

The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

Chapter 301

I didn't know what to expect, but when I opened my eyes, my heart warmed a bit when I saw soldier after soldier drop to their knees in a bow. I had never seen anything even remotely like it in my life. I had never had anyone follow me like this.

My eyes met Adrian's, and I knew I had won, even if he didn't yet. The only people still standing were those who had helped build the program. The ones who had stood by him and knowingly let him torture those kids or helped him do it. But there wasn't enough of them to even put up a good fight. I had enough people now to dismantle his forces. They had seen the horrors that those still standing had inflicted for the sake of power. They had seen what had happened to their children to some small degree.

The rush of power that filled me, made me nearly drop Claire. I fought to stand on my own two feet as I felt the rage of my pack. I didn't blame them. I hadn't even known the Program had existed, but I had practically lived under a rock. They had known about the Program, but they hadn't known what happened under its authority. And they were outraged.

I cradled Claire close to my body, and we walked the opposite direction of Adrian.

“I WILL KILL EVERYONE YOU HAVE EVER LOVED GRACE! YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I AM

CAPABLE OF. YOU WILL FALL UNDER MY CONTROL. EVERYONE WILL FALL UNDER MY

CONTROL. I HAVE THE CHOSEN ONE.”

I shook my head sadly. He didn't understand what I did now. I didn't know who he was calling

the Chosen One, but I was the Chosen One. The gods had picked me as their champion. They

had decided that a Lycan girl could unite the world she lived in, and I was determined to do so.

Failure was not an option. It never had been. But I understood my dreams now. Why the Moon Goddess had pulled me into her realm. For this moment, right now. I would defend the good, the innocent. For every kid that went through that program. For every kid that lives in fear after all they've done. But most importantly, I would do it for the girl inside me that never thought she would have a chance to be free. That girl who lived under a rock, and in prisons. For the girl who didn't know love but was now lucky enough to be showered in it. I would do it for the girl who was never supposed to stand a chance. I would do it for me.

“No,” I answered simply. “No, you don’t.”

“You will regret not siding with me! I will destroy this pack. Piece by piece. And you will watch it all burn to the ground before I take your life.”

“I won’t.” I told him gently, turning back for only a moment, giving him and his followers a final glance. “And you won’t.”

“You’re going to let your mate talk to me like this?!” He demanded of Rhys as he placed his around me, and I knew I had his full support. “I CAN DESTROY YOU AND YOUR WHOLE

DAMN PACK!”

And maybe in a different life, Rhys would have listened to him, but he shook his head and said, “No, you can’t. I’m with her. And I trust her to protect our pack.”

My heart swelled again at Rhys’ words, but I didn’t say anything. I didn’t have to. He trusted me, and that was enough. He trusted me to protect his pack. He trusted me to protect myself. But even more than that, he believed I could. I remembered the ‘prophecy’ he had told me about, and I wondered if he was thinking about it too, or if he was simply just in this moment with me. I reached for our bond, but it hardly gave anything away. I knew he was locked into this moment, and I didn’t

blame him. One wrong move could change everything for us, even if I did have complete and total faith in my plan.

“I can give you answers you crave, Grace. Why we made the choices we made. We can rule together as the most powerful!”

I scoffed at him. I am the most powerful. I didn't need him or his program junkies. I didn't want to even walk the same earth as him. The answers I craved? There were none anymore. I had always wanted to know why I had been so hated among my pack, but Kinsley had told me. It was all her and her mother. Her mother had bound me. She had kept me from my family. She had me ridiculed, tortured, and eventually even thrown in prison. She even made me a full household slave in order to keep me in line.

But I was the true heir. I held all the power. Not Kinsley. Not Adrian. Me. And I was no longer afraid of fulfilling my destiny. As I looked over the 'battlefield' that had existed only minutes before, I was in awe. The witches stood saluting me. The Vampires had all moved into position. behind their Queen, who gave me a subtle nod. None of them were standing with Elijah anymore. And then Lycans and Werewolves alike were all on their knees. At least most of them. Still bowing to me as if I had any right other than my birth to lead them.

“No, Grace,” A small voice I couldn't place said. “This was always your path.”

I didn't know if it was the Moon Goddess or my mom or someone else entirely. And honestly, it didn't matter who said it, I knew what they said to be true. This was always my destiny.

