

Claimed by the Sicilian Mafia

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Chapter 41

Althea had never felt this nervous in her entire life, but right now, she felt like all air was being sucked from her lungs, she looked around her and all the eyes that looked at them were filled with bewilderment, question and disbelief.

These people must have known about her existence, but in their eyes, she must only be the king's plaything, someone that was not important enough to be in this dining hall, but was good enough to keep the king happy in bed.

The fact was; aside from the kiss that night, Alex had never touched her without her consent, he didn't force himself when he realized it triggered something in her.

Alex was... someone that made her felt comfortable and if she could say the truth, she wanted to be with him.

Probably that was the reason why she was here, despite knowing she would create trouble for him

On the other hand, Northern and Greyson's jaw dropped to see the king's bold move. They followed their movement with their eyes and this made Althea became even more uncomfortable.

Yet, the grip in her hand was a reminder that she was not alone and Alex would stay by her side just like what he did right

now

"You can continue," Alex said, as he stepped up into the platform and let Althea to sit next to him. This seat was supposed to be for the queen and by letting Althea to sit there, the message was clear that she would be the future queen of the kingdom.

The dining hall fell eerily silent, but once the king was out of an earshot, Althea believed, they would fall into an uproar, questioning Alex's action.

“Come eat this, it is good to nurse your body, Alex said, he put lamb meat on her plate. He didn’t look bother at all with the tension that hang in the air. He was comfortable with this whole situation.

“Thank you,” Althea said in small voice, as she ate her meat. She stretched out her hand to get her baby back, but Alex told her to eat first, he would take care of the baby, while she was eating.

Greyson, who was sitting next to Althea keep glancing toward her direction, it seemed, he wanted to say something, but Alex’s presence made him swallowed the question along with the food that he ate.

“She looks so beautiful today, don’t you think?” Alex asked Althea silly question to make her relax.

“She is a baby, she looks the same every day,” Althea said and this made Alex laughed.

“That’s why she is adorable, because she looks beautiful everyday, just like you.” Alex leaned over and kissed her cheek.

His movement was very subtle, but it caught Althea out of guard, as she looked at him with eyes wide. He just kissed her in front of so many people and didn’t seem bothered.

“Eat your food, or do you need me to feed you?” Alex asked playfully and Northern was chocked in his food, thankfully, Greyson didn’t eat anything and could only stare in disbelief at what the king said.

Althea was also speechless, but she could feel this butterfly that fluttered in her stomach, she was dreadful, but at the same time, she was excited, because knowing there was someone, who would go to this length to be with her was... beautiful.

It warmed her heart. She knew it was s**d of her to think this way, but for the first time in her life, she wanted to fight for what she wanted and right now, she wanted to be with him.

Should she tell him about that? Althea was not sure.

“Eat more. Alex pur

another meat in her plate.

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After fifteen minutes of shock, the people seemed to relax a bit, seemingly tried to acclimate with the sight of their king was being affectionate with a woman

However, when the situation was less tensed and Althea started to less nervous and enjoyed her meal, two people entered the room and Althea's heart sk**ed a beat, because one of the two people, who stepped into the dining hall was Killian.

"There he is..." Alex smirked when he saw Elder Sanders walked into the room with Killian in his tow, the two of them looked like they were a father and son, which was funny in his eyes, thus the king chuckled darkly, but Althea didn't think that way, she looked tensed, her body stiffened, since Killian's eyes fixed on her.

Greyson exchanged look with Norther, they knew it wouldn't end up well. S**t was going to happen and they had to prepare themselves for this.

"Good day, my king. Elder Sanders said with a bright tone, he looked exceptionally happy today. "I can see that you have a companion today. Two companions should I say?" He indicated to the baby in Alex's arms.

"Oh, yeah. Beautiful companions, elder Sanders." Alex then nodded at Killian, who was sitting next to him. "Did you just adopt him, elder Sanders? Because that man supposed to be in dungeon for bad behavior."

The mocking in Alex's voice didn't go unnoticed by Killian, but the alpha kept his calm and didn't look bother. What bothered him the most was the fact his daughter was in Alex's arms. He had not yet taken a good look on his baby, but this b**d had carried her around as if she was his own daughter and Althea didn't say anything about it.

The woman lowered her head and looked uncomfortable, though Alex held her hand under the table, reassured her that everything would be alright.

Oh, I took him out because I am sure that his bad behavior has a reason." Elder Sanders sipped his drink. "I will behave badly if I saw my mate with another man, so I can understand why he is like that." He smirked. "Allow me to introduce him, my king."

"You are not allowed."

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It was es right for Althea to laugh, but hearing what Alex said made her wanted to smile, because it was pretty childish and imcture for him to answer the elder like that, but then it served as a humiliation for the elder ton

Even Greyson and Northern smiled, they shook their heads internally for the way Alex replied to it

"Pardon me Elder Sander raised his brows

"You are not allowed to introduce him, elder Sander. We are here to eat not to introduce our guest." Alex tilted his head, giving him an innocent smile. "I didn't even introduce my guests, do you think it's polite for you to do it when your king said no!

Elder Sanders smiled, but inside he must have wanted to kill the king all over again for his bold response and the way it embarrassed him.

However, he wouldn't be Alex's strong opponent if he would go down without a fight at all and let himself to be humiliated in front of so many people.

"Oh, I am sorry for that, my king. I will not do it" Elder Sander glanced at Killian. "I only wanted the alpha here to meet with his mate and daughter, that's all

It was not an introduction, but that small statement served his purpose to bring Killian here.

