going to put on the events released today, were not going to help, because the next reveal was all about the terrible, mean, nasty and very hurtful references he'd given. Showing just how very unprofessional Damien could be.

Which would imply if a company left the Blackwell Industry for whatever reason. Damien would be bad-mouthing them and trying to do everything to ruin their reputation, and destroy them just like he was trying to do to Harmony.

That boy was in for a world of pain. He could well see him and his family lose everything and all within a short few months as well. He hoped the boy had some gumption, and could stand up to the same sort of attack on himself that he was trying to do to Harmony. Garrett wondered if he would cry and beg his father to fix it.

2/5

+8 Paint

CH 25

He'd headed off to the cafeteria for lunch, as had his unit and everyone up here on the 12th

floor. They all generally ate together, it was a wolfen social thing, and the humans also.

seemed to like it. He saw Harmony sit and stare aimlessly out the window after getting coffee,

and he sighed internally, she'd gone back to being quiet.

‘Ryan.’ He mind–linked to his Gamma ‘Harmony?’ he questioned.

It took a full minute for Ryan to get back to him ‘Hmm, a little odd, she’s actually *not* feeling

very well, has a headache and is tired.’ Ryan told him.

She was stressed, he thought, about the day’s events. He’d tried to lighten her *mood* a little,

but that had been a bust because of Chloe Silverton turning up and harassing her.

Though he watched her smile as other secretaries sat down at her table and struck up conversations with her, and each other, and he watched her mood pick up a little, as she

joined in the conversation herself.

‘Relief.’ Ryan commented a moment later down the mind–link ‘that no one here is treating her any differently. I think she thought that they would be.’

He nodded it was good, and leaned back in his chair as his phone alerted him to a new thread from the netizens out there. There was footage of Chloe having a go at Harmony. It showed Harmony trying to walk away, not wanting to get into it with the girl, and Chloe trying to make her. Showed him even getting involved, and Harmony trying to stop him, telling him to just let it go, they could leave.

He smiled as he watched it and read the threads about Harmony having more class and not starting anything. Trying to walk away and how Chloe was seen to be spiteful. They all thought she was still jealous of Harmony, and well, why wouldn’t a mistress be?

Chloe was now seen as vindictive and out there waving Damien’s credit card in Harmony’s face, she’d copped the title of ‘an unclassy gold–digging mistress, he liked that, hadn’t even

had to set it up himself.

No, the other customers in the store had filmed it all, and released it themselves; it amused him, all the comments about how there was no need for it, that Chloe had gotten the man, so why was she such a b***h? It hadn’t gone un–noticed that Harmony hadn’t said a single nasty

word.

His eyes moved to Harmony as she stood up, and her hand suddenly clutched at the table in front of her, to steady herself. He watched her sway on her feet, and stood up

himself instinctively, as he saw two she-wolves at the table grab onto her as well
“Harm?” one of them

asked.

3/5

CH 25

+ Points

“I’m alright.” She nodded “I haven’t had anything to eat or drink since breakfast, other than this cup of coffee, dizzy.” She smiled at them a little.

He sighed as one of the girls got up, and she was pulled gently back down into her seat, and

food and a bottle of water was placed in front of her a moment later. “You should eat.” She

was told.

He sat himself back down a little unhappy about her not feeling well, and now this, she hadn’t

eaten anything at all, she was stressed, and it was affecting her health, it seemed. His eyes

moved to his unit to find them all staring at him, with more than a little curiosity on their faces

now.

Wyatt connected to all of them ‘Garrett are you sure you don’t...you know scent Harmony?’

‘I don’t scent her, I’ve told you all this before. Why are you looking at me like that?’ he questioned right back, wondering just how many times he had to say it.

‘Well, boss’ Dallas commented ‘You kind of just reacted like a Mate would.’

‘What?’ Garrett frowned as he looked at all of them in turn, ‘I don’t scent her, she’s not my

Mate, if I did, do you think Damien's head would still be attached to his body right now?' he

stated firmly and dissolved the mind-link to them all, as they all slowly nodded.

He did have a temper, and no Alpha would let another treat their Mate or future Mate if she

was human, as Harmony was by that boy. No, the boy would simply just disappear, because

he was human and of no consequence to their world. Harming a Luna, his Luna when he

found her, that was no-no, he'd never let it happen.

Garrett returned to his office, with a shake of his head. He'd never actually laid eyes on Harmony before that night at the Tripple Moon Club. His eyes moved to her as she sank down

at her desk, and a part of him wondered if it was possible. It wasn't the first time he'd shown concern for the human woman. A part of him really did want to protect the woman, and he'd not liked thinking she was feeling unwell.

He shook it off. Huntley hadn't scented the woman out, so it was not that, he returned his

attention to his work, but got up and closed the door to his office after 20 minutes, and his

eyes had wandered to her half a dozen times. His bloody unit was in his head, putting ideas in

there.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,885 words]

CH 26

Harmony

+3 Point:

She frowned at Garrett as he stood before her desk just on knock off time, she was just packing up her belongings to head home for the day. "Harmony, if *you* could accompany me *to* the conference room." He'd stated, and she'd looked from him to Wyatt who was standing just behind him, and then standing down the hall was Ryan and Dallas.

'Great.' She thought to herself, she was being called in for a meeting with all the CEOs of the

company. "Is Deidre going to be there as well?" she asked, knowing if this was something

really bad, the head of HR would likely be involved in the meeting.

"No, stop thinking bad things. I've already told you, Harmony, that your place is here. I meant

that. There, however, is a press conference being held by Gregory Blackwell in five minutes."

"And I need to be there for that because?" she frowned at him as she stepped around the

desk.

"Because he called the company multiple times, as has his wife and Damien, they've all tried

to speak with you, Gregory got put through to Wyatt here after he insisted on speaking with you. Something I have stopped all of them from doing. I don't see a need for you to deal with.

them. He, however, is of another opinion."

"I don't have anything to say to anyone in Blackwell Industries." She shook her head.