Staring out over all of them, I knew there would be no hesitation with my next order. They all knew the truth now.

I wouldn't be the one to kill Adrian and his followers.

“Finish them.” I told them all, forcing my voice to hold steady.

They would.

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The quiet was unsettling. I hated being in the dark about anything, but this was the worst I could ever remember feeling. A part of me truly regretted agreeing to stay with kids and other citizens, but it had really been the only choice. The kids who were already here from the program, and the new ones would need a face they recognized, and it would have to be me. Maizie had always been better at that stuff than me, but she was on the Mission, and if Rhys was potentially entrusting me with his Kingdom, I would have to get good at this stuff, fast.

The door opened, and in rushed both a ‘runner’ and two kids I didn’t recognize, but it was obvious they were from the Program.

“Carly!” I called out to the other girl. She might not have ‘rank’ like Maizie and I did, but she had always stepped up to help when she could, especially once we had moved here. I knew she

could help me set the kids up safely.

Iris began to stand up to, but I gestured for her to sit. I didn’t know exactly where she stood these days, but she looked a little hurt that I didn’t want her to greet the kids with me. I mean, we had talked at length about how we had been used and tormented and how we didn’t have to live like that. She seemed to understand that Rhys and Grace were good people, who would never hurt us like that, but still... I worried that if she was given the opportunity, she’d place doubts in the other kids’

heads or even lead a rebellion or something. We had come so far recently, but I was afraid all it would take was the fear of some new kids to set her back.

The next couple hours went on fairly rhythmically. Every 15 minutes or so, two to four new kids were brought in. Carly and I rotated who stayed with the new kids, and who went to greet the newer kids. I couldn't lie; it was lowkey exhausting.

I was sitting on the lower bunk of one of the younger kids' beds, when I started doing a head count, and worry began to settle in my chest. Nearly everyone was accounted for now, but I hadn't seen either of my brothers or Claire or Blaire for that matter. Every time the door opened, I waited with bated breath to see who was coming in, but every time I was disappointed.

The door opened again, and I nodded for Carly to go this time. The kiddo I was comforting was hugging my waist tightly. I had met him a couple years ago when he was 5, and now he was 7. He was like me too. Brought in as human, turned into something more. His father hadn't betrayed him for money and power like mine had. He had just had the awful misfortune of being an orphan. Not that we were ever really allowed to talk about our past lives before. But we had managed, at least a little bit. And as soon as he had seen me, he had reached out and not let go.

I heard Iris gasp, and I turned around to see what had her so surprised. To my amazement both Aaron and Mark with Blaire, standing awkwardly in the doorway as Carly talked to them. I didn't want to leave Devin, but I paired him with Sammy for a moment and went to meet my

brothers.

I couldn't believe it. Grace had done it. She had reunited my family.

Iris raced over to them, and I was hot on her heels, forcing myself not to run. To stay in control, but as soon as I was in arms reach, I lost all my resolve. I pulled my siblings into a group hug, and Iris let out a big sob. I didn't blame her either. A few months ago, I would have never believed that I would be reunited with them and have our freedom. At least, I hoped our freedom. I wasn't sure what was going on out there, but both of them wore grim expressions when we finally pulled away.

I ushered them into the bunks that Iris and I had picked out earlier, away from some of the prying ears of adults and kids alike and waited for whatever information they were going to

bring.

"Claire?" Iris asked hopefully.

"I didn't see her." Mark answered solemnly.

"Me either." Aaron answered uneasily. "But they were still searching. We were a couple of the last kids. Anyone else that comes through was probably pretty hidden."

I nodded and swallowed hard. It wasn't bad news. It just wasn't good either. Iris leaned into her twin, and I struggled to find the right words. I was sure that they had made sure to tell them that Claire was in their custody as soon as they had gotten her. Or maybe they had

always had her, and just used her as leverage from the very beginning. Either way, I didn't like it, but they were here, and they were safe. Grace had been right. Everything had been out of my hands for so long, I never stood a chance at protecting them out there, but here, here I could.

Carly took over greeting the newer kids completely, and after a while, I started to work again. As much as I wanted to stay huddled in a corner with my siblings, Rhys had trusted me to be a

part of a greater plan.