Once again, the tension filled the room and this made Althea's stomach churned. The baby must have felt it, because the next second, Jasmine was crying, her face turned red because of how uncomfortable she was.

"Let me calm her down, enjoy your food, okay" Althea immediately asked for her baby, she took Jasmine from Alex's arms and then left the dining hall

Alex didn't stop her, because he knew this was too much for her to handle and she needed time to have a refreshing air for

herself.

"Don't you want to go after her?" Greyson asked, he wondered why Alex didn't come to see her after they saw Killian immediately rushed out of the room to approach Althea and the baby. It was obvious that he wanted to talk with her.

After all the affection that Alex showed Althea, it was only right if he chased after that woman now, after all, he had been very adamant to make her his queen.

"No" Alex watched Killian disappear at the corner, it wouldn't take long before he reached Althea and cornered her, but even after knowing that, he didn't have any intention to prevent that from happening

He knew Althea was still not sure with how she felt about the whole situation and with Killian talking to her, it would give her the push that she needed to make a decision

It's not like Killian could take the two of them away from this palace without his permission. Althea and Jasmine would be safe here.

Nothing would happen to her and the baby

Meanwhile, Killian managed to catch up to Althea and stop her.

"Althea, we need to talk" Killian grabbed her elbow and turned her body around. "You can't avoid me forever."

Althea was hyperventilated when she saw Killian, but she tried to remain calm, though it was hard to do so when the nightmare that you kept seeing every night was right before your eyes.

"W- what do you want?" Althea asked, she hated herself for stuttering, but her heart was beating in her ears

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She knew that she couldn't be with him, not now, not ever. The sight of him alone made her body felt unwell. She wanted to scream for him not to touch her, but then she remembered the last time when she screamed at him, he slapped her so hard.

She remembered all the pain that he put her through and what kind of degrading words that he kept saying to her.

She would be doomed if she had to go back with him.

She would choose all kind of hardship as long as she didn't need to deal with him.

"I want to see the baby," Killian could see the fear in her eyes and he hated himself for the fact that he was the one, who had instilled that fear to her. "I want to see our baby. let me see her.

"She is not your baby!" Althea said sternly, she wriggled her hand from his grab, but his hold was too strong for her to break free easily, in fact, Killian tightened his grip, so she couldn't go anywhere.

"She is my baby, Althea. I know it.

Althea bit her lip. "You don't have any right to call her your baby after what you have put me through."

Killian's eyes darkened. "I know I have done it wrong. I will make it up to you once we returned to the pack."

"What made you think that I want to go back with you? Not in a million years I want to go back with you. Please, leave me alone. You have Willow now, you can live happily ever after with her."

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"No, I want you and our child. I don't want her."

Althea must be dreaming, because she could hear the desperation in his voice, but still, he was too high and his ego was too big to even apologize to her for what he had done.

"So, here you are.. taking a pick?" Althea didn't even shy away when she instilled the hatred in her voice. "You are going to pick me now instead of Willow? Because I have your baby?" She laughed, but it didn't touch her eyes at all "Go back to Willow and make your own baby with her, leave me alone. I don't want you and now you can't pick me over her. I am not an option."

"Althea"

"You can't beat me up because you liked it and now you wanted to make it right because you wanted it. You have everything in your way, Killian. You are truly despicable."

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Kiban knew that he was a despicable person, he knew that long the ago ever since he hurt her for the first time. He knew bone thewed up and wrong what he had done to Althea, but he couldn't stop. He couldn't stop himself from not hurting her, besause at that nine, he was but too and the easy way was to hurt someone else, so they could feel his pain

That was

was a coward way, he knew that very well and there was no amount of justification that could justify what he was doing. He messed up. He messed up bad time.

"I don't want you anymore, Killian. You did not only break my heart and hurt me with the rejection, you killed me that day. The version of me, who wished that one day you will believe me, had gone. You killed her and now, I am someone, who

n't want to have anything to do with you."

Killian gutted his teeth, the words were so harsh, but he knew that was the truth. He was the one, who had killed her and he was the one, who had ruined any chance that they could have to be together.

But, it didn't mean, he would give up. He didn't want to give up yet. He had gone this far, he was going to go further for this. For what he believed was the right thing to do

"Fine" Killian said. He pressed his lips into a thin line, as he straightened his back. "You can go. I will not go after you"

Althea narrowed her eyes, suspicious crept in her heart. She knew this man well enough to say that he wouldn't give up that easily.

And her intuition was proven right

"You can go, but you need to give the baby to me. She is my child. She is mine." Killian looked at her in the eyes, her eyes were cold, but he knew what he was doing.

Althea would never give up on her baby. The reason why she was here, seeking for refugee from the king was very obvious, because she couldn't go against Killian herself

And for the first time Althea raised her hand and slapped him across the face. The sound of it rang in this quiet corridor.

Killian saw it coming, but somehow, he didn't dodge it, he accepted the slap that Althea delivered to his face. He completely deserved that for what he put her through

"What did you say?" Althea narrowed her eyes dangerously. "You are going to take my baby away from me? Never in million years I am going to let you touch my baby! You don't have any right on her!"

Killian accepted her wrath, he didn't have any expression on his face, his emotions were unreadable and this stoic face made Althea hated him even more.