"That is what I told them." Wyatt smiled at her, "I also took that box of things directly over to

the Blackwell Estate, and personally handed it over to Mrs Blackwell herself, and made sure to

show her the family heirloom was in there. She came right to the gate."

“Alright.” She nodded.

“She didn’t seem to understand why I was returning your things. Muttered something about a

gift is a gift, and she wanted you to have that broach still.” Wyatt smiled at her.

“I just want no ties left to them is all.”

“That’s pretty much exactly what I told her.” he nodded as they all walked down the hallway to

the conference room.

“So why the press release?” Harmony asked.

“His shares took a dive from today’s fallout of his sons’ behaviour. He’s likely looking to try and stop it falling any further, and he is probably going to have Damien apologise formally to

1/5

+ Poin

CH 26

you in full view of the public.” Garrett told her simply.

“I don’t want it.” she muttered, and she didn’t.

“Hmm, understood, but he asked when he spoke to Wyatt that you watch it. Seeing as you’re not taking his calls personally or at your desk. Did you block his number?”

“No, I simply turned my phone silent, I saw him call, I didn’t care *to* answer it.”

“Good, continue to do that.” Garrett smiled at her and pushed into the conference *room*. Ushered her to a seat and then slid a tray of snack food across to her. “It might run long, and already there are press downstairs, waiting on you to come from the building, i’m guessing they’re going to want to get your opinion on whatever he states.”

“Just great.” She muttered “My nice quiet life is down the drain, I see.”

All of them laughed a little at her now, and she shook her head. “It’s really not funny.” She

muttered.

“Hmm, well, we’re planning on getting you out of here on the sly if necessary, so just relax.”

Dallas smiled at her “And we’re good at sneaking about.”

“Had to be, with our dads.” Ryan chuckled “Bloody hard to get past that lot.”

She heard Garrett laugh, as he sank down after bringing hot drinks to the table for all of them,

he held out a cup of tea to her.

“I don’t really drink tea.” She commented and shook her head.

He just nodded and went back to get her a glass of water, and then sank down next to her.

She watched the screen light up in front of them and was expecting to see a podium right in the middle of Gregory’s conference room or out the front of his company, with lots of microphones attached to it like any normal press release his company would do.

However, that was not what she saw, it was a picture of the family estate and the gates were open, there was a view of the house in the background, and Gregory Blackwell was walking down the driveway towards the gathered crowd, his wife Laurel right there next to him.

“Oh, it’s a personal plea,” Ryan snorted, sounding amused to her.

“Personal?” she questioned.

“Mm, looks to be going to be tailored to you specifically, a proper apology, and they want your acceptance of it. You got along well with them?” Garrett asked.

“I did.” She nodded, “They’re nice people.”

2/5

+8 Point

CH 26

“They’re going to appeal to your caring nature. If he can get you to accept and forgive his son, that will bring shares in the company back up a little, stopping the downward trend.”

She shook her head, she didn't see Damien anywhere there at all, he wasn't going to apologise to her, so why should she forgive him?

Gregory stepped up and hushed the gathered crowd. "Firstly I would like to thank *you* all for coming here to my estate, a little out of your way." he addressed the reporters, "Now, I would like to get directly to the point... and apologise to Harmony Preston for the unfortunate press she has gotten today. It was not very flattering and unwarranted, I feel.

"Yes, my son Damien and Miss Harmony Preston have broken up, many weeks ago, due to."

He took in a breath and sighed heavily, "All that has been seen in the papers today. My son,

Damien, has greatly disappointed not only his long-term and loving girlfriend, Harmony Preston, but myself and my wife, Laurel."

He turned and looked at her, and she sighed and looked apologetically to the crowd, nodded

her head almost solemnly, Harmony thought. "We both found Harmony to be an intelligent,

bright and caring young woman, that we liked very much.

"My son greatly regrets the events of that night. So much so he is ashamed of his actions and can't face Harmony here today, in this press release. He has told me he was more than drunk that night. Something I nor my wife approve of..." the man sighed and shook his head as if disappointed.

"He was out celebrating his birthday as well as our company's Christmas party, and it got out of hand. He admits to wronging Miss Preston that night. But he has also stated it is not who he is. He loves Harmony, and wants *to* marry her. This was just a silly slip up on his behalf,

which he deeply regrets.

"Damien has asked that I, relay to you, Harmony, that he has never touched another throughout your relationship, he would never do this to you, still loves you. To please forgive

him, that this was a one-off drunken incident.

“He is greatly saddened that he has hurt you, Harmony. That he is now hurting himself because of this. Hurt that you not only left him, but the company as well, and have steadfastly refused to even speak with him, when he’s reached out to you multiple times to apologise, and see if things can be worked out and forgiven. Due to this being the one and only time he has

strayed...”

“Bullshit.” She muttered and found many sets of eyes on her. She waved it off, but she didn’t

believe that for a single second anymore. Not with all the times she passed out drunk, after

3/5

CH 26

+ Paints

he’d plied her with alcohol, and she’d woken up to find him and Chloe in the apartment.

together chatting happily.

“We would like to sit down with you, Harmony. We, my wife and I, feel very saddened by your sudden leaving of our son, our family, and we feel it can be worked out. He would also like the chance to show you his remorse and guilt over his one-time drunken accident.”

She could hear the crowd of reporters yelling out questions about Damien and Chloe having been seen together, the entire time since the break-up, why would he *do* that if he wanted Harmony back, why he was seen with the other woman, that destroyed their relationship.

“Chloe Sliverton is a childhood friend of my son Damien. She didn’t intend *to* get involved in this either, she was also more than a little tipsy and regrets the incident. She is only with him at the moment to try and console him is all. They are friends and nothing more. Have been friends since they were small children.”

“Yeah, console him in his bed.” Someone yelled out.

“That is not true,” Gregory stated.

“It is true, they’re all over each other in the clubs, your son isn’t devastated at all, going out there with Chloe on his arm, kissing her in public. Let’s hear from your son and his mistress.”

“I don’t know anything about that. As for Chloe, as far as I know, she is currently not even in the state. Gone off on some family vacation for the holidays and won’t be returning until after

the new year.”

