

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

101

Iris had often come to the restaurant with Isaac, and she hoped Lylah would love it as much as she and Isaac did.

No sooner had they settled than Lylah's phone buzzed insistently.

"Sorry, I have to take this. My husband's calling," Lylah said.

"Yeah, yeah," Iris waved her off, already sensing the charge in Lylah's stance.

On the other end, Ezra's deep, commanding voice filled the line. Lylah had tried calling him earlier to share the news, but Damon said he was in a meeting and would call back once it ended.

"We should celebrate *it*," Ezra said.

"I'm with Iris right now," Lylah replied lightly, "Maybe I can bring something over for you later?"

*Enjoy your time then. No need to bring anything. Also, use the card I gave you to cover everything."

When Lylah returned to the table, she rifled through her bag.

The sleek black card caught the light, its polished surface gleaming against the fabric. She stilled, a flicker of awe passing through her. She still could hardly believe it—this was the kind of card only the most powerful figures in Verdanth possessed, and now it rested in her hand to use.

Iris chuckled, her eyes glinting with mischief. "Wow, you're blushing, Lylah. Your husband really knows how to tease you, doesn't he?"

Lylah shook her head, smiling softly as she sank back into her seat. "It's nothing like that," though her pulse betrayed her calm.

Before Iris could press the teasing, a server approached, and they placed their orders.

Soon, the dishes arrived, fragrant and artfully presented. Every bite was a revelation, and they ate in quiet appreciation, savoring more than just the flavors.

Their moment was briefly interrupted when a server returned.

“Ladies, we are out of the Louis Lafite required for the Delicate Abalone Rice. Tonight, we’ll substitute Romanée-Conti.”

Iris nodded smoothly. “Of course.” She shot Lylah a wink. “Don’t worry about the cost.”

It wasn’t long before they finished, and the same server returned to set the bill on the table.

Iris scanned it, her eyes widening in surprise.

“This must be a mistake,” she said sharply. “Isaac and I have had this wine before. Why is it ten times more expensive now?” She rose abruptly, pulling Lylah to her feet.

1/2

3:28 pm

Chapter 102

Finished

“There’s no mistake at all. Our restaurant uses only the finest vintages,” the server replied evenly, though the murmur of other diners had begun to stir.

“The increase is absurd.” Iris pressed, her voice hardening, eyes flashing.

“It’s just the market prices,” the server said evenly. “You agreed to the substitution earlier.”

Lylah’s brow furrowed. Something didn’t sit right. “Then why weren’t we told beforehand? That’s the basic courtesy of any restaurant, isn’t it?”

“I want to speak with the manager,” Iris demanded,

Across the room, Eldric and Vale happened to pass by.

Vale narrowed his eyes, a flicker of recognition crossing his face.

“That woman... isn’t she the one Grimwood defended in my lab yesterday?” Vale muttered under her breath.

Eldric’s eyes locked on Lylah, his jaw tightening until it ached.

That wretched girl! If any of my allies or colleagues witness this, it’ll humiliate me beyond repair! Every muscle in his body was coiling with barely restrained hatred.

Cora leaned slightly beside her father, a cruel, triumphant smile curling her lips. Her plan had unfolded exactly as she wanted.

“Yes, Professor,” she said, her voice dripping with contempt. “That’s Iris and Lylah—junior assistants from the Traditional Healing class. What were they thinking, coming here if they couldn’t even cover the cost?”

214

◦

2/2

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby’s writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 103

3rd Person’s POV

Finished

Cora wasted no time donning the mask of the pack’s perfect princess, her sweetness cloying, suffocating, and utterly false.

“Oh, poor her,” she said, “I think I can help

pay for her food.”

She had barely taken a step when Eldric’s voice cut through the air like a blade.

“Don’t you dare. Stay where you are.”

His eyes locked on Lylah. Fury burned there—raw, violent, and barely leashed.

If Vale hadn’t been standing nearby, Eldric would have already given in to the bitter urge festering beneath his skin. He would have shifted without restraint, his wolf surging forward to lash out at Lylah—the daughter who had always brought him nothing but shame.

Why does she always find a way to disgrace me?’ He snarled inside his head. ‘Why can’t she be worthy like Cora?’

“Listen to your father,” Vale added smoothly, his lips curving faintly as he observed the unfolding scene with predatory amusement. “You have no obligation to help.”

“Alright then,” Cora nodded in feigned obedience.

Across the room, Iris still convinced there had been some mistake.

“Please, let me speak to your manager.” She said.

The server’s expression shifted, his earlier politeness turning into something colder.

“I understand your shock,” he said, his tone smooth but dismissive. “But our manager is a very busy man. You can’t expect to meet him whenever you please.”,

Iris faltered.

It didn’t make sense.

She had been here countless times before. She had always been treated with respect. Why was it different

now?

Still, **she** forced herself to believe in reason.

“Then I would like to speak with Victor Ross,” she insisted. “He’s a friend of my brother. He knows me, I’m sure he won’t mind sparing a moment.”