"Get out of my life!" Althea screamed at him. "Stay away from my life! You are nothing, but a loser! If you wanted a baby, go get one with Willow, since you loved her so much, you are willing to kill me for her, right?! Go and get your happy ever after with her!"

Killian gritted his teeth, his mask almost cracked when he heard that. It would be hard when all of your nasty words were thrown back to your face. He remembered every

single word that he said to her and how much he wanted to hurt her with the word, but now when he heard it again, coming from his mouth, he knew the pain that he had inflicted on her.

Even so, it was nothing compared to what he had done, the entire cruelty-

Althea was right, he was the one, who had killed her, he was the one, who had caused her so much pain like this and he didn't have any chance with her.

"Give m

me the baby and I will let you go

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But silt Killian couldn't l** her go. He couldn't let her and the baby go. He wanted the ten of them. Called him selfish, but they were his family. His only family

"I only want the baby. You can go with the king if that's what you wanted. I only have the baby as my family"

"I

Killian lost his family to an attack when he was so young, he stepped up to be the alpha of the pack when he was only sixteen, because his father and mother died during the attack and ever since that time, he was alone with Sean.

"Give me the baby"

He only wanted to have his little family, he desperately wanted a family. Probably because of that, he poured all of his emotions and love for Willow, thinking she was the perfect person. Willow was perfect, she was smart and beautiful. cheerful and all sunshine and rainbow, someone that could make you laughed effortlessly

But, she made a great mistake that Killian would never forgive. It killed all the love he had for her and now, his heart filled with regret, because the moon goddess chose your mate for a reason and he unceremoniously kicked her aside, he treated her so bad and now, he had to face his own karma

"I will never give up my baby. Scram from my face."

Althea turned around and then left Killian alone there, the alpha stared at her retreating back with sorrow in his eyes.

He had never felt this pain before, not even when he felt the rejection that shred his heart. This kind of pain was different. It was sorrow and misery, there was this huge hole, the emptiness in his heart that was no amount of anything that could fill it.

Killian wanted to reach to her and tell her how much he regretted it, but he knew that she wouldn't listen and the only thing that left for him right now was to get what he wanted with the only way he could think of

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Thalia was confused why Althra had been locking herself in her bedroom and she didn't want to meet with anyone, she didn't even want to eat anything. She was worried about her condition

She was contemplating of telling the king, but then she was not sure how to bring this up with the king, after all, their relationship had not been confirmed, yet, right!

In the **breakfast**, the king didn't say anything, but then he let her sit on the seat next to him. It could mean something, no?

Thankfully, when she was in the middle of frustrations, she saw the king was walking to this direction and relief flooded in

her veins

The king must be here because he wanted to check on Althea, because there was no other room at this end of the hallway **and** she couldn't be wrong

"My king." Thalia greeted the king politely, though she was impatient to tell him about what happened.

"You can leave, Thalia, thank you".

Thalia wanted to say something but she swallowed her words, she didn't need to tell him anything because the king would figure it out right away once he entered the room. She was **glad** that Althea had the king's affection because her life had been very miserable.

Thalia didn't know the detail, but to run away from her own pack while pregnant with the alpha's baby, there must be something horrendous that happened to her. Althea

was **a** nice and the kindest person that she had ever met, thus it must be alpha Killian, who **was** the problem.

“Yes, alpha.” After drawing that conclusion, Thalia left the area and watched the king entered the bedroom.

Alex had expected that Althea would end up like this. He hated to see her cry, but it was necessary.

He felt so nasty to treat her this way, but this **was** the push that she needed to make the decision. She couldn't protect herself and the baby if she was coddled

“Althea?” **Alex** approached her, she was staring at the baby, tears streamed down her eyes. She didn't make a sound and the king hated it when he thought she did that because of Killian

That monster of man had caused so much agony for his woman.

“If you wanted to cry, you need to let it out.” Alex caressed her back, he pulled her toward him and pressed her head against his chest, but still, Althea refused to cry, she shook her head stubbornly, but the king was **a** patient man, he would wait until she was ready

Tears kept streaming down her face and at some point, feeling the warm from his embrace **and** how gentle he was with her. Althea cracked.

At first, it was only a small whimper and then it was **a** sob before it **was** a cry. She was crying her heart out, she hugged him tightly, as if she wanted to crush his bone, but Alex didn't mind it

He would allow her to crush him, **break** him, as long as it would **make** her felt better, he didn't mind it. He wanted to feel her pain, he wanted to take all of her **pain** away and the thought that he was part of the pain that was inflicted on her, because he wanted her to be tough, made his stomach churned.

However, it was necessary.

“Cry. Althea. Cry your heart out. You are safe with me now. You can cry in front of me. I am here. I will not go anywhere.”

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“He held her sights when her world cruited a few kept her in piece when everyone wanted in a piece of her

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Aldew had never ersed to hard that her to life of auf her pent up emotions Hooded down like a broken dam

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Thankruth Jasmine was sleeping the crime time, the baby dsfragen wake up when Althea wailed in pain, she inoked wy serene and peaceful and the gut her sleeping lace gave her her counige

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“Thank you Alra. Albei od between her sobs she could compose herself now and was slightly embarrassed because the had ruined his clothes with her ears and spot, but the king didal bother with that at all, he wiped her tears and cleaned her

face

“You don’t need to thank nie, Althea” Alex then couldn’t bring Idmarif not to tell her this. “Her you talk with him, so you can your own decision. I could stop but from chasing after you and having I conversation that would hurt you. I am so

for that”

He explamed himself and his decision. He didn’t mean any harm, but then there was no power without pain, right?

