

Rejected by the Alpha Claimed by the Lycan King

Chapter 11

"Alex, this is really not good." Greyson came to him with a storm on his expression. He finally voiced out his displeasure with the way the king had been acting lately.

Yes. Alexander was the king of the El Marca continent. The main island where the shifters lived. He was the lycan king.

The lycan was a royal blood. There were not many of them, but if you saw one, that person must come from royalty and Alex was the king.

"You have been neglecting your duty," Greyson was not happy with the way Alex chose to play around with that pregnant woman. "What is your goal to stay with her?"

Alexander just returned from Althea's rented house. This time, he dragged the royal healer to come with him to check on her condition and the baby.

After last night she was having a breakdown, he was afraid that she had hurt herself and the baby in her womb. Thankfully, there was nothing to be worried about, but just like he had predicted, she and the baby were underweight, Althea really needed to take a good care of herself and watch what she ate.

"Why are you being so loud?" Alex was in a good mood because Althea was being a little bit more welcoming with him.

"You will not be able to get to him, let him be," Northern said. He was the royal beta, while Greyson was the royal g**a. "As long as he didn't touch alcohol excessively like usual. He will be fine."

"Are you taking his side?" Greyson growled in annoyance.

Northern didn't know what Alex found in that pregnant woman, but probably he could guess that. However, there was no harm for the king to take a fancy on her, as long as he stayed sober and started to function again, because truth be told, the last year since he lost his mate and the baby in her womb, he was a complete mess.

"There is no side to take," Northern said casually.

"Where are you going now?!" Greyson watched Alex was going to leave again.

"I got an invitation to have a dinner somewhere," Alex said cheerfully.

"You have the best chefs here, but you preferred to eat a small meal inside that small rented house?" Greyson was going on with his complain, but Alex already left, leaving Northern to deal with the g**a.

"Can you calm down?"

"He has been neglecting his duty."

"Compared to what happen the last year, he is very active now."

Greyson couldn't say anything when Northern brought up how Alex was last year. Even ghost would be scared of him.

"Let her to have some fun."

"What if he took a fancy of that woman?"

"He only feels pity for the pregnant woman. He will come to his sense eventually."

"No." Greyson shook his head. "What if he wanted that woman?"

Northern took a moment to answer that question. "No. He knew that he will not be able to take the woman. He is smart enough to know there is no future for the two of them."

Greyson furrowed his brows. "You know how stubborn Alex could be."

And both the royal beta and g**a prayed thing wouldn't turn out to be very complicated later on.

Royal family was rarely seen in public, even though people knew their king's name, but not all the people had ever met with him in person, unless the king decided to shift into his beast, which was a form of lycan, they wouldn't know that Alexander was the king.

Even so, the way he carried himself and the authority that he wore like a cloak was hard to ignore. The women would take a second look on his face and tried to think from what noble family he came from.

"For a while," Althea said when she heard the knock on the door and opened it to see a bouquet of flowers in front of her face and then Alex's scent hit her, which made her laugh.

It felt so nice to be able to laugh like this. She couldn't remember when the last time she felt happy.

"Come in." Althea stepped aside and then let him in.

"The smell is so good. I am hungry." Alex handed the flower to Althea and then went to the area area. You couldn't say that this was a dinning area, because of how small this place was.

"Thank you, I just finished roasted a deer meat that you bought." Althea took a big jar to place the flower. Alex would come with flowers or food, or both.

She didn't know what to say, but she was very grateful for him.

Can we eat now? I am hungry!" He whined like a child. "You are really a great cook. Do you want to work in the palace?" He asked casually, which made Althea laughed.

"What? Do you know someone from the palace that could take me in?"

Alex grinned. "You can say that I know someone powerful in the palace to let you to be more than just a cook."

Althea laughed again, but she didn't indulge in that conversation and started to prepare their dinner, because she really just finished cooking.

"No. Sit down. I will do it." Alex immediately nudged her to sit down, but he saw how she flinched with his touch, thus he didn't do it again. He simply stepped in and started to move around the plates and their meat, preparing everything on the table.

"Thank you so much," Althea said, being very grateful for him.

"Well, if you were really grateful, you need to feed me dinner every day."