The server didn’t even hesitate.

1/2

3:28 pm

Chapter 103

白

Finished

“To meet our owner, Sir Ross, you require a reservation,” he said. His tone remained outwardly polite, but the accusation beneath it was unmistakable. “Lady, if you came to dine here, shouldn’t you have at least known the price of our menu?”

Lylah frowned.

There it was.

The blame, carefully and deliberately, was turned toward them.

She refused to carry

1. it.

“It’s alright, Iris,” Lylah said gently. “No need to panic.” Then she lifted her gaze to the server, her eyes sharpening. “What’s your name?”

He hesitated, his posture stiffening as if her question itself was a challenge. “...Hunter.”

His jaw tightened, hostility bleeding into his voice. “Why do you need my name?” he demanded. “You’re the ones who chose to dine here, and now you’re the ones causing a disturbance. If this behavior continues, we’ll have no choice but to follow protocol. We’ll call Lunaris’ Enforcers.”

Iris’s gasp shattered the air.

“No!” she cried. “Don’t call the Enforcers. I’ll pay. I’ll pay for everything.”

Something cold and dangerous unfurled inside Lylah.

Now she understood. Nothing about this was accidental. It had been planned—to trap them, to humiliate them.

Iris’s trembling hands dove into her bag-

But Lylah stopped her.

Her fingers wrapped around Iris’s wrist in a firm, steady grip.

“Don’t,” Lylah said quietly.

Lylah’s gaze remained on Hunter, cold and unyielding.

“Call **the** Enforcers, Iris. I’ll handle the payment.”

“Lylah...” Iris whispered, panic thick in her voice. “Are you sure?”

“Since they’ve chosen to twist the blame onto us, then let the Enforcers decide who’s truly at fault?”

Lylah reached into her bag and tossed the card onto the table. It landed with a sharp crack.

Under the light, the black surface gleamed—revealing the Verdanth Bank sigil. A crest powerful enough to make any wolf’s **jaw** drop.

“This,” Lylah said coolly. “Process the payment. We’ll call the Enforcers for you.”

2/3

3:28 pm

Chapter 103

0171

B

Finished

Hunter stared.

Then gulped.

The confidence in his eyes shattered, replaced by fear.

The Verdanth Onyx Card. Sweat beaded along his temple. ‘How does she have something like this?’

214

W

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby’s writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

The Betrayed Princess Rising

Chapter 104

Lylah’s POV

It took less than two seconds.

Finished

The moment Hunter saw Ezra's card, the color drained from his face. Confidence collapsed, leaving only

ear.

Wait!" he blurted, stopping Iris just as she reached for her phone. "We don't need to involve the Lunar Enforcers. I apologize."

My brow arched.

Why not?"

He swallowed, throat bobbing.

'As I reconsider... the fault is mine," he said quickly. "Not yours. Not the restaurant's. So even if the Enforcers come, they won't find any wrongdoing here. There's no need to go that far."

Iris looked at me.

I gave her a small, subtle nod.

Postpone it.

'Hmm," I murmured, tapping a finger lightly against the table. "You're right. Maybe it isn't the Enforcers

we need."

Relief flashed across his face.

It died the instant my words left my mouth.

"But an attorney," I finished, smiling faintly.

Hunter froze.

"Iris," I continued smoothly, "the law department in Lunar Grace has produced many excellent attorneys. And we do have connections with some of them, don't we?"

Understanding sparked in her eyes instantly.

"Of course," she said, catching on beautifully. "I even know someone from Whitepine who's now one of Verdanth's top attorneys. Just last month, he won a fraud case against a restaurant that

framed an innocent customer..." She paused deliberately. "...That sounds exactly like our situation, doesn't it?"

Her smile returned, sharper than before.

"Lylah, I can call him right now."

I nodded.

1/3

3:28 pm

Chapter 104

Satisfied.

Finished

"Please do. I'll cover his fee. And maybe we should get the Lunaris media involved too," I added lightly. "It would be unfortunate if others became victims of the same treatment."

Iris's smile grew more confident, her fear fading as she stared directly at Hunter.

Seeing that look on her face filled me with quiet satisfaction.

"Yes, Lylah. That's a great idea."

"Ladies, this is too far," Hunter said. His face had gone pale, his fear now impossible to hide.

Pity flickered briefly inside me.

We had no grudge against each other before tonight.

But he had made Iris cry. He had ruined our night.

I wouldn't let him walk away **so** easily.

His gaze found me, pleading for mercy.

"Please... do we really have to take this path?" he asked weakly. "This can be resolved more amicably."

Before I could answer-

"Iris."

A man's voice called out.

He approached our table, and my eyes dropped to the name tag on his chest.

Chef Victor Ross.

The owner,

Victor's gaze shifted to Hunter, his expression sharpening.

"Why didn't you tell me Isaac's sister was here?"

Hunter stiffened.

"Sir, I-I apologize. I forgot," he stammered.

Victor frowned.

"I heard there was some commotion. Is everything alright?" He asked.