Althea shook her head. She was initially shocked, but then she understood his point. “No. You are right. Inend the confrontation Ales was right about that one

Mersing with Kilian Helped her to clear her end and **take** a decision about what she wanted for her life and her baby’s

“Thank you for telling me this I thought you will keep it as a secret”

Alex chuckled. “I planned to do so?”

“What made you changed your mind Althea narrowed her eyes, she wiped another tear that tell on her cheek

Because I thought you have had enough people he to your face and manipulate you, I don’t want to be one of them.” Alex shrugged his shoulders “Well I think in the end of the day, I did lie to you too

Althea jussed him

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Alex talked to **her** very genuinely, he didn’t sugarcoat his words, heither he tried to make her understood his decision, he only laid everything on the table as it was.

He wanted her to be strong, but at the same time, he wanted to protect her. He pushed her to her limit and confront the thing that she had been scared of for so long.

She knew that he meant well and she knew that he meant everything that he said and she could feel that.

If she **had** to choose a battle, she wanted to fight in a battle where she could have him by her side. She wanted to be brave and greedy for the first time in her life, she wanted to think about herself and what she **wanted** and right now, it was obvious to see about what she really wanted.

Althea wanted him.

She leaned over and kissed him. She was not sure how to do it right, thus she only pressed Alex’s lips against hers, which **made** his body stiffened, she prayed that he wouldn’t reject her or push her away, because it would shatter a little bit of bravery that she managed to gather.

However, instead of pushing her away, Alex pulled her closer, but he broke the kiss and watched her face flushed, he chuckled to see her expression.

“That’s not **how you** kiss someone, Althea.” Alex loved to see how red color on her checks made its way to the tip of her ears and then down to her **neck** and chest. “Let me teach you how to kiss someone properly.”

Althea widened her eyes, his voice sounded like a threat, though it was not really like that and before she could think what the meaning of what his words, the king had pressed his lips against her and tried to pry open her mouth with his tongue.

Althea was stiffened, but his kiss was so gentle and tempting **and** when she didn’t get the cue, Alex pinched her hip playfully, which made her gasp and he took the advantage of it to plunge his tongue into her mouth.

His tongue explored the inside of her **mouth** and this was the sensation that Althea had never felt before. He was very careful and gentle with her, his touch was not painful like she thought it would be.

But, when Alex was about to take thing further, her body froze and he immediately stopped.

“I..” Althea flustered, she tried to explain herself, but Alex stopped her.

“I understood, Althea,” Alex **said**, he shushed her when she looked like she wanted to cut **his** word. “I know that you are not ready and that’s okay, but I will make sure that you **are safe** with me and once you felt **safe** with me, you will know how **you** are supposed to be treated.”

Althea bit her lip, his word made her wanted to cry, because she felt appreciated and **loved**. She hugged him tightly.

“Thank you, Alex. Thank you.”

Alex kissed her neck and grinned, his mischievous smiled tilted the corner of his lips. “You know what, once you felt safe with me, I will make you feel good.”

Althea took a sharp breath, because **his** words sounded very lewd, but it made her blushed even more, she could feel the heat that crawled on her **skin** or the heat that pooled between her legs.

She must be insane, when a moment ago, she felt like she couldn’t **even have** a physical contact with him because of her trauma, but hearing what he said, it made her turned on.

Her body and her mind were not in synch.

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Alex then warned her about a few things, since **Althea** had made her decision. He knew that talking to that **bastard** of an alpha would help her to see thing clearer.

“You need to know that the court will not be easy.” Alex needed her to understand the situation. “**But**, you need to know that you are the future queen of the kingdom and you need to carry that title with pride and authority”

Althea **was** petrifies, but then Alex added that he would be always with her.

"No matter what, I will always be with you, okay." Alex kissed her forehead. "You need to know that you are that matter to me You and Jasmine."

Alex hugged her and they kissed for a long time, it was not a passionate kiss, just a lazy one, as if they were teasing each other because for now, that was all that Althea was comfortable with **and** Alex didn't mind to wait until she was ready for him.

"Where are you going?" Abigail asked when he saw Brian was about to go out, but he had a bag with him. "Where are you going?!" She became frantic when her mate didn't answer her.

"I am going out of this place." Brian turned around and looked at her in the eyes. "I can't stand you and Willow any longer. "What? Are you trying to say that you are abandoning **us**?" Abigail was in disbelief with what she was hearing right now because she felt like Brian was trying to leave them behind, as if he finally had enough with them.

"I don't abandon **you**. I have enough with the two of you."

Willow heard this commotion in the morning immediately went out of her room, where she had been crying because she couldn't get a hold of Killian. She had been trying to find a news from the people that she made friend with, but after last night, they knew who she was and what her motive of getting close to them, thus they stopped interacting with her.

They didn't want to have anything to do with her.

"What we have done so wrong to make you like this, father?" Willow asked, crying again. Her eyes were very red and Abigail couldn't see this sight of **her** daughter like this, it broke her heart so bad

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Willow waited when she **saw** the coldness in her father's eyes, she felt terrified to see him like this, because he had never shown this side of him. He was being too cruel with her and her other

Why are you like this father? You chose Althea over me why are you playing favorite **now**?" Willow kept crying, she felt so tired to cry like this, but there was nothing she could do when her heart hurt so bad.

Not **only** Killan, **but** also her **father**, who chose Allica over her.