Althea rolled her eyes and started to eat her meal. They were having conversation about trivial thing and when they were done, she heard someone knocked on the door.

"Are you expecting a guest?" Alex asked, as far as he knew, Althea didn't have friend aside from that woman in the flower shop.

Chapter 12

Willow must be crazy, but she managed to catch up with Killian a day before his departure to the main island.

She even managed to track him down, which inn that he stayed the night. The warriors, who came with their alpha were shocked to see her there in the middle of the night.

Killian left his beta and g**a to look after the pack, but he took his five best warriors with him to the main land, he needed people to help him to look for Althea after all.

"I want to see Killian. Move aside, Gabriel," Willow said. She knew them all, since she had been with Killian for years. This was one of the reasons why she couldn't throw away those years they spent together just like that and she believed, Killian also felt the same like her. [Search The Find_Novel.net website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"The alpha doesn't want to see you, Willow. Please, go back." Gabriel looked at Willow with helpless look. He felt bad for Willow, but he also felt bad for the alpha, even more to Althea, because she was the one, who took the brunt because of her disappearance.

She was accused of murdering her own sister, ostracized by the pack member and Gabriel was very sure that Killian had not been treating her well during her time with him, when Althea stayed inside his quarter for months.

"Go back, Willow. You will only upset him more if you showed up now."

Willow growled at the warrior. "Step back, Gabriel. I am not coming here for nothing."

"But, this is for the best, Willow." Kean stepped in too. He was one of the five warriors that Killian brought with him. "The alpha is in a very bad mood."

"No! Don't touch me! Killian will cut off your hands if you dare to touch me!" Willow hollered, she started to scream and throw a tantrum when Kean and Gabriel actively blocked her way to reach the alpha's room. She was crying, kicking and in the end, she shifted into her beast.

Seeing this, Kean and Gabriel didn't know what to do. If you wanted to handle a beast, you needed to shift as well, but for a shifter to shift into their beast, it was not a good sign, because they only did that when their life was threatened to defend themselves or to attack.

Willow obviously chose the latter reason to shift.

"Willow, don't do this." Gabriel shook his head, his eyes stern. He could tackle her down easily, but he was afraid that he was going to hurt her in the process.

However, Willow didn't listen.

Meanwhile, inside the bedroom, Killian was not sleeping, he listened the commotion out there, but he didn't have any desire to step out. He believed, his warriors would be able to handle Willow without his interference.

Somehow, he felt nothing toward Willow. Probably, in his mind and heart, she was already dead, thus seeing her alive brought nothing to him. His love for her died the moment he learned the truth from her mouth about her disappearance.

She met her destined mate and chose to runaway with him, while he met his destined mate and chose violent to deal with her and now, both of them had their own consequences.

When the commotion out there grew louder, Killian didn't care much about it and choose to stare at the ocean. He couldn't see the main island from here and now he realized how far apart he was from his destined mate and all of this was because of his fault.

However, when the commotion didn't die down and actually was getting louder, Arahkin entered the room and informed him that Willow had been injured because their warriors tried to stop her in their beast form, but they couldn't avoid to hurt her, since she was being very persistent.

"What we should do now, alpha?" Arahkin asked. He felt bad because he could see how the alpha didn't seem to care.

"Throw her out of the inn. Let the inn's people dealt with her."

Arahkin was surprised to get this order, because he used to see how in love the alpha was Willow. Let alone to hear her was being hurt, he would flip the table if he heard as much as she complained about something.

He pampered her silly and did whatever thing she wanted him to do.

"But..." Arahkin wanted to suggest for the alpha to meet with her for a while, since she had been crying for him, but when he saw the look on the alpha's face. He knew there was no compromise for this. "Yes, alpha."

With that, Arahkin left the room and the commotion finally died down. It was very quiet and calm night, but all Killian could think of the look of sadness and despair in those beautiful eyes of Althea.

She had told him countless times that she didn't kill Willow, but he didn't believe her. No one believed her but Sean.

Killian clutched his chest, because he felt this sharp pain in his heart. He didn't know what to do with this pain, but he knew it wouldn't go away soon.