Hours passed, and the door hadn't opened in a while. I didn't know what to think of that. I hoped it meant that things were going well, but I worried. We could survive down here if we had to, Grace and Rhys had made sure of that. But was that really a life? I wasn't sure how that truly compared to the Program.

Carly and I fed and got most of the kids into bed without any trouble. It was only adults and older kids up still. I sat on my brother's bunk and stared longingly at the door. I didn't know

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what I was really feeling. I was grateful that my brothers and sister were here, but I worried about Claire. And Maizie. And Grace. And even Rhys. The people who had taken me in and called me family without a thing to gain. Who knew my abilities could be useful but didn't force me to fight.

At long last, the door opened, and Maizie walked in with a little girl clinging to her like the world was ending.

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I walked into the underground haven, clinging to Claire like my life depended on it.

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“Please don’t be dead. Please don’t be dead.” I repeated the mantra in my head over and over again to the point that they didn’t feel like real words anymore. I knew that the odds that the haven had failed without us knowing, was slim. We had passed multiple guards on our way into the house, and within it to truly believe that they weren’t fine. But until I saw them with my own eyes, each and every one of those kids, then it

wouldn’t matter.

I took a deep breath and opened the door. Grace was still out on the battlefield, healing whoever she could, but I knew she would be down here soon enough to heal the kids who we had rescued. For now though, I would have to be enough.

My eyes locked with his as soon as I crossed the threshold. My second. My best friend. And I was holding the most precious thing in the world to him.

I was wrapped in his hug before I even knew what had hit me. Long gone was the broody teen I had come here with.

“Maizie. Claire,” He murmured before pulling away. “Are you guys alright? Are you hurt?”

“We’re okay.” I told him. But the truth was, I was exhausted. My body was rebelling, and the idea of sleep soon was the only thing keeping me going. “Grace healed her.”

“You look like-” He trailed off mid-sentence and stared at something behind me.

I turned slightly to see what, and it was not something, but someone. Bentley and Sawyer were bounding down the stairs behind me. And I was confused at that look on Michael’s face. But it became clearer when Bentley halted next to me, his eyes wide.

I didn’t know what was happening. They both were staring at each other in shock.

“Michael?” I tried before Michael flung himself at Bentley and Bentley wrapped him up muttering, “You’re alive, you’re alive, you’re alive.”

Holy fuck. I hadn't realized they had known each other... like that. How did anyone in that godforsaken place had a relationship like that? And Bentley... My rival? I mean to be fair; Michael and I had faked a rivalry for years... We had both used the other to take care of our siblings. Blaire had always been under him. Michael and I had always been equals. It was a crazy system, that I was glad I would never have to be a part of ever

again.

"Let's give them some space," Sawyer mindlinked gently.

It still startled me when he did it, but there were worse things. I could live with him scaring me sometimes.

Sawyer placed his hand on the small of my back, and we immediately started back

toward the other kids. I really didn't feel like being here. But these were my people. They were my responsibility. Even if they fell under Grace technically, I would always feel responsible for this group.

Aaron took Claire from me, and I made my rounds, checking on everyone. I stopped by Blaire's bed and ran my fingers through her hair. It was late now, nearly everyone was asleep, and my sister was one of them. It had been a crazy

day, and everyone had questions, but just getting to sleep was a rarity. Especially if you didn't know what tomorrow would hold, I didn't blame a single person for sleeping.

"I can't wait to meet her," Sawyer whispered in my ear.

Goddess. I had to talk to him. Like really talk to him. But I was scared of his reaction. It wasn't something we had talked about. I didn't know where he stood on it, and that was

terrifying.

"Me too," I responded, but I couldn't hide the strain in my voice.

Sawyer stiffened but didn't respond.

"Is everyone okay down there?" Grace mindlinked.

God-fucking-damn-it. This mindlink thing was getting old fast. No one had expected Lycan's to be able to mindlink, and honestly, we found out kind of on accident when Grace stepped into her power as Alpha of the Red Blood pack, but here we were now

using it as if it had always existed.

“Yes.” Sawyer responded for the both of us. “Everything is good here. Any trouble up

there?”