Relief eased some of the tension in my chest. At least he didn't seem hostile toward Iris.

Iris began to explain everything.

2/3

3:28 pm

Chapter 104

Finished

As they spoke, my gaze never left Hunter.

He knew exactly who Iris was. Knew she was Isaac's sister. Knew she was connected to the owner of this

restaurant.

And yet he still went along with it.

This wasn't his plan.

So who had sent him?

I scanned the room.

Selestine bristled beneath my skin. We weren't just looking. We were hunting. For the one who thought they could corner us, shame us, and get away with it.

214

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby's writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 105

Cora's POV

Finished

The entire tide of the game shifted the moment Lylah flicked that gleaming black card onto the table.

Power rolled off it.

Not in a visible way—but in the way every wolf present instinctively felt it. Now she and Iris were the ones smirking, while Hunter stood stiff and cornered, looking every bit the fool he was.

Professor Vale's breath caught beside me.

“That... that was a Verdanth Onyx Card.” His voice turned thin, edged with naked envy. “Only the most powerful figures in the Pack possess one. Alphas. Or wolves whose wealth rivals theirs. Even after my entire career in Healing, I've never come close to earning one. How did she?”

My fist curled, claws threatening to break through skin as I watched from behind the hollow partition. Close enough to see. Hidden enough not to be scented.

My gaze locked onto Lylah as she slid the card back into her bag like it was nothing.

Envy burned through my veins.

Rowan had one. But he had never once let me hold it.

“It's fake.” Father scoffed beside me, “It has to be. She's always been cunning. No doubt she prepared a counterfeit for a moment like this.”

Professor Vale gave a low, approving hum. “A sly vixen indeed.”

The sharp tang of jealousy **is** poisoning the air. It stung my throat, bitter and humiliating.

So I forced myself to cling to Father's words.

And yet... **a** traitorous voice stirred deep inside me,

What if the card was real and her mate was the one who gave it to her?

No.

Lylah's mate was nothing more than a low-rank wolf-weak blood. No influence. No standing

There **was** no world in which he could give her something like that.

"Victor Ross **is** an absolute fool too," Father spat, his aura flaring with contempt. "He should have thrown them out the moment he saw through their trick. But look, he's practically welcoming them."

"They exploited this moment," Professor Vale said coldly. "Disgraceful."

My gaze slid back to Victor. His face was warm **as he** smiled at Iris.

1/3

pm

Chapter 105

"Enough," Father said sharply. "Let them continue their little schemes. Let's leave."

Despite my curiosity, I turned away and followed them out.

640

Finished

Outside, the rain poured mercilessly from the sky, soaking the earth and drowning the city in silver. We waited beneath the terrace while the driver went to retrieve the car. Father and Professor Vale quickly fell into deep conversation, their voices low and intent.

I barely heard them.

Because my attention had already shifted, my eyes caught movement across the street.

Hunter was escorting Lylah and Iris under his umbrella, guiding them to the bus stop across the street.

Hunter.

Not only had that idiot ruined my plan, but he had also completely switched sides.

My teeth clenched, a low growl building in my chest. I was about to move when blazing headlights suddenly swept across my face, forcing my eyes shut. The beam cut through the rain before settling on the road ahead.

My breath caught.

“The car...” I squinted through the downpour.

A black Maybach rolled to a smooth stop in front of the bus stop where Lylah and Iris stood.

My heart stuttered.

“That’s Rowan’s...” I whispered, disbelief cracking through my voice. “What is he doing here?”

He was supposed to still be in his meeting with Logan Silver.

A meeting I had helped secure for him. A meeting meant to strengthen his standing here. It’s me who helped him.

The driver’s door opened.

And Rowan stepped out.

Even through the storm, his presence was unmistakable. He didn’t hesitate. Rowan walked straight toward Lylah.

He had returned from the opportunity I gave him....

And the first thing he did-

Was come to her.

Anger surged, hot and suffocating.

I couldn’t let this happen.

1:28 pm

Chapter 105

I wouldn’t.

白

Finished

Ignoring the rain as it drenched me to the bone, I broke into a run and crossed the street.

‘Rowan!’”

◦

214

▣

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby’s writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 106

3rd Person’s POV

“Rowan!”

Lylah’s head snapped toward the voice.

0191

B

Finished

Cora appeared out of the rain, half-soaked, her hair clinging to her face as she rushed forward and threw herself against Rowan’s chest. He instinctively caught her by the waist, steadying her.

For a moment, Lylah could only stare.

Of all the disasters tonight, she hadn’t expected this. She had no idea how both of them ended up here at the same time—but her instincts sharpened instantly. Nothing good ever followed when Cora appeared.

“Why are you here?” Cora asked softly, her voice delicate as she tilted her face up at him. “Aren’t you still in your meeting?”

“Of course I came to pick you up.” Rowan glanced down at her. “It’s raining. I wanted to make sure you got home safely.”

As if he hadn’t said minutes ago that he was here for Lylah.

He never failed to make her stomach churn.