"Why people kept choosing her over me? Am I not good enough Am I not great enough for you to choose me? Why? Althea felt like she wanted to explode, she wanted to bawl

her eyes out and asked them why they treated her like this, she felt like shit. She felt **like** she was not worth it

And Abigail couldn't take it anymore, she couldn't see her precious daughter cried like this

"Enough"" Abigail **said**, she wiped her tears **away and** consoles Alugail, who was kneeling down, wailing painfully. "Can you see how much you have hurt your daughter? Can you see how much you have **made** her cry? Are you satisfied now! What are you going to do now! Are you going to punish her?"

"No. I am not going to punish her." Brian had seen enough of their behavior. All they did was crying and screaming to his face when he didn't even utter a single word. "I am not going to do anything to her."

"What is that meant?" Abigail narrowed her eyes at him. "What is that mean?"

Brian didn't **say** anything anymore, *he* didn't even try to **explain**

himself, as he walked away, ignoring the wailing call of his mate and his daughter.

If he couldn't make them see how wrong what they were doing and how wrong what Willow had done to Althea or how much they had hurt her, then there was nothing he could do more to convince **them** otherwise.

It was indeed his fault to let things escalated this far, he had to put stop in their behavior long **ago** and he should **have** trusted Althea.

He could only imagine **how** alone and lonely it must be for her, it must be terrified for Althea to face everything alone and he was not there to support her. He was not there to trust her for **what** she said.

He should have known that Althea wouldn't be able to do something so horrible, but he didn't give a second thought when he believe that she had killed Willow.

What a terrible father he was.

For the next few days, Killian didn't see Althea and he was not allowed to enter the dining hall, neither he could go out for a walk outside of Elder Sander's quarter.

He couldn't even look for her

All Killian knew was the fact that Althea was in the king's quarter. **That was** all and that was all he needed to know. This **place**

was suck.

“What are you going to do now?” Killian asked elder Sander one evening, he had been spending three days here and he felt like he wanted to kill this elder because he moved so slow and there was no action that he took related this matter.

Probably, Killian was being impatient only, since he wanted to see the baby and **Althea** pretty badly, but he couldn’t get a access to either of them.

“Don’t worry, everything is under my **control**”

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Killian narrowed his eyes What control that you are talking aloin? Because as far as I can see, you are only taking your sweet time is of around and do nothing)

His words came pretty harsh, but he only chuckled when he heard that.

“Being young and in love is a pretty good experience” Elder Sander nodded his head, he didn’t seem to take Killian seriously and this was one of the reasons why it was hard for Killian to keep his claws from ripping his mouth. This man was distasteful “I know that you feel like killing me, boy,” he said, as if he could read his mind.

“I am not a boy” It was an insult for an alpha like Killian to be called as a ‘boy. This rubbed him in the wrong way and somehow, to see him annoyed like this made Elder Sander smiled. It amused **him**.

“You thought that I only **played** around with you, right?” Elder Sander finally stood up and approached him, he patted his shoulder in fatherly manner, which only made Killian wanted to break his hand for touching him. “Keep your anger in check, alpha Killian, because your reckless behavior is not needed in this court”

It was obvious to see right now that Killian had this tendency to have a reckless behavior, he was not only hot headed, but a proud alpha.

The latter could be a strong point for him, but also could lead him to the biggest mistake in **his** life.

“It has beer three days and all I can do is sitting around in this place without knowing what the plan.”

“Sit down. There is someone that wanted to see you

Kill wanted to refuse that, just because he didn't want to be told about what to do, but in the end, he decided against it and swallowed his annoyance. He sat down and waited for ten minutes for this 'someone'.

Right after ten minutes had passed, a man entered the room. He was wearing black clothes and his regal aura gave away his

status.

"I want you to meet with prince Dane. He is the king's elder brother." Elder Sander looked happy to see the prince. He hugged him closely. "**This is** the man that I told you."

Prince Dane looked at **Killian** and judged him briefly before he deemed that this man fit the role.

SEND GIFT

Chapter 47

At first, Althea had to learn the etiquette in the palace. She needed to learn how to walk, how to talk, how to place her hands. how to breathe everything

All of these lessons were suffocating, but at the same time, it gave her something to look forward to. She had determined that she was going to do her best to be someone, who worth to be by Alex's side and now, that was what she was going to do.

Althea looked at herself in the mirror when she was wearing a beautiful dress. This must be the most beautiful dress that she had ever worn.

Thalia gushed when she saw her reflection on the mirror, she was even more excited than her. "See I told you that the king pampered you so much, he must be deeply in love with you. You have to trust me in this"

Althea pursed her lips when she heard that, but she chuckled, while Jasmine stared at her with her curious big eyes.

Althea was wearing a beautiful purple gown that accentuated her body. She was still breastfeeding, which made her breasts were slightly bigger than usual, but she had lost most of her baby weight, which made her look very desirable. She looked very beautiful to say the least

"Here, used this necklace," Thalia said, as she opened the necklace box.

"I didn't remember that I have this necklace."

“You didn’t remember because the king just gave it to you a few hours ago, he said this will look beautiful on you.”

Thalia helped Althea to put the diamond necklace on her neck, which shone brightly, just like her.

“Oh, heaven! I have never seen a woman as beautiful as you!” Thalia kept praising Althea to the point, she blushed so hard and told her to stop

And when Thalia was having her fun to tease Althea, they sensed the king. He entered the room shortly after they could smell his scent. It was sandalwood with a hint of pine trees. He looked define in his regal cloak.