“No.” She answered, and the fatigue in her voice was a little unsettling. “If anyone awake would like to return to their homes or rooms they can. The kids can come up to the Alpha floor. Everything has been secured, and we are setting up the apartment now.”

Sawyer and I worked together with Michael and Bentley and got everyone settled.

Nobody wanted to stay down there, and I didn’t blame them. It was nice to have

something productive to do, and it was fun seeing the Alpha suite full again.

It was nearly morning when we finally returned to our room. The sun's light was just starting to reach out and touch the sky, but it didn't matter to me. I'd be able to sleep

for a month after the last few days.

Sawyer showered first, and then I took one. I was standing in front of the mirror staring at myself, when Sawyer walked in and wrapped his arms around me.

"Are you going to tell me why you look sad and worn or are we still pretending you're fine?" He questioned gently.

"I'm not sad." I answered a little too quick

Sawyer frowned slightly. "Then are you going to tell me what's going on?"

"I'm pregnant." The words fell from my lips before I could stop them.

Sawyer's arms dropped from around me, and I immediately regretted saying anything. What if he had never wanted kids? What if he left me over it? All I ever wanted was to be a mother... And would he be mad that I prioritized the mission? I had been afraid if he knew before that I wouldn't have been able to go. I didn't want to upset him... I

couldn't handle it if-

“Stop spiraling.” He commanded after a moment, turning me to face him “Are you happy

about this?”

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“Well, if you're not-”

“That's not what I asked. Are you happy about this?”

“Yes.” It was barely a whisper.

But he smiled and lifted me off my feet and spun me around. I laughed as his lips met

mine. This moment was all I could ever ask for. I should have known he would be excited

for it. We were going to raise our baby in a safe world thanks to what had happened here today, and that was something to be truly excited for, and even more so proud of our part in it.

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The battle had hardly lasted even a half hour after Grace's grand entrance. Those who had seen an error to their ways surrendered, and the rest never stood a chance. They had seen the things their children had gone through. I wasn't sure how Grace had managed

to share her memories like that, but she had. And it had been enough to change the

tides of war. We hadn't even needed our allies from the other packs. By the time they had arrived, everything was over... Adrian was dead. Elijah was imprisoned, waiting for his mother to officially announce her sentence, and anyone who tried to fight it was

dead too. It was over, and now it was time to work on rebuilding.

Kate was testing allegiances as we spoke, but there was no need for us to be a part of that. We trusted her, and I was dying for a moment alone with my mate.

Her face was pale, and even though she was trying to hide it, I could tell that she was exhausted. A lesser man like Adrian saw her abilities as something to be used, I saw her for what she truly was. The Alpha Queen of this world. She was more than a Luna. She was a true Alpha. A true Queen. And I would not stand in her way. I would stand beside her in every endeavor from here on out. She outranked me, and I couldn't care any less

about it.

Even now as she stood in front of the mirror, her towel wrapped around her torso, her blonde hair dark from being wet, I could see her power. She stood straighter. Less afraid. No longer did she see herself as a monster. She was brave, and kind, and generous. She was finally exactly who she was always meant to be.

So much had happened to get us here. I wrapped my arms around her, and she dropped the towel. Her shoulders held several new scars. Battles always come with a few new wounds, but she hadn't so much as batted an eye. I traced the new ones, first with my

fingers, then with my tongue.

My goddess, she was perfect. She was everything I ever wanted, and she was all mine.

"How are you feeling?" I asked.

"We don't have to do that." She answered, her eyes flickering to my lips.

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"We probably should," I responded, pecking the corner of her lips with mine.

"I'm the true Luna of the Red Blood pack," She answered, her breath hitching with my casual kisses.

“No,” I replied as she returned my little kisses on the drops of water still on my skin. “You are the true Alpha of the Red Blood pack. You are the true Alpha of Lycan’s and Werewolves. You my dear, are the Alpha Queen.”

She smiled up at me. It was a tired smile. One where it was obvious the weight of the world seemed to have fallen on her shoulders. But also, there was a pride I hadn’t seen there before, and a strength that I was still getting used to.

“I’m so proud of you.” I told her through the mindlink as her lips met mine. “You have come so far, my love.”

My hands were in her damp hair, and hers roamed my body, sending sparks through me with every touch. Gods. There was nothing more perfect than this moment.