Cora finally looked toward Lylah, surprise flashing across her face—poorly acted. “Lylah, you’re here too? Oh—land with your friend!”

Iris rolled her eyes.

Cora continued sweetly, “Since it’s raining, why don’t you both ride with us? We don’t mind. Right, Rowan?”

“Yes,” Rowan said smoothly. “Please. Get in.”

“No.” Lylah’s refusal cracked through the rain like lightning. “We can get back on our own.”

“Oh, Lylah,” Cora cooed, her smile syrup-sweet and insincere. “Don’t act tough. There won’t be any buses in this weather. And I know you’d rather save your limited coins than spend them on a comfortable taxi. No need to be so proud.”

Iris stepped forward, her tone sharp as a blade. “And how exactly are you so sure she’ll be walking home? What if her mate is coming to pick her up?”

Rowan arched a brow.

“Is he?” he drawled. “Then where **is** he now? What kind of male lets his mate stand out here in cold like this?”

A lazy, mocking smile tugged at his **lips**. “I suppose that tells us everything about the man she chose **to** bond with. An irresponsible coward.” His gaze darkened with satisfaction. “And if she ends **up** in another

3:28 pm

Chapter 106

male’s car tonight, he’d have no one to blame but himself.”

The insult hung heavy in the storm-thick air.

Lylah felt every word for what it was—bait. He was provoking her into reacting,

She refused to give him the satisfaction.

Iris, however, bristled. “Alpha Rowan, you’re so shameless—”

Brilliant headlights suddenly flooded the street.

A sleek Rolls–Royce glided to a stop only a few steps away.

Finished

Iris and Cora both froze, their mouths parting in visible shock at the sheer luxury of it. Rowan’s expression hardened instantly, his posture going rigid.

“Ezra...” Lylah breathed, her voice barely carrying through the rain as she stepped toward the car.

The door opened, and a tall figure stepped out, an umbrella shielding his face.

But she would have known him anywhere—from the straight, commanding line of his posture to the immaculate cut of his dark coat. His aura was unmatched by any Alpha.

He had stepped out into the rain just to pick her up. The sight stirred a sharp mix of worry and irritation inside her.

“Ezra—” Lylah hurried toward him, but the slick pavement betrayed her.

Her foot slipped.

In a heartbeat, his arm slid around her waist, drawing her against the solid warmth of his chest as if she belonged there.

“I’ve got you,” he murmured.

“How did you get here?” She frowned up at him, noticing the rain dampening the edges of his hair. “And are you foolish? Why did you get out of the car yourself? It’s dark and wet—what if you slipped?”

His hand came up, brushing gently through her rain–kissed strands. “If I’m foolish for stepping out, what does that make you? Running through the rain because you were worried I might fall?”

She huffed. “It’s just a few drops. But if you slipped, it would be headline news across Lamarin tomorrow.”

He answered only with a low chuckle, the sound warm against her ear.

“Let’s just go home,” Lylah exhaled, suddenly aware of the eyes watching them.

“Alright.”

He kept his arm securely around her waist as they walked toward the car, holding her close beneath the umbrella.

2/3

1:28 pm

Chapter 106

0131

Finished

The rain had plastered her blouse to her skin, outlining the soft curves of her body, and Ezra's jaw tightened at the sight. He drew in a slow, steady breath, forcing control over the fierce, instinctive pull that flared to life whenever she was this close.

With a subtle motion of his hand, he signaled Damon to bring Iris along.

The Beta immediately stepped out from the driver's seat and moved toward the bus stop.

But Cora, unable to contain herself, intercepted him.

Aren't you the man who picked her up from Lunar Grace that day? I saw you." She asked. "So it's you? You're Lylah's mate?"

Her gaze dragged over him slowly from head to toe, openly appraising, as if measuring his worth.

Wrong." Damon chuckled lightly, unbothered. "I'm just a subordinate serving her."

214

1

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby's writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 107

3rd Person's POV

0131

Finished

Without another glance at Cora, Damon opened the umbrella and held it over Iris with effortless gallantry.

"Come along, Lady," he said smoothly, guiding her toward the waiting car.

They left Cora standing in the rain as though she were invisible.

Her cheeks burned scarlet. The humiliation seared through her veins as she watched the car pull away, tires hissing against the wet pavement.

"Rowan..." Her voice trembled, nearly breaking.

Behind her, Rowan stood rigid, the storm no match for the one brewing beneath his skin. His fists clenched at his sides, knuckles whitening as his claws slowly elongated.

"That man," Cora said through clenched teeth, "he claimed he serves Lylah. And he didn't look like some low-ranking stray. He is at least a Gamma or a Beta..." Her brows furrowed. "I couldn't see the other man under *that* umbrella. Who exactly has Lylah bonded with?"

The thought alone drained the color from her face.

The idea that Lylah could have secured a powerful mate gnawed at her pride.

"Is that man really her mate," Cora pressed, "or did she sell herself to him just to gain power against us?"

Rowan's head snapped toward her, nostrils flaring. "She would never do that," he growled. "She's not that

ow."