The next day, Killian went through a different door to get to his ship, in order to avoid Willow, who was still waiting for him outside of the inn.

Once the ship sailed, he watched the clear sky, it was so bright and beautiful, but somehow, Killian felt the universe was mocking him.

“Althea...” The name slipped from his lips and he closed his eyes. He wanted to remember the smell of her scent and the softness of her skin, but all he could see was how h****s his action.

Killian gritted his teeth and opened his eyes, he was standing at the ship deck and in the harbor, he could see Willow was staring at him.

It seemed, she finally realized that he had left. Tears streamed down her cheeks.

Chapter 13

Willow hated herself for what she had done. After she watched Killian left, she managed to catch a glimpse of him before the ship sailed.

Unfortunately, she couldn't get a ticket for herself in the last minute and if she wanted to go to the main island, she needed to wait for the next ship, which was two weeks from now.

However, the look on Killian's eyes when the ship took him away, would forever haunt her because she saw coldness, indifference. Those the same eyes that used to look at her with love, as if he was going to go through fire if it meant he could be with her, but right now, there was nothing left.

He didn't even budge when he saw her crying.

“What have I done?” Willow cried so hard.

She returned to the same inn that Killian occupied and demand the same room, the room that he used the previous night. She didn't even allow them to clean it up because she missed him so much, she wanted to be able to smell his scent.

She regretted her impulsive decision to get away with her destined mate. She thought, as long as she had love for him, she could face everything.

As it turned out, being poor and had to live in that way didn't suit her at all. Love alone was not enough, even the mate bond was not enough to make her living situation with her destined mate became more bearable.

"What have I done? What should I do now?" Willow was certain that she was going to go to main island to beg for Killian's forgiveness, but how she could find him in such big area? Main island was the central of the capital city, where the palace was.

She had never been there...

Thankfully, four days later, her parents came, they figured out that Willow must have come after Killian, but after the date Killian departure had passed and Willow still had not yet returned, they became worried and looked for her here.

"You don't know anyone in the main island, Willow," Abigail was crying when she heard what her daughter wanted to do. Please, go home with us. The alpha will be able to find your sister and he will return with her too."

"No!" Willow wailed. "No! I have to talk to him again before he could find Althea!"

Willow's eyes were puffy and her lips were chapped because she had been crying for days. She couldn't let Killian met with Althea first. She needed to talk to him first and make him understand how much she regretted her action.

She still believed that there was still a little bit love deep inside him for her. There was no way he would be able to forget about her very easily.

"Willow, please, understand. You are not in the position to demand this from him..." Brian tried to talk sense to his daughter. "This is the consequences of your action, you need to live with it and let the alpha to find his happiness."

"No!" Willow shrieked. "His happiness is with me, he said it to me himself!" Willow didn't want to accept what her father said.

"Don't talk like that to our daughter! You only make her feeling even worse," Abigail reprimanded her mate. She tried to calm Willow down again, because she was crying so much now.

Althea is pregnant with his child, how are you going to do with that fact?" Brian threw the reality to their faces and this only made the two women became even more furious.

"We will think about that later." Abigail looked at Brian sternly, as if telling him not to bring up this topic. "Killian had rejected Althea after all and I don't think Althea is going to accept him. They could raise their child together without being together."

"You are insane," Brian said in disbelief.

"Why don't you help me?" Willow looked at her father, she looked so hurt and this made Brian unable to say anything to bring them back to the reality of the situation.

“Don’t worry, don’t worry, we will go to the main island, okay? We will go with you to find the alpha,” Abigail reassured her daughter. “We have a property there, we can live in the capital city and look for the alpha, okay?”

“Are you insane? Are you telling me that we are going to the capital city now?” Brian shook his head.

“If you didn’t want to go, I will go with Willow.” Abigail then added. “I need to see Althea too. Don’t you want to see her?”

It had been a week ever since Killian arrived in the main island and he purchased a house to live with his five warriors, so it would make thing easier for them when they looked for Althea in this big city.

However, the result was very depressing. He couldn’t find her and it close to two week they were here.

Of course, two weeks were such a short time, but it drove Killian insane to think they were in the same city, but he still couldn’t catch a glimpse of her. She was so close, yet so far away from his reach.