“Ahem.”

I jumped away from Grace and quickly shielded her with my body as she scrambled for

her towel.

We were no longer in the bathroom. Once again, we were in the same Meadow we had been in the first time we entered the land of the Gods. This time though everything was brighter. The trees were all alive in every direction now. The flowers were brighter and taller. There was no dead zone anymore.

“Sorry for the interruption, but I had to talk to you.”

“Is everything okay?” Grace asked, stepping up next to me, looping her arm through

mine.

“Oh yes,” The Moon Goddess smiled. “I just needed to say thank you. You did better than I could have ever imagined.”

“Okay...” I said slowly. “Then why are we here?”

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“There’s a couple of loose ends we need to cover.” She answered. “I want to make sure that Grace is comfortable with her new role. I know it was never your plan, my dear, but it was always mine. You are a free woman now of all the things that have plagued you for so long. You know the truth now. And though I hate that you had to go through all the things you did, you lived up to your name well and handled it all with Grace. Change will not come easy, but I have no doubt that you will lead our people into a new age of

kindness and strength.”

“I will.” Grace answered, and I gave her a little squeeze.

We sat there and talked through plans for a while. The Moon Goddess wanted to make sure we felt supported not just in our roles but with the supernatural counsel too. I appreciated her effort, even if it was the last thing I wanted to be doing. All we had been doing for months was planning for a war we didn’t fully understand. But I appreciated her care. She would make sure there were no traitors left in our pack, and once that was settled, it would be up to Grace and I to keep relations and everything running smoothly. There would be no more help from the Gods in the way we had sort of grown

accustomed to.

Thanks to her help my mate and I would have forever to be with each other, so it didn’t really matter that she had interrupted our first alone time moment in a while. We would get to have a lifetime of them now that this war was over.

“There is one more thing I’d like to ask...” The Moon Goddess said gently right when we were finally about to leave.

“What is it?” Grace asked curiously.

“It’s about Caleb...”

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The next few weeks passed in a blur. I swear there wasn't a single dull moment. Between reuniting families, readjusting foster homes, figuring out how to split territory, politics, and wedding planning, every minute of my day had been occupied. And on top of everything, we had 3 new kids in our family. Going from 1 to 2 kids hadn't been too

bad.

I mean, Iris had had her moments. To say she wasn't a challenge, especially in the

beginning, would be a lie, considering she tried to betray us to the vampires. But nothing could have prepared us to have all 5 of them under our roof. Especially 5 kids

who had trust issues and mountains of trauma, and now one with a boyfriend... And despite their love for each other, the happiness of reuniting only lasted about 5 minutes before the bickering started. Michael was the only kid with an official room so far, and that was a problem. He had been sharing Iris since she had arrived, and he had wanted

all his siblings to be in his space, but I was high-key regretting that because they fought over who slept in the bed, what they watched on tv, this person is touching me, this person is taking too long in the bathroom. It was endless.

But I was glad that as of yesterday, the Alpha Suite was no longer housing any kids from the program, except our adoptees. After the wedding today, Rhys and I would be taking a whole 2 weeks off of work. Now that nearly everything in the pack was settled, we felt

comfortable. The first couple days we were going to spend alone up at the cabin, but after that we were going to come back and get adjusted as a family. We didn't know how

to be parents yet. Not in the real sense, but we would figure it out. Just like we always

did.

“Oh Grace! You look beautiful!” Alana exclaimed as she and Maizie walked in.

Alana was wearing a dusty rose, floor length halter top dress. Maizie had let me pick the color. She hated wedding planning, and even though she had sat in on nearly every meeting Alana and I had had on the topic, she had barely given her input on anything. We had barely gotten her to pick a dress.

But standing here in front of me today, in her form fitting, lacey, white dress, I knew I had made the right decision.

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Her and Sawyer would be married right alongside Rhys and I today, and honestly, I couldn't wait. The idea of sharing this day with one of my best friends was something I could never have dreamed of asking for. Plus, it took some of the attention off of me, and I was grateful for it.

"You both look incredible." I responded as I rushed to give them a hug.

Alana hugged me back, but Maizie just kinda stood there. I knew she wasn't a big hugger, but this felt different.