“Are you ready?” The king asked, as he extended his hand for her.

“Yes,” Althea replied, as she took his hand and then walked with him.

Tonight, there was a party, where Alex invited the other king from the other continent to discuss about a few businesses, but Alex intended for this party as a platform to introduce Althea, not immediately, but he would take her as his woman tonight.

The message would be very obvious to read that the king had found the candidate to be the future queen of this continent this also would be a message for his opponent that he couldn’t care less about their rejection toward his choice of mate

They could go and hit the sand for all he cared.

Tonight was exceptionally crowd in the party room. Althea held Alex’s hand tightly, as if she was afraid, she would be humiliated herself, as if the king was her lifeline, which made Alex chuckled to see how nervous she was.

“I really wanted to keep you in my pocket,” Alex said, he lowered his head and whispered to her ear, this gesture was very intimate and the king knew what he was doing.

Althea blushed when she felt his warm breath against her neck. She looked around and just like what she thought, the people secretly took notice of her and the king’s interaction.

“What is that mean?” Althea frowned, but the king simply laughed lightly, as he put his hand on her waist and introduced her to a few important people in this continent.

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Chipers 47

In total there were four kingdoms in this continent, the mainland was the most proper place and Alex's kingdom was the

best among the rest of the kingdoms

herefore, nobody dared to question him or make Althea felt uncomfortable despite how badly they wanted to know who man was, since the king only said her her name without giving any title on her, bait his action spoke louder than the word that he didn't say

However, Althea felt like she was out of her element, she didn't know what they were talking about, their discussion sounded very intelligent, as they were talking about territory, businesses and a few pacts between the kingdoms.

Those topics were something the couldn't comprehend, since this was the first time for her to hear most of the terms that they used

She felt so stupid and small.

While Alex was talking with a few people, she would smile on cue, listening the conversation she couldn't join in, neither she understood and in the end, she excused herself to get more drink. She felt so lost.

"You don't seem to enjoy the party"

Althea startled when a beautiful woman approached her, she was wearing a beautiful red dress that fit her body perfectly. Her red lpa smiled at her.

"Oh, I am just a little bit tired. Althea replied, she tried to remember this woman's name, but she couldn't recall, since Alex had introduced her to a lot of people and she stopped remembering their name after the twentieth something person

Oh night it will be not easy to take care of a baby while playing queen, right?"

Althea saw it immediately. This woman didn't want to have a civil conversation, she wanted to put her down. She disliked the fact that she was the king's woman now.

"May I know, who are you?" Althea asked, her voice was even and polite. She had faced something worse than this woman and someone like her was expected the moment she decided that she wanted to be with Alex.

The woman scoffed, but Althea was unfazed, she looked at her straight in the eyes, which made her felt a little bit. uncomfortable

"You must be too busy with your baby that's why you forgot my name when I just introduced myself less than an hour ago.

"Or maybe, you simply not important enough to be remembered."

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Chapter 48

Someliew: Abbw a felt good when the sow how and the woman's fr was, here he was being gat in her place and als huse for the first me in her life, she didn't let anyone to walk all over her weed all of her lessone all this numar was

Ton dare a lile we like you said something like that that beautiful woman's for morphed into malice and five moment. Althea frowned with how strong her hatred toward her when she had not yet done anything wrong to her

This probably the second ones they met, but she was very rude toward her

Alfira lihed her chin, she looked at her in the eyes. Her insult meant nothing if she compared to what Killars had sad so

bee

"Be careful with your choice of word, because I will be the future queen of this kingdom and an insult that's hurled toward me can be counted as an insult toward a royal family"

The woman looked shock with the way Althea talked back to her, but she was not ready yet to get down from her high hone "Just because you came to the party once, it doesn't make you the royal family Do you really think too highly of yourself. Do you really think the king is serious about you when he loved his late mate in much" She crossed her arms in front of cheu and then added with jo***g tone. "Tam sure that the king only took you in because you remanded him of his late

mate, sinor she died while pregnant with their hest chuld"

The thought about that didn't cross Althea's mind until recently and that rattled her a bit.

However, she kept her composure and smile, as she talked to her nonchalantly.

"Really? How can you be so sure I am not the only pregnant woman in this kingdom and I am sure about that."

Thankfully, their conversation was cut short when the guards announced the arrival of prince Dane

Althea knew prince Dane, he was currently in the dispute with Alex for the throne and had a hidden motive to take him down. His biggest supporter was elder Sander, the same elder that took Killian with him during breakfast not so long ago.

Althea didn't seem surprised to see Killian was there, she expected this and Alex had warned her about it, but right now she was way more confident with herself. Alex gave her that confidence.

She wouldn't be standing here and was being so brave to face the insult that was thrown at her if it was not because of his

assurance and how much he showed her that he loved her.

There, your mate is coming here to see you don't you want to run to his arms?" the woman said, she smirked at Althea.

"Pardon me, but who are you, I still don't remember your name." Althea tilted her head and gave her the most innocent look that she could muster, since she knew it would put her off.

That woman gave her a dagger look, she gritted her teeth, but instead of telling her who she was, she walked toward prince Dane and whispered something to his ear, their interaction was very intimate and it would be stupid of Althea if she didn't immediately guess, who that woman was.

"Mathilda," Alex said again in her ear, his warm breath fanned her bare shoulder, which made her want to shudder. "She is Dane's mate. His chosen mate."