“Did your son go with her? Is that why he’s not here right now?” someone yelled.

“No, he did not, and I think you’ll all find he’s on his way to Harmony right this very minute, to apologise in person.” He held his hands up to shush them all. “I’m certain the reporters will

see him do so.”

She watched him look right at the camera, “Harmony, please a one–off incident that can be worked out. That is what we all want. For you to come back to us, be our daughter in–law. Please do see to giving Damien a second chance. Unfortunately, no one is perfect; it was just one error on his part, which he deeply regrets.”

She watched him turn and walk away with his wife, and sighed heavily. She did not want to

see that man, let alone hear an apology that she knew he didn’t mean, and was being forced

to make by his father.

“You don’t believe any of that?” Garrett asked.

4/5

CH 26

+ Point:

“No.” she sighed “Well, maybe Mr and Mrs Blackwell’s regret, but nothing from Damien. I’ve had a lot of time to think back on our relationship and I know without a doubt, that was not

the first time he’d been with Chloe.” She muttered “I was so bloody blind. I should have seen it.

”

“You’d only have seen it if they wanted you too. People like Damien and his father can hide all manner of things. A mistress is easy to do, especially if they’re in plain sight all

the time, as part of the social circle or working environment, and she was both of that, as well as his childhood friend.” Garrett murmured and leaned on the table.

“Accounts for all the press downstairs.” Wyatt commented “I’ll see if he’s down there.”

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

[1,997 words]

CH 27

48 Parts

CH 27

Garrett.

He’d sent Ryan and Dallas home an hour later, and to cruise on past Harmony’s place across town, only to have them report, that not only were there reporters downstairs outside the office. That there were also several of them out by the car park near Harmony’s car and at the entrance to the underground car park, for their ranked members that worked in the building.

It seems they had all the exits covered, and then they reported that there were many reporters camped out there waiting by her apartment complex even. He was hoping they’d all go home with it being so bloody cold outside. But it seems not.

He and Wyatt had discussed with Harmony about spending the night here in the office. She wasn’t overly fussed about it, but he assured her there were plenty of comfortable office lounges around. Had even told her if she wanted a bed to sleep in, there were several available beds down in the medical wards on the 3rd and 4th floors.

She’d just stared at him and huffed “They’re not going to go away are they!” not a question but

a statement.

He didn’t think so and neither did Wyatt. “It’s likely they’ve been paid to be there, to capture your reaction and response to Damien.” That man was also downstairs and had tried to come into the building, had been turned away by security. He had stated loudly for all out there to hear “I’m not leaving until I can talk to Harmony. I know she’s in there.” And from all reports, was now standing downstairs freezing his backside off along with the press.

Garrett was curious as to how long that man was going to stand out there, or had his father told him to bloody stay there and freeze until she spoke to him. Could well be punishing that boy of his for his stupidity.

He was nice enough to have hot food delivered to those downstairs, and he strolled on down there to smile at them all himself. "I see you're all intending on freezing to death, I'll provide hot food, but please don't die on my company doorstep, I don't want that."

He'd heard a few of them chuckling, and he'd had a coffee van park itself over in the drop-off zone, paid that man a handsome sum to stay there as long as the reporters were there.

Damien looked right at him and Garrett smiled and leaned on the door. Everything was locked up bar this door, he wasn't going to get passed him or his men. Had come down here to see just what that man really wanted.

1/5

+8 Points

CH 27

No one here knew he and Harmony had had s*x that night, bar Damien. "How can I help you, Damien?" he asked casually.

"I want to speak with Harmony. Let me see her."

"It's not about me letting her. It's about her not wanting to."

"I don't believe that." Damien grated out.

"I don't really care what you want. I believe in her words your cheating only one was 'Bullshit.' She doesn't believe that, said she's really been thinking about everything, between you and

Chloe, and now realises it was more than just once."

"It wasn't."

"Not even I believe that. You know, if you could keep it in your pants, none of this would be

happening."

"You're one to talk." Damien grated. "After what you did with..."

Garrett leaned off the door and took a step towards him. "I wouldn't go there, you might not

like what you get in return. Say one nasty thing about Harmony, and I'll pound you into the

ground and feed you to the wolves."

"You need to stay out of this," Damien grated out.

"Actually no I don't, you involved me the moment you decided to have s*x in my nightclub. Made your beautiful girlfriend cry right on my chest. So I am involved and unless Harmony

wants me to stay out of it, and tells me that herself. I will stand by her side and support her.

Protect her from the likes of you, and your

mistress."

"I don't have a mistress." Damien stated, "Chloe is nothing, never was."

Garrett smiled. "I hope she handles hearing that after what she said to Harmony today in the

store; going to be your wife, I believe is what she stated. It's quite convenient, don't you think?

That she's suddenly nowhere to be seen after making such an ugly mess for your father to

clean up. Did your father send her away, I wonder?"

He saw Damien's jaw tighten. "I would leave, even if Harmony comes downstairs it will be with

me by her side." He turned to look at the gathered reporters. "Blackwell's loss is Owens' gain, and any of you that think it's wise to slander her name will come up against me and my legal

team." He looked at Damien and stated, "This little display will get you nowhere." He walked

over to him and murmured just for him, "The battle has just begun, I have so much dirt on you,

it's not funny. Walk away or go down in flames and take daddy's company with you."

2/5

CH 27

+9 Paint

Then he just turned and strolled away back into his office building, and locked the door as a

show to them all that none of them would be getting in, or that Harmony would be coming out.

via them.

He walked upstairs and found her sitting in the cafeteria, her chin in her hands staring at the TV on the wall, looking bored to him. "What do you normally do at this hour of the night?"

"Nothing much; dinner and TV or read a book." She sighed.

"I've got dinner coming. It's been ordered Wyatt will go and get it in like 10 minutes."

"Alright." She nodded "You know you don't have to be here, just go home."

"Oh really?" He stated and sat down next to her "And you think I believe you'll just stay put? I

think you're trying to lull me into a false sense of security."