“Having second thoughts?” I asked her when I pulled away.

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“No, no,” She said immediately. “It’s just, I have something to tell you, and I don’t want

you to be mad...”

“Okay... You’re my family, Maiz, whatever you have to tell me, you can.” I tried to be encouraging, but my mind started going places it shouldn’t. Rhys had had girls before me and replaced them like it was nothing... Was I being replaced? Or did Caleb slip back into his old girl stealing habits?

She took a deep breath, and I held mine.

“I’m pregnant.” She said finally.

I froze and so did Alana. “What?”

“I’m pregnant.” She repeated, wringing her hands and staring at them.

“Oh my god!” I exclaimed excitedly, throwing my arms around her happily. “Why would you ever be mad to tell me that? It’s not Rhys’ kid, is it?”

“What? No!” She looked aghast. It was a poor joke. Even though I had been worried, I really didn’t think she would ever do something like that to me, my mind had still gone there. “I just thought you would think I’m too young, and this Alpha Suite is already so crowded. I don’t know. I didn’t know how you’d react.”

“Are you happy?” I asked her.

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“What?”

And Alana smiled and begun to work her magic on my hair as I sat down.

“Are you happy?”

“Yes, I wasn’t planning on it happening, but I’ve always wanted to be a mom. And I know I have Blaire, but I can do this.”

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“I know you can,” I told her. “And you’re going to figure it out. Rhys and I will help wherever we can. We’ve been talking about expanding the packhouse, maybe it’s time we expedite it.”

For the first time, since she had walked in, she smiled. I was happy to have been able to

take the weight off her shoulders. I knew having her sister with her 24/7 was weird. She

had always been her sort of caregiver, even before the program, but it was different now. Blaire was growing up herself, and she had no idea who she was. She had always had someone telling her who to be, and now she had to find it out for herself. Though, it

wasn't hard to see that her and Aaron seemed to have some feelings for each other. Plus, if you added on the mom resentment, and mom trying to enter back into both their lives, it was all complicated. But they were working through it, and that was all that mattered. Their future happiness. Even if it was hard now.

"Congratulations," Alana told Maizie softly.

"Thanks for everything, Alana." Maizie replied. "I couldn't do this without you guys."

"Come on, guys, we have a wedding to get ready for."

And we spent the next few hours fooling around. Alana did both Maizie and my hair, and then Maizie did Alana's. She might not be getting married today, but she deserved to look beautiful. Plus, today was the deadline. The Moon Goddess would make her choice today, and I hoped she had taken what I had said seriously. But regardless, today would be incredible. And getting to do it with my best friends made it even better. I couldn't wait to marry Rhys.

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We were gathered in the small room that Alana kept calling the ‘holding room’, which I thought sounded a little too much like jail, but would lead us to the path we would all walk down. I had a been a little nervous about having an outdoor wedding in winter, but with Lycan and Werewolves it wouldn’t matter too much. Plus, Rhys had made sure to supply plenty of space heaters for the few humans who were braving the weather to come. They were so grateful that we had saved them and stopped the endless kidnappings in their city. They could live without fear now.

The snow had started falling about an hour ago, and I was secretly excited. I had always loved snow and to have it on my wedding day, was nothing short of magical. I looked at Maizie in her white dress, and Alana, Blaire, Iris and Sammy in their blush colored dresses, my heart warmed. That had been the one thing Maizie and I had discussed in depth. She hadn’t cared much about the wedding planning, but the colors of the bridesmaids and flower girl dresses, I made her help make a choice. And now as I stared out at them as they made the final preparations, I couldn’t help but feel incredibly blessed that we got to have this moment without any major threats baring down on us.

The door cracked open, and Michael popped his head in with a hand over his eyes.

“Can we come in?” He asked.

I couldn't contain my giggles, and Maizie had to answer for me. "Yes idiot, we got dressed hours ago."

Michael removed his blindfold and shrugged sheepishly. "Just wanted to be sure."

He looked so grown up in his little tux. He had a bowtie that matched the girls' dresses. I was also impressed by how good the suit fit him.

Bentley pushed past him, smacking him on the back of the head as he entered. He was going to walk Maizie down the aisle. They had apparently been rivals at the program but now had no hard feelings. The people they had been there, weren't the same as the people they could be here, and everyone was learning that lesson.