Althea immediately turned around and looked at the man. "Oh I forgot."

Alex chuckled. "She is not someone that you need to re-

member now and then to remind you who stars in."

Althea grinned. "I have the same feeling."

Though, I am sure she will be happy to pop in front of you.

1/2

Chapter 48

9+65%

Alex caressed her cheek, he could see something was bothering her. "What did she say to you?" He lowered his head and nuzzled her nose with his, while prince Dane walked toward them.

"Nothing

"I can see it in your eyes, sweetie. Something is bothering you."

And when they were speaking. Dane and Mathilda approached the two of them, they greeted the king, but ignored the woman beside him.

Alex could see it clearly what they were up to, thus she didn't feel like he had the obligation to entertain their rudeness toward his woman. After all, no one should blatantly disrespect Althea, especially in front of him.

Meanwhile, Killian, who was standing right behind Dane and Mathilda kept his eyes fixed on Althea, which only upset the king, this man didn't know when to stop at all..

"Good evening, my king, Mathilda greeted Alex, her voice was very sweet and this made Althea raised her brows, she didn't know that this vicious woman could make such sound,

But, the atmosphere became awkward when the king only gave them a 'hm' to acknowledge their greeting, while his eyes. had never astray from Althea's face.

As if on cue, Althea immediately knew what game that Alex was playing, she turned to face Alex and smile sweetly at him.

"Alex, they are here to greet you," Althea said with her sweet voice, she placed her hand against his chest and she could feel how his strong heart beat.

"I have seen them coming." Alex glanced at Dane and smiled at him, but he didn't even spare Mathilda or Killian a glance. "Enjoy the party.

That was all that Alex said to his brother, as he told his royal g**a to gather all the important people in the meeting room, as he would start the meeting

now.

But, before he left, Alex turned around and talked to Dane.

"Oh. Dane. It will be best for you to stay in the party and host it while I am in the meeting, it will be rude if there is no one in charge here"

to the other guests

SEND GIFT

Chapter 49

The message **that** Alex sent to his brother was crystal clear. He didn't want him to participate in the meeting with the other kings and important figures, instead he wanted him to be a good host for the party

The humiliation was very subtle, but it was a humiliation regardless and because of his status, there was nothing Dane could do to refuse the order to the king, which only angered him re

However, the prince was too cunning to shove such emotion, as he agreed with him.

"Sure. It will be my pleasure to host the party and entertain our guests."

The guests that were left behind mostly women and some unimportant figures that he couldn't lobby to be his side, there was no point to get **them** to his side, because there was no benefit for that.

"Thank you, I really appreciated your help." Alex took Althea's hand and then they walked toward the main rooms, where all of the people had been waiting for the **king**.

But, before Althea entered the room, she tilted her head and looked at Mathilda over her shoulder, **she** smiled sweetly at her, as their eyes met **and** she could see how she was burning with jealousy and rage.

Good. That woman was a devil. She wanted to make her jealous and provoke, but see who was smiling in the end,

Meanwhile, Killian watched how confidence Althea was. She used to be a thuid girl. Someone, who wouldn't even look at you in the **eyes**, but right now, with the king by her side, she could even provoke a prince's mate.

This was something new for Killiams, but he was **upset** because it was not him, who gave her the confidence.

Only if he paid close attention to her and do not rush to draw a conclusion about Willow's death;, he wouldn't be in this position, but then, everything **was** Willow's fault,

He hated that woman to the house, he couldn't imagine how could he fall so hard for her to the point, he was willing to hurt his own destined mate when Althea didn't even deserve any of his cruelty.

Killian closed his eyes when the **door** was closed and hid Althea's figure behind it. He wanted to reach her.

Would this be too late for him?

“How nude is that. Mathilda **started** with her complain, but on glance from **Dane** she shut her mouth, because she knew the prince **was** in bad mood.

“**Stay** here.”

Of course, Dane wouldn't listen to what **Alex** told him to do, all of that was only **for** appearance's sake and the king also knew. that he wouldn't stay there to babysit the whole guest, therefore, it left Mathilda with that duty.

“You, come with me” Dane nodded at Killian and he followed the prince. As an alpha, he was the highest person in his park, but here, in the mainland, especially inside the palace, his status was not really **matter**, because he didn't belong to this place.

In that case, Killian had to stick with someone with higher status like Dane, but to be honest, it was not in his nature to follow an order, therefore when Dane told him to follow him, he gritted his teeth and balled his fist tightly.

This bastard was trying to enslave him.

That was the first thought that came to his mind, until he knew where he took him. He took him to the king's quarter, to be precise, they went to Althea's nursery room, where baby Jasmine was

The baby was with Thalia, she attended the party for a while, but then fell asleep. Althea asked Thalia to take her baby and

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Chapter 19

on her crib.

Ok pence Dane.” Thalia immediately stood up and then bowed her head politely to the prince

“You can leave,” Dane said, he waved his hand, indicating for Thalia to leave them alone with the baby, but of course, she couldn't do that

good

pologize, prince Dane but I shouldn't have left the baby alone,” she said cautiously because she knew it didn't sound

“Alone! Can’t you see I am here?” Dane raised his brows. “A mere omega is dare enough to talk back to me?”

Thalia shivered, she was scared, but she knew that she shouldn’t leave the baby with them, she was torn.

But on the other hand, while Dane was talking with the omega, Killian had walked over to the crib and look at his baby

She was sleeping, her little mouth was slightly ajar and she looked so beautiful. The most beautiful baby that he had ever

Of course, she was his child, his daughter, there was no way she wouldn’t turn out very fine.