Displeasure curled hot and sharp inside Cora's chest. "Why are you still defending her—"

Enough!" Rowan roared.

"You don't need to know who she bonded with," he continued, his voice darker than the storm overhead. "What's obvious is that there's no real love there. He came tonight to flaunt his strength in my face, and Lylah—" His jaw tightened. "She was trying to make me jealous. I know her."

Even the night seemed to recoil from the bitterness in his voice.

Inside the sleek black car, warmth replaced the chill of the rain.

Iris sat in the front seat, still stunned, her mouth slightly parted as if she hadn't drawn a proper breath since they left.

"Lylah, no way you kept this from me all this time." She turned slowly, staring at her best friend with open awe. "Your husband is Alpha Ezra of Moonclaw Pack?"

Her gaze fell at once, and she dipped her head in respect toward the man in the back seat.

1/2

3:29 pm

Chapter 107

Finished

"Alpha Ezra, it's an honor to meet you. Please forgive me—I wasn't exactly prepared to stand before you tonight."

Ezra inclined his head.

"There's no need for all that, Lady Iris," he said easily, his tone calm but firm. "Just relax. I only ask one thing—if you can, don't share this with anyone."

"I will, Alpha," Iris breathed. "But Selene above... this still feels like a dream." Her eyes shimmered with excitement. "Back in Whitepine Pack, when I was just a pup, my friends and I used to listen to Myrresse's stories about you..."

Damon chuckled from the driver's seat, rain streaking across the windshield.

"He's more famous than he lets on," the Beta remarked lightly. "Though he always denies it."

Ezra's brow lifted faintly. "Myrresse?"

Iris straightened, clearing her throat as though preparing to recount sacred lore. "We believe she's an oracle, blessed by Selene herself—older than anyone can remember. Even the Pack's leaders treat her with deep respect. My grandma swore Myrresse lived before Whitepine Pack was even formed."

She hesitated, lowering her voice.

"She used to chant your name... 'Ezra, descendant of Ezrael of the Lycan warrior clan. The greatest wolf Selene ever created. The one who will reshape the world.'"

Beside Ezra, Lylah frowned slightly. "Ezrael is just a legend. He's not real."

“Maybe,” Iris admitted with a shy laugh. “Myrisse is so old she sometimes rambles. But that time...” She swallowed. “She believed it. She truly believed Alpha Ezra was tied to Ezrael somehow.”

Damon chuckled first, and Lylah’s soft laughter followed, their easy amusement filling the car and lightening the air.

Iris smiled too, embarrassed by how childish it must have sounded.

But Ezra did not laugh. A shadow moved through his eyes at her words.

He glanced at Lylah—still smiling, still carefree, completely unaware.

She remembered nothing.

To her, the legend was only a myth... not a life they had once shared.

a

214

2/2

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby’s writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 108

Ezra’s POV

“Sorry Alpha Ezra, I was just rambling,” Iris said quickly, her voice turning apologetic.

Finished

I forced the storm rising inside me back into its cage. Ragnar stirred, restless at the name spoken earlier, but I kept my expression composed.

“It’s alright,” I replied evenly. “We all have a favorite story from childhood. Some stay with us longer than they should.”

“Yes!” Iris turned to Lylah. “Do you even realize how lucky you are? Such a kind, handsome Alpha for a mate?” She winked. “After this, should I keep calling you Lylah... or Luna of Moonclaw?”

“Iris! Don’t start!”

Their laughter filled the car.

But I no longer heard it.

Memories pressed in instead.

My life had once been normal. I was just an ordinary pup—expected, one day, to become Alpha.

Until my fourteenth birthday.

That night, during the celebration, something inside me snapped loose. I ran into the forest, breathing in my lungs, bones breaking and reforming as I shifted for the first time. That was when I connected with Ragnar.

And with him, came memories that were never supposed to belong to me.

I had a mate.

Not a future mate.

Not a destined one yet to meet.

A mate I had already loved.

I remembered her **face**. Her voice. The way her laughter softened even the cruelest parts of me.

Princess Lysara of Lunareth Kingdom.

The same soul who now **sits** beside me—unaware

And back then, I was not Ezra of Moonclaw. I was Ezrael, commander of the Lycan warrior clan—the most savage, most feared, most powerful bloodline ever to carry Selene’s mark.

The legend Lylah dismissed as myth was the life we had once lived.

1:29 pm

Chapter 108

Before greed and pride shattered everything.

0431

Finished

Her kingdom could not accept our bond. Her own blood—those sworn to protect her—branded her a traitor for loving me. And my people? They called our bond a curse. Together, they tried to sever fate itself.

War followed—ten long years of blood and ash.

I slaughtered them all.

But it meant nothing.

Because I still lost her.

They took her from me. Killed her in the cruelest way possible. I can still see it. Still hear it.

When Selene granted us another life, Lysara returned.

But her wolf did not.

The memories were locked away, buried so deep even Ragnar cannot reach them.

My Lysara.

My Lylah.

‘Ezra!’

Her voice pulled me back.

The car had stopped.