"AUNT GRACE!" Sammy bellowed as she bounded into the room, Caleb hot on her heels.

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I picked her up and swung her around. She was one of my favorite things to have come out of this war. The love I felt for her was more than I ever imagined. But that's the thing about love, there's always more to go around.

I had been so wrapped up in Sammy, I hadn't noticed the way Caleb had stopped in his tracks or the way Alana was just staring at him.

"What's happening?" Sammy asked, a little frown forming on her face. "Dad are you

okay?"

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"Shh." I whispered in her ear. She might not understand now, but she would one day. She

would one day be thrilled she got to witness such a thing.

“Mate.” Caleb finally said barely about a whisper.

Alana didn’t say anything. She looked like a deer in headlights. I didn’t know what the proper protocol was for this moment.

“Alana?” Caleb tried.

She turned toward him, and he took that as a good sign.

“Um let’s give them a minute,” I whispered, pulling Sammy and Michael toward the

corner, and Maizie grabbed Bentley.

“What’s happening?” Sammy whispered.

“Your daddy is getting his chance.”

We waited with bated breath for something, anything to happen. Maizie pointed at the clock, but I just waved her off. Our guests and Rhys would be wondering what was happening soon, but this wasn't something we could rush.

"There's been a development." I mindlinked Rhys as Alana and Caleb started to talk in low voices. We could all eavesdrop if we wanted, but it felt wrong.

"Good or bad?" He asked.

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"How do you feel about getting married with your brother?"

"I am... Aren't I?"

"One of them, yes." I replied. "But what about both?"

"Holy fuck, it happened?" There was an eagerness in his tone that told me he was very happy for his brother, but also a little surprised that it had happened.

“It did. It’s up to Alana now.”

“Take your time. I’ll stall.”

I smiled to myself and turned back to Alana and Caleb whose lips were now glued together.

“So, are we having a triple wedding or not?” I asked.

Alana turned toward me, her mouth gaping.

“What?”

“Do you want to be a bride today?” I asked.

“You knew?” Alana demanded, leaning into Caleb, so casually it warmed my heart. They

both deserved to be happy.

“I had my suspicions,” I admitted.

“Wait, wait, I haven’t even asked her yet!” Caleb interjected.

I gave him a pointed look, and he smirked, dropping down to one knee. “Alana, my heart has been yours since we were children. I took the long way to get here, and I’ve made a lot of mistakes in this life, but you have never faltered. Alana, will you marry me, despite

it all?”

“Yes!” She exclaimed. “Oh my gosh, yes. Wait, but if we join you, our numbers are

wrong...”

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I smiled. "I have a plan."

I quickly mindlink the two people I thought could help. They flew in through the door within moments, and everyone just stared at them in shock. After everything that had happened, I wasn't sure how this would be received, but I hoped it would be

sentimentally.

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"Michael will walk with me, that isn't changing." I told them. "But Maizie will walk with her mom, and Alana, you'll walk with Caleb's... And Alana if you want to change, I do have a dress that I saw you eyeing before..."

Suddenly, we were in a bit of a mad scramble. My plan had worked flawlessly. Alana had changed into the wedding dress. It was flowy and perfect for her. The moms were thrilled to have been asked to be a part of the day, and Bentley didn't

mind having to take a seat to watch. He hadn't really cared about being in the wedding, and he had known that he was a decoy from the beginning.

Sammy threw her flowers, and then Maizie and her mom walked down the aisle together, and the Alana and her mom. Then it was my turn.

Michael hooked his arm through mine, and I gave him a small smile before turning to face the love of my life. Everything had been in such turmoil for so much of my life, but this? This was my future. Not only was I marrying the love of my life, and getting to do it with my friends, I was officially becoming the Alpha Queen. For the first time in my life, I had a clear destination to go in, and I was running at it at full force. Together, we could do anything.