But, thankfully, three days later, they found a clue about a woman with the same description as Althea. She was pregnant, around seven months pregnant and she worked at the flower shop.

Killian didn’t know much about Althea, because his focus was on her sister, but he knew that she loved flower, thus he had a strong feeling that it must be her.

“Where does she live?” Killian stood up from his seat. It was already night, but he couldn’t wait until tomorrow. He wouldn’t be able to sleep either.

“She rented a small room, I will take you there,” Gabriel said.

Killian didn’t wait for another second and went to see her, but his heart sunk to see where she lived.

Chapter 14

Althea came from a comfortable family, though Brian didn’t hold any important position for the pack, but his business was the one that became the backbone of the pack’s economy.

Therefore, to see her living in this kind of place made Killian gritted his teeth. She lived in luxury, but how could she choose to live here? This building didn't look safety, as if it was going to collapse anytime.

But then, Killian was reminded that Althea didn't bring anything with her, aside from the ring that Sean gave to her, in which she got the money after she pawned it.

It wouldn't be a lot to be able to support herself and their baby.

Killian felt this rage that ran through his veins, because Althea chose to leave with his baby and put herself in this situation without even letting him knew about her pregnancy.

He would do thing differently if he knew....

With steady step, Killian walked into the building, he walked so fast, because he didn't want to waste another second without seeing her. He had been wondering how she was right now and how pregnant she was.

It had been a few months and she could go into labor any time.

Killian found her flat, he stood in front of the door. It looked very shabby, he felt like he could tear it down in a single kick.

The area was not safe and even the door of her room was not strong enough for her safety. What did she think when she chose to live here? Didn't she think about the safety of herself and their baby?

The thought of it made Killian mad. He was going to take her back to the pack. He would drag her back if he was left with no other choice.

With that in mind, Killian knocked on the door. He was very impatient for someone to open it. For Althea to open the door. Killian expected Althea to be surprised when she opened the door, but he didn't expect this.

"Who are you?" A man opened the door, he looked at Killian with a furrowed brows. "Are you looking for someone?"

He was a little bit taller than Killian with the same body built, but Killian could feel he was someone with status. The aura that he had was not something that a commoner could pull through.

For a second, Killian thought his man got the wrong information and was about to leave, until he heard her voice. He remembered her voice very well, it would be forever engraved in his mind.

“Who is there?” Althea asked from inside.

For a few second, Killian stood there frozen. He could hear her footsteps approaching the door and her scent that lingered in the air. It brought back all of the memories.

Sure enough, it was not something that Althea would fond of, Killian didn't find the memories were great either, but no matter what it was, these memories were something that he shared with her.

“Althea?” Killian called her name when her figure appeared from behind the man, who was standing in front of the door.

She was heavily pregnant, her belly was very round, but aside from that, she looked even skinnier, did that make sense? How could someone looked very pregnant, but at the same time their body didn't change, aside from her stomach?

Killian expected a surprise look on her eyes, but when he saw them, it was horror and disgust. He was taken aback with the way Althea looked at him.

“Who are you?” Alex narrowed his eyes. He didn't know this man, but he had a few guesses about the identity of this man, especially after he saw the interaction between the two of them

Alex's question snapped Killian out of his mind. He glared at him with so much hostility. “Who are you?!” He literally growled at him and was ready to pounce him.

Alex was on alert. He didn't know this man, but he could feel that he was at the very least a beta, or... an alpha.

He glanced at Althea briefly over his shoulder and could see how she was trembling in fear. She was unable to speak, but her eyes said everything that he needed to know.

His protective instinct turned his voice a little bit hostile than he intended to.

“You are the one, who came knocking on our door. If you have nothing better to say, you better leave.”

“Our?” The word that Alex used didn't go unnoticed by Killian. So, this man had been living here with his mate? With his pregnant mate?! How dare she copulated with him when she was pregnant with his baby? Did she really pregnant with his baby? Did she get someone else impregnated her behind his back?

Killian was blinded by rage. He couldn't think straight.

“Althea! Come here! We are going to leave!” Killian used his alpha's voice when he commanded Althea to come with him and this didn't sit well with Alex.