‘Come on! The rain’s gone!’ she said brightly.

Damon and Iris had already stepped out. I nodded and exited the car, then walked around to help her.

Lunaris Town Square shimmered beneath the clearing sky, lamplight reflecting off wet stone, moonlight spilling silver across the pavement.

“I know Iris is starving,” Lylah said cheerfully. “So I asked Damon to stop so we could grab something to

eat.”

“Alright.”

My hand settled naturally at her waist as we walked.

The massive digital billboard flickered, and the image shifted. Revealing faces that made Lylah freeze and Ragnar growl inside my head.

“That’s Rowan...” she murmured. “Who’s that man beside him?”

“That’s Logan Silver,” I replied. “One of the well-known tech engineers here.”

3:29 pm

Chapter 108

Finished

“Alpha Rowan of Blackfang and Logan Silver sign contract for upcoming expansion project,” Lylah read aloud from the glowing screen. A small, adorable growl slipped from her throat. “Rowan always wanted to expand his power this far. And now he has.”

“You’re afraid...?”

“No.” She shook her head. “I’m worried. After the last time he tried to mess with you, I know that won’t be the last.” Her voice lowered. “His collaboration with Logan has to have hidden motives against you, Ezra. He won’t stop bothering you.”

The rest of what she said barely registered.

I focused on only one thing.

She was worried about me.

“Logan used to work at the Lunar Research Center,” I said calmly.

“That makes it **worse**,” she insisted. “Then he knows about you. About your project. What if he leaks something to Rowan?”

She looked up at me—those same eyes, bright as stars and soft as moonlight.

“He won’t.” I reached up and gently tucked a strand of hair behind her ear.

“He’ll try to bring you down with whatever they’re working on.”

“Every skill and idea Logan took from the Research Center is outdated,” I replied. “At least ten steps behind what we’re developing now.”

A spark of pure, hopeful innocence filled her eyes.

“Really?”

214

1

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby’s writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

The Betrayed Princess Rising

Chapter 109

3rd Person’s POV

“Yes.” Ezra didn’t hesitate.

Finished

What stirred him wasn’t the looming clash with Rowan or Logan—it was the fragile hope shining in Lylah’s eyes. She truly believed they would fail to move against him. She believed in him.

Ezra reached for her hand which hung at her side. Her fingers were cool and delicate, and he threaded his own through them slowly—binding them together one by one before lifting their joined hands to his lips.

“Ezra...” she breathed.

“Do you want me to crush Rowan completely?” His voice dropped, velvet-dark and edged with something lethal. “If erasing his dominance will calm the fear in your heart, I’ll do it. I won’t leave even a trace of him standing.”

“I don’t want you to have anything to do with that trash anymore. But if this **is** the path Rowan chooses... then of course I want you to win.” She swallowed. “In every way possible.”

Something tightened in Ezra’s chest.

Her words dragged him back centuries—to another night beneath a silver moon, just after they had marked each other.

He remembered their fingers intertwined like this, her voice steady as she urged him to **rise** above the traitors who tried to sever their bond—her stepsister, her former fiancé, the ministers and elders of Lunareth who had called their mating unnatural and sought to destroy it.

She had believed in him then, too.

“Ah—sorry.” Lylah blinked suddenly, as if embarrassed by her own intensity. “I must sound like the greedy villain in a drama, trying to influence you.”

“No,” Ezra murmured, his gaze softening in a way no one else ever witnessed. “You sound adorable.”

Her **eyes** widened.

Adorable?

Heat rushed through her veins, warming her cheeks. Only then did she become aware of how intimately their fingers were laced. She had been too distracted by his face—by those eyes.

Ezra’s irises weren’t merely beautiful. They held impossible depth, like a galaxy suspended in shadow. When Lylah looked into them, she felt something inside her shift—pulled toward a gravity she couldn’t **resist**. As though the life she thought she knew was only a fragment of something far older.

“I’m also glad he no longer holds a place in your heart,” Ezra added quietly.

Lylah nodded, smiling faintly. Yes. Rowan was gone. That chapter had ended.

3:29 pm

Chapter 109

Suddenly, something stirred beneath her skin.

Selestine.

0431

Finished

Her wolf shifted restlessly. Every time she stood this close to Ezra, it reacted—but now it felt different. Stronger. Wilder. As if recognizing something before her human mind could comprehend it.

“Ezra...” Lylah’s brow furrowed.

The world tilted.

For a split second, dizziness swept through her—and then light flooded her senses.

Images crashed into her mind.

Memories she had never remembered... yet they felt as real as the air filling her lungs.

She saw herself and Ezra beneath a full moon, their wolves circling before collapsing into breathless laughter. Their lips met beneath the stars again and again. A sacred clearing in the woods, carved with ancient runes, where he pressed his teeth into her skin and completed a ritual binding that burned with silver fire.

She felt the bond snap into place.

Felt his arms around her—warm, protective, unyielding. Felt the darkness prowling at the edges of their world, and the way he always stood between her and it.

The memories intensified. More primal. More consuming.