Chapter Comments

The Unwanted Daughter's Alpha King

Chapter 307

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“Grace, from the day I first saw you, I knew our paths were intertwined. I didn't know how, I didn't know why, I just knew I needed to get you the hell out of that godforsaken place. You didn't speak. Your wolf was bound. I didn't understand

why I was so drawn to you. But as fate slowly unraveled, it became clearer and clearer that we were destined to

be together. I knew you were my fate before you even suspected such a thing. And as soon as I had the suspicion, I was locked in. I never wanted you to want anything. You had me wrapped around your finger before I even knew what was happening. There is no me without you, Grace. You are my heart. My soul. My forever. I will gladly bow to you in any fight. You are the love of my life. And for as long as fate will allow it, I am yours.”

Even after all these years, Rhys’ vows still rang through my head. That day had been nothing short of perfect. I got married on the same day as each of my best friends, now officially family. I married the love of my life. I was crowned Alpha Queen. And for the first time in my life, I truly partied.

7 years have passed now since that day, and so many other perfect days have come and gone. Maizie was the first of us to have kids. Her daughter, Haven, is 7 now, and looks just like her mom. They also have a son, Jack, who is 3. Alana and Caleb were next with the kids; Sammy was absolutely thrilled to have siblings. They had twin boys, Miles and Cam, who were 5, and their youngest son, Riley, who was 2. And obviously then, Rhys and I were last to have biological children, though, we had our hands full with the 5 kids we had adopted.

Iris was now one of the top warriors of our pack. She had trained with Maizie and Kate everyday as a way to cope with how everything had changed, and now she could beat nearly everyone, except Rhys, though she was getting close. Aaron had recently found out that Blaire was his mate. He was in school to become a teacher. School was what he had thrown himself into, and I still couldn’t grasp just how smart he was. Mark was still in high school. He hadn’t really found his thing yet, but I have been told he’s a pretty good athlete. I will always think he’s the best, but that might be my Mama opinion, and not the truth. And Claire, man, it took a

while for her to come out of her shell. She didn't speak for about a year or so, and even then, she was fairly quiet. She kept close to her arts and crafts, and we supported every new endeavor that she tried. She really started to come out of her shell when we had the next kid, Adalyn, or better known as Addie. She's three now, and a menace to her siblings, but Claire and her are inseparable.

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And lastly there's Lincoln, he's only 2, but he has the biggest Alpha personality. And I haven't told Rhys yet, but our third biological kid is on the way. I haven't had the gender reveal scan yet because it's too early to tell, but I think it's a girl. I can't wait to see who they all turn out to be.

Balancing family and work has been a process. For so long we had just thrown ourselves into a war that had demanded all of our attention, but Heather and Leon have been so helpful at helping us not be complete workaholics. Everyone has their roles now, and we have a really nice system, but I will admit that sometimes following it is easier said than done. And sometimes I miss the days where we all crammed in Rhys' office and I'd sit on his desk, and Maizie would be on the floor, and there were no baby or kid disruptions. At least not in the same way. And I have to admit that sometimes it was hard to turn my

brain off from work to kids.

Even now, as I sit at this event that is supposed to have my complete and undivided attention, my mind keeps wandering to all the things that aren't important anymore. Did I order the right flowers? Do the caterers actually have the official menu? And what about the meeting tomorrow? Did I save the address? Queen Margaret was here somewhere, perhaps I could double check with her at some point tonight.

The event was already in full swing, so whether the flowers were right or not or the caterers were prepared, it didn't really matter. And honestly if we missed one supernatural meeting, it really wouldn't be the end of the world.

Today was about love, and nothing could truly distract me from that. Today was about Michael and Bentley FINALLY getting married.

They had known they were mates officially for 5 years now. As soon as Michael turned 18, but it was pretty obvious even before that. Everyone seemed to know but them. When they became mates, I kept waiting for an engagement announcement, but none ever came. They were both content with where their relationship was. At least, that's what they said. I think Michael worried about what Rhys would think. That boy only ever wanted to please him. But Rhys had never been anything but supportive, and when Rhys told them that they would both be the next Alpha's officially, no longer would it jump to Sawyer, that they decided to get married. I think it also might have had to do with them wanting to start a family of their own.

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Ours has grown so much over the years, and yet it was hard to imagine it any other way. I will cherish every moment that my babies are still my babies, and I will hug my big kids tight, no matter how big that get. I never imagined that this would be my life. I was the unwanted daughter mated to the Alpha King, and now I was the Alpha Queen, and I was exactly where I was meant to be.

Chapter Comments

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Write Comments