"Never." She snorted.

Garrett chuckled, "it's not very comfortable sitting there for a long time. Come on, we'll sit in my office, there's a TV in there with all the channels you could possibly want."

"What?" she frowned at him. "I've not seen a TV in there."

"I'm sneaky, that mirror on the far wall of my office is actually a TV. Sometimes I work late and

crash out on my couch."

"Oh I bet it's more like avoiding your mum trying to play matchmaker." She laughed but got up.

“Ah! You got me.” he grinned at her, and they walked to his office and he saw her seated comfortably on the couch before going to get the remote and flicking it to TV mode. He

handed her the remote. “Put what you want on.”

“You got a preference?”

“Anything but the news, I’ve had enough of that for the day.” He pulled his jacket off and sank down in an armchair. Wyatt found them 20 minutes later and placed meals on the coffee table. Looked at Harmony and smiled at her when she sat up from being all stretched out.

“I didn’t really know what you liked, but I figured couldn’t go wrong with pasta, Wyatt commented.

“I like pasta,” she smiled up at him and thanked him as they all sat to eat.

‘She looks comfortable in your office.’ Wyatt mind–linked to him while they ate.

‘Appears that way.’ Garrett answered him with a nod. She had made herself comfortable, taken her shoes off and had leaned back on the arm of the couch with her legs stretched out in front

3/5

+9 Points

CH 27

of her. Likely how she sat at home when watching TV.

He watched as Harmony actually fell asleep on his couch a little while later and smiled to

himself. She had no concerns about him or Wyatt being in this office with her, she just curled

up on the couch and rested her head on the back of it, and then a few minutes later sleep had

claimed her.

He got up and shifted her slightly to lay all the way down, and she settled right away. He

retrieved her new coat and draped it over her for a blanket. "You know Garrett, I don't think

Dallas is wrong." He commented quietly.

"Wrong about what?" Garrett asked, looking at his Beta with a slight frown.

"How you react, it is kind of Mate like."

"You lot all need to let it go." He muttered, "come on, let's leave her to sleep." He headed out of

his own office. Wyatt followed him.

"Don't let your mother see you do stuff like that, she'll be pressing you to be in front of her on

the next full moon." Wyatt smirked at him.

"Don't you dare." Garrett frowned at him.

"Would I dare to tell the Luna what your entire unit is thinking?"

"I'll beat you one." Garrett muttered.

"Ah come on, she's lovely, you enjoyed the s*x. I know that, and she handled you, a human handled you, and now you're all protective and worried about her. You can't tell me you don't

see it even a little bit. You're not blind, I know that."

"I'm not blind and yes, I like the girl." He finally admitted, "But not my Mate."

"You don't know that. You've never been with her on a full moon could well be. Perhaps you

should be within scenting range this coming full moon just to be certain."

"It's a Saturday and there is no mating ball this coming moon. I'll be staying home inside the pack, with a few 18-year-old wolves that have not had there first shift but will also be of scenting age as well. i need to be in the pack. Harmony lives across town so it's unlikely to

happen."

“Probably not the best thing, Garrett. You, I think, need to be near her. The boys and I are all betting on her being the one. Your dad can be in the pack.”

“Don’t go telling people that,” Garrett muttered as they walked into Wyatt’s office, and stretched out themselves to get some rest, they could sleep anywhere.

4/5

CH 27

+9 Points

His eyes snapped open to hurried footsteps going down the hall outside Wyatt’s office, and he

got up, as he saw Wyatt sit up bleary-eyed, “It’s Harmony.” He stated and waved the man back

to sleep, but got up himself to see where she was going.

He saw her heave and gag and stagger to a stop, snap a hand over her mouth and then just

rush into the cafeteria; it was closer than the ladies’ room, and he followed her in there to see

her heave over the sink.

Garrett walked over to her and put a hand on her back. “Harmony, are you alright?” he asked

as he watched her just kind of sag over the sink with her head down. He rubbed her back to try

and provide some sort of comfort.

She rinsed and spit and pushed herself up and turned to look at him. She looked terrible, he realised, as his hand slid from her back to her hip and then across her abdomen as she turned

to fully face him “I feel terrible.” She muttered, and he watched as her eyes rolled back in her

head, and then she passed out right in front of him.

He snagged her around the waist with one hand, but it wasn't her passing out that had his undivided attention. It was the way his hand was on her abdomen, and the furiously beating

heartbeat he was picking up in there.

15

Watch Ads (0/20) >

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5/5

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[1,893 words]

CH 28

Garrett

His eyes moved over her and landed right on her stomach as Huntley roused inside his mind,

at the excitement that was starting to build inside his human, which was now filtering into his

beast; it had woken his wolf, and he was curious himself and wanted *to* look Harmony for himself, when he realised why Garrett was so very happy, all of a sudden.

Yes, she was definitely pregnant, and Garrett could smell it now, pick it up for what it was, now that he understood what was going on with her. How sweet she smelled to him. He felt

Huntley focus solely on that particular thing; her being pregnant.

Garret was shifted all the way to the back of his mind, as Huntley pushed forward to take full

control of him, a second later. Garrett prayed that Harmony wouldn't regain consciousness

while his beasts' brilliant green eyes stared down at her, assessing her for what he thought was their own pup growing inside of her. He didn't want her to wake up and see his beast on

the surface and become scared of them.

Huntley lifted her face all the way up to his, as his head tilted a little 'What's wrong with her?'

he asked as he realised, she was not conscious.

'She threw up and then fainted is all.' Garrett told him. 'Stated wasn't feeling so well.'

He watched as Huntley assessed her himself, her heart rate; it was good and strong and her breathing was regular and even, she had simply just fainted; pregnant women were known to

do that.

He moved his face right to hers and looked at her for a long moment. Then he just leaned

down and buried his face right into her neck and smelled her all long and deep, trying to scent

the truth of the matter. She smelled soft and sweet like a cinnamon donut to his beast and he

purred just a little as he detected the scent of his own pup.