Marking. Claiming. Promises whispered against her throat.

Forever.

“Ouch.” Lylah gasped, clutching her temple as the visions overwhelmed her,

Her eyes squeezed shut.

“What happened?” Ezra’s grip tightened instantly, Alpha instincts flaring. He grasped her shoulders. “Lylah. Are you okay?”

When she opened her eyes again, the visions were gone.

Only Ezra remained—solid, present, concern etched sharply across his features.

“I-I don’t know,” she whispered. “I just felt... something strange.”

“Strange?” His voice sharpened with urgency.

She hesitated.

How could she possibly explain what she had just seen? Those visions hadn’t felt imagined. They had felt

real. Lived.

3:29 pm

Chapter 109

0:0

Finished

“It’s nothing.” she said at last, forcing a careless shrug that didn’t quite convince either of them. “Maybe I just imagined it. Forget it.”

Worry darkened Ezra’s expression immediately. “We’re going to the hospital.”

“No, there’s no need.”

They were still standing far too close.

One of his hands remained on her shoulder; the other cupped her cheek possessively, his thumb brushing lightly against her skin.

Then-

“Lylah!”

Both of them turned.

Damon and Iris stood several steps away, clearly having walked in on something far more intimate than they had expected.

Iris’s eyes widened. “Ah! Sorry!” she blurted quickly, half turning away. “We didn’t mean to interrupt!”

214

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby’s writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 110

3rd Person's POV

Go on," Iris said lightly, though her back was already turned. "You can continue."

❧

Finished

What exactly were you imagining?" Lylah called after her, laughter threading through her voice. "It's not like that."

Iris paused, then glanced over her shoulder.

Lylah and the Alpha stood far too close—close enough for their scents to tangle in the air, close enough for Iris's imagination to run completely wild—but they weren't kissing.

"Lady Iris has finished eating," Damon announced as he approached Lylah and Ezra.

His gaze shifted to the billboard, and his expression tightened. "Wait... that's Logan Silver, Alpha. He's aligned himself with Rowan Blackfang?"

Yes," Ezra replied calmly.

Oh no." Iris clamped a hand over her mouth. "He already walks around acting all noble and righteous while finding every excuse to bother Lylah. If he gets more power, he's going to be more irritating."

Her gaze flicked to Lylah protectively, as if Rowan's shadow might lunge from the screen at any moment.

Damon arched a brow. "Lady Iris, do you truly believe my Alpha would allow that?"

But he already started with Logan Silver," Iris said, her brows pulling together. "What if he's planning to gather all the important figures in Lunaris to his side?"

Damon's lips curved faintly. "Lunaris is more than Logan Silver. Rowan believes this alliance has handed him the master key. But he's wrong."

Ezra said nothing, but the power rolling off him thickened the air.

"The research center—the heart of the Tech Kingdom here in Lunaris, along with every chief engineer who matters—is under Alpha Ezra's control," Damon continued. "The minor centers answer to it. The independent factions rely on it. Supplies, intelligence, infrastructure—everything flows through that chain."

His voice lowered, edged with quiet pride. "If Alpha Ezra wants, Rowan's plans can be dismantled before they ever take root."

Iris's eyes widened as she looked at Ezra. "Oh... wow." Then suspicion crept in. "But, shouldn't this be a

secret?"

"It is," Damon said evenly. "And we trust that you can keep it. Can you?"

Iris straightened. "Yes. Of course!"

Damon nodded once. "Very well. You're spared."

1/3

:29 pm

Chapter 110

Laughter broke out among them, light and easy.

0191

Finished

In a dimly lit study, Victor Ross reclined on his leather couch. The glow of his laptop illuminated old files -records of an investigation he and Logan had conducted years ago.

An investigation into Jax Stillward's daughter.

'Sir Ross.

Hunter, one of his restaurant servers, entered quietly and bowed. "I've brought the surveillance recordings you requested."

Victor hummed in acknowledgment. His aura was colder than usual tonight.

Hunter placed the file on the desk, hands trembling slightly.

I apologize again," he said. "For what I did to your friend's sister. For insulting her. I was wrong."

Earlier, Victor had questioned him personally. A few cold, deliberate threats were enough to pry the truth loose. Hunter spilled everything. Including Cora's instructions.

You may leave," Victor said flatly.

Hunter bowed once more and left without another word.

Victor inserted the file into his laptop. The video flickered to life.

Cora appeared, pulling Hunter into a secluded corner. She instructed him to switch the ingredients in their dishes, inflame the situation, and corner them into paying. And if things spiraled? Blame Lylah. Blame Iris. She didn't even hesitate as she outlined the trap.

Victor's jaw tightened.

He switched to the next recording.

Three figures appeared: Alpha Eldric of Ironcrest, the renowned healing expert Corvin Vale, and Cora. Their conversation dripped with venom, mockery, and contempt. They spoke of Lylah as though she were nothing.

Victor flinched despite himself.

"These men..." he muttered darkly. "Disgusting" His wolf stirred uneasily beneath *his* skin "That woman had done nothing to deserve their contempt."