Killian couldn’t care less about anything else when he saw his daughter closely, he carried her from her crib and she made a . sound, as if he was disturbing her sleep.

Killian kissed **his** daughter for the first time and held her close to his chest, he liked her scent, she smelled so fine. “Jasonine”he cooed her name and then kissed her again.

He couldn’t explain how he felt right now, but he knew his heart was swelled with happiness. **This** was the kind of feeling that he had never felt before, there was no amount of happiness that he felt before that could compare to this moment

Killian was mesmerized by his daughter, he didn’t feel like he could be away from her anymore.

He stared at her Intle face, her little nose and her fingers that curled against his **front** clothes, she looked so serene and beautiful. The most beautiful creature that he had ever seen.

“You can’t take her away, Killian, Dane said, he managed to make Thalia left

What the prince said shattered Killian’s illusion and he growled at him. “Why not?” He roared angrily

SEND GIFT

COMMENT

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E

Chapter 50

“Why I can’t take away my own daughter?” Killian hissed dangerously at the king, he had her in his arms right now and he was not going to give her back to anyone. Now he had a chance to be with her, there was no way he would give it up just like that.

More so, if he managed to get the baby. Althea would come to seek for him eventually and **that** was all he needed to get to her.

the baby.

“I will take the baby.”

“No.” Dane’s voice was very stern and Killian growled at him for being difficult with him. He didn’t appreciate that at all. “You will cause trouble for me if you took away the baby, this is not what we planned.”

“I don’t care about the plan. I am here for taking back my baby and my **mate**.”

“**And** do you think you **will** be able to do that?”

“Yes”

The answer was very bold. Killian looked at the prince straight into his eyes, he didn’t want to back down, not after he got what he wanted.

Dane was not happy about this, he narrowed his eyes at Killian dangerously. “Put down the baby. You don’t know what kind of chaos that you will create if you took the baby away. I took you here to let you meet with your baby, not to take her away. Do you understand?”

Killian growled at him, he was enraged because in his eyes, this man was trying to take away his baby from him and he wouldn’t allow anyone to do that. “No.”

Dane was losing his patience with the way he blatantly rejected his direct order.

However, Killian was too mad to listen to anything that he said, he pressed the baby against his chest and this made Jasmine became uncomfortable, thus the baby was crying. She was woken up because of the tension in the room and the loud noise that came from Killian and Dane.

“You will not achieve anything if you are being stubborn, alpha Killian. Stick to our plan and you will get what **you** wanted, including your revenge on the king.”

“It’s you, who wanted the revenge on the king, not me.” He only wanted Althea,

“Do you **think** Alex will let go of Althea? He will be more than willing to go to extra length to make sure you are no longer a problem for him anymore.”

Killian scoffed. "They only met for a few months, do you really think that his feeling for her that deep?"

Dane scowled with derision. "You don't know him, alpha. You need to be careful when you provoked him, it will be backfired at you if you are being reckless when you faced him."

Dane put down all the possibilities that Killian would have to face if he took away the baby

"Do you really think you and your small pack could get **away** from the king's wrath? Trust me, he will come to you in full force and when it happened, you will nowhere to go. The warriors in your pack will not be able to handle the royal warriors. You will only lose so many things and in the end, you will not get the baby neither the mother of your baby."

Killian's pack was not small, but compared to the kingdom, of course, it almost felt like something that you shouldn't compare in the first place.

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Chapter 50

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+ 65%

"You think that Alex is only gny problem? He will be your problem if you wanted to mess with the people that he wanted and right now, he **wanted** your mate and your baby. You couldn't ignore that fact"

Killian gritted his teeth, he wanted to scream at his face and tell him to back off, but thermal part of him agreed that what this prince said was true.

He stared at his baby, she was **crying**, her face was so red and she curled her fingers tightly. The sound of his cry ripped his heart apart. He didn't want to make her cry.

On the other hand, once Thalia was being kicked out of the nursery room, she immediately went to the party room, where the event was held, trying to look for Althea, but she was informed that Althea currently was with the king, as she attended an important meeting.

They d

They didn't know when they would be done with the meeting.

“Can you slip a note for her?” Thalia asked the guard. “This is very important.”

Thankfully, the guard agreed with **that and** not long after, Althea came out from the room. “What happened?” she asked. She didn’t tell Alex about the note, she only told him that she needed to leave for a while because the baby was being **grumpy**.

Therefore, Alex didn’t come with her.

Though Althea was not sure what they were talking about, since the conversation was out of her element, she was wise enough to know that **was** an important meeting.

Lady Thalia then told her hastily about what happened and Althea’s heart was beating so hard when she ran across the **garden** and through the hallway, she felt her heart was beating so fast against her ribcage, she couldn’t imagine what Killian was trying to do with the baby, she hoped they wouldn’t take her baby away.

As she ran, she wondered whether she had to **tell Alex** about it or not, because she couldn’t face the prince, she didn’t have the authority to go against him,

Alex just introduced her, but she held no status by his side for now.

“Jasmine!” Althea opened the door and found Killian was inside the room, but prince Dane was not there. “Where is my baby?! Stay away from my baby!” Althea marched toward the crib and found Jasmine was sleeping there.

“I only came here to see my daughter,” Killian said, he stared at her gently, but a **harsh** slap landed **on** his face. “Stay away from her.”