His hand moved gently over her abdomen slowly, almost as if caressing it, and he could feel the steady and furiously beating heartbeat, the warmth that radiated off of the fetus inside of her, indicating it was wolfen and not human, their body temperature ran hotter.

Then, after just a moment of standing there, all his wolfen senses listening, smelling and feeling the growing fetus inside of Harmony, he growled softly 'our pup. Before receding to the

back of Garrett's mind once more.

Garrett stared down at Harmony, still unconscious in his arms, and a smile touched his face

1/5

CH 28

+8 Point:

as he looked at her. She was so very lovely, and their one night of pleasure had seen them conceive his pup. A soft chuckle escaped him at the thought of it, as he pulled her body up against his, and he held her to him.

That smile turned into a full-blown grin as he just stood there and cradled her in his arms. He

couldn't scent her out as his Mate but that didn't mean Huntley wouldn't have picked something up just now, smelling her all deep like that, 'Mate?' he asked his beast.

'Unknown, but that is definitely our pup growing inside of her.'

His eyes moved about the room as he wondered what to do with her, and he realised it was

now Christmas Eve, as his eyes saw the clock on the wall, it was three in the morning.

Harmony was giving him, Alpha Garrett: a baby for Christmas. It was the best damned Christmas present he'd ever gotten.

He was allowing his mind to wander a moment later as he leaned back on the bench behind

him and just let her body rest on his, one hand on the small of her back, and the other up at

the base of her neck, to hold her to him. '

He thought about all he had seen with her over the past few days, and he understood right in that moment, all the things he'd seen, the way she'd gripped her lower abdomen at her desk,

and stated she had cramps; that was growing pains.

Ryan had stated she wasn't feeling well, was tired; how quickly she had fallen asleep in his

office. That was her body needed proper rest, to allow for the growth of their child. She was carrying an Alpha pup, which would grow rapidly compared to that of a human child.

She was going to feel exhausted at times and have more cramping sensations, possibly even

pain at times. But that sweet smell about her, that had made him want to eat a donut this

morning, that was the scent of her carrying his pup. Sweet and delicious to him, like his favourite treat. He did enjoy a good cinnamon donut. He could eat half a dozen of them at

times. He liked not only the smell but the taste as well.

‘Wyatt.’ He mind-linked to his Beta, and he didn’t even try to keep the excitement out of his

voice.

‘What is it?’ came back the reply.

‘Harmony is pregnant.’ Burst out of him with a half laugh.

‘What?’

He could feel his Beta on the move now, and quickly so with the pack tether, and then just 10

seconds later he was standing in the cafeteria doorway staring at him wide-eyed “Who’s?” he

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asked.

Garrett smiled right at him as he hugged her a little, “Mine. Huntley can tell, can smell it.” he looked down at her “She smells like a cinnamon donut to me.” he laughed. Then he looked back at his Beta, “I even thought that this morning, made me want to eat a donut, when I sat next to her, but I didn’t put two and two together, she’s on birth control.”

“She is I checked that myself,” Wyatt nodded “What’s wrong with her?” he asked him, stepping

into the room. His head tilted as he assessed her himself.

“She fainted.” He told him and then looked at her “Shit.” He muttered, he had been too consumed with joy to think about her state and getting her off to the pack doctor. “Better get her to the pack hospital.” he leaned down and scooped her up bridal style, and was on the

move a moment later.

They were both staring at her in the elevator, her head resting on his chest all curled up like.

she belonged right there, and he bit his lip and tried to stop smiling about it, but he just couldn’t stop smiling, couldn’t hold it in at all.

“Your mother is going to go nuts,” Wyatt snorted, “and she’s going to tell both your sisters to

get pregnant as well.”

“What? Oh, hell no we can’t tell her.” he murmured “No, we need to keep this under wraps for

the moment, Harmony doesn’t even know we’ve slept together, she doesn’t even know she’s

pregnant, I don’t think.”

“Unlikely, Ryan would have picked up on that if she knew. I highly doubt she’s thinking it.”

Wyatt nodded. “I agree, I don’t think she knows.”

“We have to keep it quiet for now, Goddess, if mother finds out, she will have me dating her in

less than a second, with a view to Marking and Mating her.”

“Like you wouldn’t want to. You’re grinning like the Cheshire Cat right now,” Wyatt laughed and

pointed right at him, "Happy as can be, how the hell are you going to keep that smile from

your mother?"

"I don't know." He snorted. "Best we think about that and come up with a plan."

"Ah, you've got a bigger problem than that, I think," Wyatt murmured as they stepped out onto

the fourth floor and into the hospital.

"And that would be?" Garret asked him, a little confused.

A mind-link was established to him from Wyatt so no one in the ward would hear them, 'She

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doesn't know the two of you have slept together, you just stated that yourself. So she is never

going to believe that baby is yours, likely to think it's Damien's."

His eyes moved right to his Beta as he realised the man was right, she was going to think it

was Damien Blackwells child. 'Shit.' He muttered, and the smile was gone from his face. That

was a dilemma that had to be sorted out and very quickly. No human was laying claim to his

child.

He had no idea how long it would take for her to deliver the child either. She was human, and

even if she was his Mate, come the next full moon, and he *now* would be standing right there

in front of her or nearby to find out.

He couldn't just go and Mark and Mate her, he had to do this the human way. He certainly

couldn't Mark and Mate her while she was pregnant, so that was going to have to be put off

into the future as well. Though he could probably mate her, maybe if he was gentle about it.

But he definitely could not Mark her at all. That would bring about her body's need to shift on

the following full moon if she was to get a wolf herself, and that would destroy their pup. So

no Marking until after the pup was born.

He saw his doctor, Kristen, coming down the ward. "Alpha what is it?"

"My secretary passed out, I can feel she's with child, I don't think she knows, threw up, then told me she felt terrible and passed right out."

"Oh, bring her this way." he followed her to a ward and put Harmony on a bed, "How far along would you know?"

He nodded "a few weeks I'd say." He stated but said nothing more about that, he'd already done the math, 18 days. "She's not really eaten much or drank much today." He stated changing the subject, as he stood watching Kristen attended to a set of Ob's and inserted a cannula then hooked her up to an IV a moment later to run fluids.