His gaze hardened as Cora's image filled the screen.

"**Were** we wrong all this time?" he murmured. "Passing the honor-Jax Stillward's legacy-to you?"

"Cora..." His lips twisted in bitter disappointment. "If Jax could see you now, he would mourn the daughter he thought he had."

2/3

::29 pm

The Betrayed Princess Rising

Chapter 111

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby's writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.

The Betrayed Princess Rising (Lylah And Rowan Blackfang's)

Chapter 111

Lylah's POV

O10

B

Finished

By the time we reached the penthouse, all I wanted was to shift. To let my wolf take over, to understand what had passed between us earlier. Whatever we saw in that fractured moment... it hadn't been imagination.

But Ezra didn't give me the chance.

He guided me inside, his hand firm at the small of my back, steering me down the hall as though he were shaping my every step toward my room.

You should change and get some rest," he said. "You were soaked."

'Not as soaked as you." I arched a brow. "Unless the Alpha of Moonclaw enjoys catching pneumonia, you should probably change too, Ezra."

A slow smile curved his lips—dangerous, amused, entirely aware of itself. "Of course. I'll change in my room. Unless you have another suggestion?"

My eyes widened before I could stop them. Heat crept up my neck.

'Right," I muttered, looking away. "In your room. Obviously."

His chuckle followed me all the way to my door.

I thanked him—for tonight, for the way he'd save me from Cora and Rowan without making a spectacle of it. Then he left.

I changed into something dry, but sleep refused to claim me.

The rain had thinned to a restless wind.

I opened the window and let it strike my face, cool and wild. Lunar is flickered below like fallen stars, but they felt distant compared to the tempest inside my chest.

'Selestine, I called softly.

Silence.

She was asleep, curled deep within me.

Since my first shift at eighteen, we had been inseparable. But sometimes she retreated into a profound slumber, unreachable even by instinct. Tonight was one of those times.

“What we saw earlier...” I whispered into the wind. “I know that wasn’t a hallucination.”

The memory flashed again—shards of another life, another time. A battlefield soaked in blood and moonlight. A crown. A bond that burned brighter than the sky.

“It felt like a fracture from a past existence,” I murmured. “But if that was our life... how was Ezra there

1/3

3:29 pm

Chapter 111

0161

Finished

too?”

My pulse quickened.

“And not just there. He was our mate.”

The word tasted sacred. Terrifying.

The sharp ring of my phone shattered the silence.

“Lylah!” Tiara’s voice exploded through the speaker, high and dramatic as **ever**.

“Tiara?” I breathed, relief rushing through me so fast it left me lightheaded. “I was just about to call you!”

“Of course you were,” she scoffed. “And if I hadn’t called first, would you even remember me? Or have you already made shiny new friends in Lunaris and forgotten your best friend?”

I huffed a laugh. “Relax. I could never forget you. Actually, I have something to tell you tonight. About... Alpha Ezra.”

Her gasp was immediate.

“What happened? Did he finally take you to visit Moonclaw? Parade you through the territory while you wore some ancient Luna crown and his pack members chanted your name?”

“Stop,” I said, laughing despite myself. “You’re ridiculous. But this **is** serious.”

The laughter faded.

“Whenever he is near me... I feel something different. Right here.” I pressed my palm to my sternum. “It’s

my heart recognizes him before I do. And it’s not just me. My wolf feels it too.”

like

Ezra was an Alpha. His dominance was natural—his aura alone could make lesser wolves lower their I’d lived under Alpha authority before. I knew what power felt like.

But this wasn’t a submission.

This wasn’t intimidation.

gaze.

“You lived with an Alpha for five years,” Tiara said carefully. “Even if he was an Alpha asshole. No offense. Did you ever feel this with Rowan?”

I shook my head automatically—then remembered she couldn’t see me.

“No,” I said softly. “And that’s the point. I didn’t.”

With Rowan, what I felt was more like duty—repayment for the kindness he’d shown me. He took me into his pack when my own family cast me aside. He gave shelter to a girl no one else wanted.

I told myself that loyalty was love. That gratitude could grow into something deeper.

But was it?

2/3

3:29 pm

Chapter 111

017

Finished

Was that truly love—or just the desperate devotion of a younger version of me who needed somewhere to belong?

What I felt with him had weight. Expectation. A quiet pressure to give back as much as I’d been given, to prove I was worth the space I occupied.

And sometimes, if I'm honest, it felt suffocating—like I was constantly trying to repay a debt carved into my bones.

This... whatever is happening with Ezra... doesn't feel like that.

It doesn't feel like a debt I owe.

It feels written in my blood.

Wild. Ancient. Magical.

214

Ruby Walker

Ruby Walker is a rising voice in the world of romance and spicy fiction. With a gift for weaving deep emotions, sizzling chemistry, and unexpected twists, her stories are a blend of passion and drama that captivate readers from start to finish. Ruby's writing style is bold and irresistible—perfect for those who crave intense, addictive love stories.