"She does look a bit on the worn-out side." She stood and stared up at him. "I'll do some bloods, and we'll see how far along she is. organise a first ultrasound depending on what she tells me about how far along she thinks she is."

"Alright." He nodded and grabbed a chair to sit, only to have her stare at him, and then Wyatt grabbed him by the arm and pulled him from the room. Mind-linked to 'That will be the quickest way of your mother finding out; you have a pup on the way' he chuckled 'you and Ryan are going to have to contain yourselves. We also need a plan of action.'

'I need to be there when she wakes up.' he commented without much thought.

CH 28

18 Paints

'No, you don't. Not unless you want your mother standing there staring at you. An Alpha sitting at a pregnant woman's bedside. Regardless of human or she-wolf, that will speak volumes. You're going to have to contain yourself if you want to keep this from your mother, contain. yourself for as long as you don't want your mother to know.'

10

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[1,892 words]

CH 29

+9 Paint

CH 29

Harmony

She woke in a bed in a semi-lit room, and sighed as she looked about, this was not where

she'd fallen asleep. Harmony sat herself up and frowned as she realised she was in a hospital

bed, then looked down at her arm at an uncomfortable feeling, in the back of her hand.

She blinked at seeing a cannula insitu there. She was attached to an IV line, she turned her

eyes to the IV bag hanging on a pole next to her bed, and found it half empty. It was Hartman's

solution, and she frowned even deeper as she tried to recall how she had gotten here.

Then remembered she'd felt unwell, had woken up to bad cramping in her stomach and the

feeling of being nauseous, had tried to make to the ladies' room and only made it to the

cafeteria, had dashed for the sink, to throw up. She recalled Garrett being there and telling him

she wasn't feeling well, and she hadn't been, had been dizzy and lightheaded, then there was

just nothing.

She sighed, she'd passed out, and she knew it, that was why she didn't recall being moved here to this ward. Garrett had probably picked her up himself. She didn't have any pain

anywhere, so doubted she'd hit the floor, it was likely he'd caught her.

She got out of bed and took the IV pole with her, heading off to look for a bathroom. There was one in here by the door to the ward, used it and washed her hands and face afterwards.

She came out to find Garrett and Wyatt there waiting for her, over by the bed she'd been in. They both smiled at her "Morning." They greeted her, appeared very happy this morning.

She nodded to them and made her way back to the bed "I see I was trouble, sorry about that."

"It was no trouble at all." Garrett smiled, "Back in bed though." He patted it.

"I'm fine." She told him and she was feeling much better.

"Only when my doctor clears you, can you leave the medical ward." He informed her simply.

"Garrett." She frowned at him.

He raised a hand to halt her words, "The doctor is in charge down here, not me." he stated, and

pointed to the bed.

She huffed and got back in, "I don't think it's at all necessary."

"Hmm, now you might think that, but it is. You're stressed and were according to the doctor,

1/5

+8 Paint

CH 29

dehydrated.” He stated,

Harmony sighed a little on the heavy side, she’d had a rough day yesterday. “I missed a meal and didn’t drink properly was all.” she muttered.

“It won’t be happening again.” She heard Wyatt chuckle, and saw Garrett frown at him. The man just turned away, “I’ll go and get the doc, hey.”

“What’s going on?” she asked, looking right at Garrett.

“Hmm, I’ll let the doctor tell you. She did take some blood last night.”

“Oh, am I actually unwell?” she questioned now.

“Again, let’s hear what the doctor has to say.” He stated but sat down on a chair next to her

bed “Are you feeling any better?” he asked.

“I am.” She nodded “I was dizzy and lightheaded. Did you bring me hear?”

“Yes, you fainted right in my arms.” He smiled at her. “Now Harmony, I know I’m handsome,

but swoon worthy.” He chuckled at her teasingly.

She shook her head as he laughed and grinned at her. She understood he was trying to lighten

the mood. “Oh yes, I’m going to tell everyone, you fell at my feet. Literally so.” he snorted “I, the dashing boss, rushed in and caught you, before you hit the floor. Embarrass you a lot with it.”

Her eyes were on him now. “Don’t do that, it’s not funny.” She murmured.

“Oh, come on, it will be very funny when I relay it.” he grinned at her “Everyone will chuckle,

they’ll all go jeez another one.”

“What?” she asked, not really understanding. “Are there others?”

“Yes, you’d be surprised at how many women I’ve saved, catching them before they hit the

floor, when fainting near me.” he smiled at her. “You, I can add to the list.”

“Really? *And* there’s a list.”

He chuckled softly “In my mind there is a list, and mostly they are pregnant women, some

tend to faint at times.” He shrugged “and I can’t have them going crashing to the floor now,

can I?”

“I suppose not.” She nodded as Wyatt walked in with a woman.

She smiled at her and introduced herself, “Morning Harmony, I’m Kristen. The doctor on duty, how are you this morning?”

2/5

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CH 29

“Alright, sorry to be of trouble,” she stated.

“No trouble at all, you slept all night.” She shrugged “You’re the least of my concerns in this

hospital right at this minute... Now I ran some bloods and, well, I have some news for you.”

“Okay,” she nodded “Just tell me straight, I don’t like being kept in the dark.” And she didn’t.

The last time she’d been in the hospital had been when her parents had died. The hospital doctors had decided to delay telling her about her parents until they thought she was stable. enough to handle it. It had taken them four days to tell her they had died in that car accident.

She did not want that to happen ever again.

“You, young lady, are pregnant.” Kristen stated simply.

Harmony stared at the woman now, more than shocked by those very words. She opened her mouth to say something, and then closed it, when no words were formulated. Blinked and tried again, no, still nothing. She looked down at her still flat stomach, it was still flat as it had always been.

“No...” she finally got out. “I can’t be,” she shook her head “I’m on birth control and am very

careful. Never miss taking it.”

Though her mind was racing now, thinking about the last time she’d had s*x, she couldn’t be pregnant, didn’t want to be pregnant with Damien’s child, not after what he’d done to her. But it couldn’t be anyone else’s. She’d only ever been with him, he’d been her first and only.

“I’ve double-checked it. You’re only a few weeks along, the markers indicate about two and

half weeks only.”

That drew her undivided attention. That couldn’t be right, she was doing the math in her mind now, counting back the days from their break-up to now. She’d been on antibiotics for the first week of December and she and Damien hadn’t had s*x that week. Neither of them wanted to risk a pregnancy, knew antibiotics could interfere with the validity of the pill. So they’d

refrained.

But it couldn’t be anyone else’s “Are you really sure?” she murmured.

“Very certain.” Kristen told her “Congratulations, you’re going to be a mother.”

Harmony’s eyes moved right to hers, ‘a mother’ she thought absently. “Thank you, I guess.”

She stammered.

“Now, you’ll stay right here until that fluid has finished, for your baby’s health and well-being,

and then I’ll release you.”

3/5

* Paint

CH 29

“Alright.” She nodded.

She was more than shocked by this new, but two and a half weeks along, it didn't make sense

to her. Her mind was now racing as she tried to figure it out, moved back to the date, and she

realised when it was, the Blackwell Christmas party in the triple moon club.

She bit her lip as she remembered something from that dark, painful moment in her life.

She had no idea how she'd gotten home that night, had woken up in her bed, and with no

underwear on, and her body had ached all over like she'd had s*x. And all those pictures of

Damien had been crossed out in the apartment. She chewed on her lower lip as she thought

more about the days that followed.

The very words that Damien had said to her, he'd stated she'd had s*x with some random guy, called her a slut. That was why she had slapped him. Had she actually *done* that? Had s*x with some random guy, and who was he? Had he been the one to take her home? Had he

known what Damien had done that night? Maybe it was that man that had sent her the footage in case she forgot she'd seen it.'

She tried desperately to recall anything from that night. There was still nothing, she didn't even recall actually seeing Damien with Chloe, only what she saw in the video; herself seeing them and running from the room. Never again would she drink and leave herself like that. But how was she supposed to tell her baby who his or her father was? When she had no idea at

all.

She felt a hand touch hers and moved her eyes to it, then to the one touching her so gently, it was Garrett. "It's alright Harmony." He stated softly.

"I... I..." she still did not know what to say.

"Breathe, it will be fine."

She shook her head. "It won't be. Damien is going to think it's his." And with him coming from a wealthy family he was likely going to want custody as well.

"It's not?" Garrett asked gently, and she saw him lean forward ever so slightly.

40

She closed her eyes and shook her head no, "Not if the doctor is right. He and I..." she sighed "That puts it right at the time of our break-up, and well..." she muttered, she didn't want to appear like she was what Damien had called her; a slut. "We hadn't for over a week before that, I was a bit unwell, on antibiotics so we...abstained." she huffed.

"Alright." Garrett nodded "you don't have to discuss anything further if you don't want to."

4/5

CH 29

+9 Point

Harmony nodded and looked at him. He didn't, she realised, look at all surprised by this. "Did

you know?"

"Hmm. The doctor reported your blood results to me. I asked her to when she found out you had no next of kin listed on your work file. Standard protocol." He shrugged.

Harmony sighed "It's just me, my parents died four and half years ago." She looked down at her stomach "Well, just me...and my baby now."

Her eyes moved back to her stomach; her hand was resting on it. A baby...her baby...she was going to be a mother...she wasn't alone anymore, was growing her own family in side of her right this minute, a son or daughter for her to love and cherish the way she had been.

That stranger, whoever he was, had just given her the gift of life; a baby for Christmas. She'd hated knowing she was once again alone in the world, after breaking up with Damien, but no

more was she alone.

A soft smile touched her face, she'd not yet bought herself anything for Christmas, and now she didn't need to either, got a baby gifted to her. 'Thank you, stranger.' She

thought to herself, she didn't know who he was, or where he was, but he'd enriched her life and she just knew, for

the better.

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[1,753 words]

CH 30

Garrett

Watching Harmony absorb the news of being pregnant, he could see she was doing the actual

math, her fingers were actually absently ticking off the days, and he was hoping she'd come to

the conclusion that the baby she was carrying wasn't Damien's. That would make things easier for him when telling her it was his child.

Something he knew he had to do, though he was still weighing up the options on that one. Did

he just tell her about their one-night stand in his nightclub and how it came about? Or did he

sit her down and show her the footage? Or did he do both? Then there was, did he want to

wait until after the New Year and see what happened with the full moon? Wait and see if she

was his Mate or not?

If she was, he'd have to convince her to date him, and let her get to know him properly, before

telling her that the child was his. If she wasn't, he didn't know what he was going to do with

her. He would still want to claim her for himself, if she would have him, that was.

His doctor, Kristen, had run bloods last night and then mind-linked to him when she'd gotten

the results. 'Alpha, is there something you need to discuss with me?' had come down the

mind-link.

'I don't know, is there?' he'd *tried* to stifle a chuckle, and she'd huffed at him.

'Yours then, I take it, that blood has Alpha markers to it. When were you and Harmony together?'

'The 6th of December.' He'd stated honestly, and she'd strolled into his office ten minutes later and put the print *out* of Harmony's blood work in front of him.

"Your new secretary is having your baby." She'd stated "The current scandal she's involved in

was also on the 6th. I noticed the time and date stamp."

"Mm." he nodded, ignoring her annoyance as his eyes moved to her

"

"Despite your happiness about this, Garrett. I get the feeling there is more going on, spit it out.

"She fell into my lap, in the nightclub, full of tears after seeing Damien Blackwell cheating on her. And well, I offered her a little payback of her own, she accepted it." he shrugged "She also doesn't recall anything about that night, to drunk I'd say."

VE

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CH 30

He got hit by Kristen. "You took advantage of her."

"Only a little." He nodded "I clearly asked, and she clearly agreed, it was consensual, and she wanted to hurt him, like he had just done her. Look at her, how could I possibly say no to such

a lovely woman?"

"And now she's carrying your heir to the pack."

"Yes." He leaned back in his chair and smiled "Now you need to keep that *to yourself* please."

"Your mother is going to..."

"I don't want you telling anyone." He cut her off.

"Oh, and how long do you think you can keep a pregnant woman off the Luna's radar? A Luna that is obsessed with mating you off and getting grandchildren from you?"

He chuckled "A bit of a pickle," he admitted "Wyatt and I are working on that, though we've already decided to wait to tell mother until after the full moon. If Harmony turns out to be my Mate, I'll tell mother right away, if not... I'll tell mother I'm attracted to Harmony and want to date the human woman. She won't care about Harmony being human, she was human herself

once."

"Oh and you don't think she won't pick up your dating a pregnant human?"

Garrett chuckled. "She won't care, not once she realises that baby is mine. Will push for it, anyway, *to* have her brought into the pack and for me to take her as my Chosen Mate." And he

knew she would as well.

"Human's and Alpha pups!"

"I'm aware, it will grow faster than a human baby, and be delivered early." He nodded and he

was.

"Only really early if you Mark her. I wouldn't advise that either, not while she is pregnant, only after the birth. That baby will likely come around the six-month mark, maybe a little earlier."

He did the math and smiled a little bit more and got hit once more, "What? I was thinking about it being an Easter delivery." He chuckled softly.

"You're happy about this then?" Kristen asked.

“Yes I am, I love the idea. I’ve also decided that Harmony and I are going to be together, even if she’s not my second chance Mate, I’ll take her as my Chosen. She is lovely, and I actually like her as a person.” And he did like the woman, right from the moment she’d fallen into his lap. He’d thought she was beautiful and hadn’t wanted to see those tears in her lovely blue eyes.

2/5

CH 30

+3 Points

He got hit once more. “I see you’re smitten with the girl. I wish you luck, Alpha...in keeping this from the Luna.”

He’d chuckled “Yes, a good fun game to be had there.” He’d snorted as she’d left his office.

She’d mind-linked to him later that morning to tell him Harmony was awake, knew he’d want to be there when she was told the news. He’d gotten up and gone right there to her as well. Wanting to see her reaction.

He knew she understood it wasn’t Damien’s, he’d made sure to have Kristen tell her she was only two and half weeks along, on purpose. They’d only been together once, and so he did know the actual date of conception. Needed things to run fairly smoothly, so Harmony could

get used to the idea of it not being Damien Blackwells.

That would help him in the long run. It was a little sad that she had no family of her own.

Being in the hospital, Kristen had pulled out her personnel file to call her next of kin, only to

find there wasn’t any, it just stated the word deceased.

It was just Harmony, and she was all alone in this world now. He watched as her hand moved

to her stomach as she really thought about things, and a small smile touched her lips. His

own heart rate increased a little as he realised she was going to keep her child. Wanted to

have it, she may have been completely shocked, but she wanted her child right away.

He'd have outed himself very quickly if she'd wanted to get rid of it, to stop her. But he knew

she was *now* thinking about being a mother. Having her own family, no longer would she be

alone, and it made him happy, to know that.

"Harm?" he murmured softly, and her eyes moved to him.

"Yes?" she asked.

"Your alright with this?" he asked her just to confirm what he suspected.

She nodded slowly "I am." But then she bit her lip "I'm sorry."

"What? Why do you say that?" he frowned.

"I just got this job, and now I will need maternity leave in what? Eight months."

Garrett chuckled, "That's alright, life is full of happy surprises at times, and we have a crèche here in the building for employees, and well," he looked around, "a hospital as you can see." He

smiled right at her "Do you want to know something about me and this hospital?"

"Sure." She nodded.

"I was born in this hospital myself, my mother went into labour here at the office and I came

3/5

CH 30

48 Paints

hard and fast." He chuckled "We have a full maternity ward down the hall."

"Oh."

"So, you can, if you want to, work right up until you can't anymore. If you want to, that is," he

put to her, though hopefully by then she would know what he was, and be accepting of him.

and his beast, and wouldn't need to work.

She sighed a little "I might need that, my savings took a hit trying to find a new job."

"It's all good. When you signed the employment contract, you would have signed on for full

medical as well, so that's all covered."

"Your company is generous, how is it you make a profit?" she asked with a slight shake of her

head.

He smiled at her "In various ways, and we promote health and well-being, so good medical is

a must in my books. Although it was my grandparents that started, that I believe, I'm just

continuing on with the packs...family tradition." He corrected himself; was already wanting to

talk to her like she was part of his pack.

She raised an eyebrow at him, and he just smiled a little more. "Your job is still secure, I'm not

letting you go, Harmony." And he wasn't going to be. He turned and looked at his Beta as

Wyatt cleared his *voice*.

"I foresee the Blackwell's being an issue, Garrett."

He could only nod, "Possibly, but they have to find out about the pregnancy first." He wasn't

concerned, not particularly. They could partition for a paternity test. It would show the child

was his.

"It's not Damien's." Harmony murmured softly "It can't be, if the math is correct."

"Mm, but they don't know that, will likely want a paternity test." Garrett nodded.

“That’s not the problem I was thinking about Garrett,” Wyatt commented. “I’m sorry Harmony,

to bring this up but...it’s more about you being seen as having cheated on Damien himself. He

could turn the press back on you, state he only did what he did, because he was devastated,

that he’d caught you cheating. A baby that’s not his will be good proof of that.”

Garrett sighed himself now, he wouldn’t actually put it past Damien to do something like that.

He mind-linked to Wyatt, ‘I’ll have to out the footage, of myself and Harmony, of shot of her

and I in the nightclub, time stamped to sort that out.’

‘Yes you will, so you’ll need to tell her before then. Wyatt agreed with him.

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‘Agreed.’ He murmured, he was going to have to tell her, he just needed to find the right time, hopefully she wouldn’t start to show too soon, but her build was so slight, he didn’t think it was going to be long. He needed more information from the doctor on that; when she was likely to start to show.

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