At the very least, he knew now that he was an alpha. He would find out what pack he was hailed from. It wouldn't be hard. Althea shook her head, she took a step back and rushed into the room, she didn't want to go with him. She didn't know how he could find her and why he wanted her back, but she assumed, he must have learned about her pregnancy and wanted to take her baby away from her.

Althea couldn't let him to do that!

"Althea!" Killian screamed her name and was about to barge in when Alex stopped him, he literally blocked the door with his body. He pushed Killian and stepped outside, closed the door behind him.

"Get lost," Alex said. He didn't raise his voice, but Killian could feel his strong aura. He was right, the man before him was not

Chapter 15

Althea was hyperventilating when she saw Killian was right in front of her door. She thought, the moment she left the pack, it would be the end of it. She thought, that man wouldn't be able to find her again.

But, as it turned out, she was so wrong about the whole thing. He kept chasing her here. What else did he want from her? What else did he want her to do with her?

Was it not enough for him to torture her? was it not enough for him to make her life was a living hell? Now he knew that she was pregnant, what he was going to do with her and the baby?

Would he harm them?

Would he take her child away from her? Or would he kill his own flesh and blood? Would he be that cruel?

But then, Althea remembered all the punishment and torture that she had to endure in his hand and she knew it was a possibility. Killian was that cruel....

He could be very cruel...

Althea covered her ears, she didn't want to hear his voice. She didn't want to hear the commotion out there, because she knew that Killian must be fighting Alex. She felt bad. She was going to apologize to him later.

Her logic side told her to go out and stop them fighting, she didn't want Alex to be hurt and fall into trouble because of her. He didn't deserve that, but she was a coward, her first instinct was to flee from this place and hid somewhere, where Killian wouldn't be able to find her. She didn't want him to find her at all. She didn't want to see him again.

But then, there was silence. It was an eerie silence, where she could hear her own beating heart and her ragged breath, and then this footstep.

She was going to die. Killian was here to get her. She was going to die.

"Althea..."

He called her name and she felt like her heart stopped beating for a second.

"No! Get away from me! Get away from me!" She shut her eyes closely, because she couldn't bear to see couldn't bear to see him.

And then she felt his hand on her shoulders, that was when she lost it.

"Arrggh! No! NO! GO AWAY FROM ME!"

"Althea! Althea! Open your eyes! It's me! It's me!" Alex called her name, he tried to pull her hand a

ears, so she could hear his voice. "It's me! You are safe now!"

his face. She

from covering her

Althea was hyperventilating, but Alex's voice finally reached her and she opened her eyes to see his face.

"It's okay now."

It was Alex. It was not Killian.

"Althea, it's fine now... you are fine now."

Althea was crying a mess right now, she didn't know why, but it was very comforting to be held like this by him. It was very peaceful and she felt safe with him.

She kept crying to the point she felt her head was dizzy and everything didn't matter anymore, the last thing that she knew was Alex calling her name, but his voice laced with concern.

This man very nice. He was too nice to her.

Althea opened her eyes, the first thing that she felt was this sharp pain on her head and the room was spinning, everything was a blur, but then after she could adjust with the bright light that came from the window, she managed to observe her surroundings.

She was laying down on a huge bed with four pillars, this room was so big, she was not sure if it was only a room or it was an entire house.

She was flabbergasted and scared.

She remembered before she fell unconscious, Alex held her tightly and she was hugging him as if he was her last lifeline.

But, where was she right now? Did something happen to her after that? Did Killian manage to get her? Such fancy place like this was a place that Killian would prefer.

Althea didn't have any idea who Alex was, but she didn't think he could afford this place, after all, she met with him for the first time in that empty alley and she was almost mistaken him as a homeless.

Yet, as if answering her question, Alex appeared from the door, he was carrying a tray full of food in his hand. He smiled at her when he saw she already woke up.

"About time," he said cheerfully.

Alex put down the tray on the bedside table and put his palm against her forehead to check her temperature.

"Last night, you caught a cold, but after the royal healer checked on you and you drank the medicine, I think you are fine, but to make sure, I will ask her to check on you again after you finished your meal."

"Royal healer?" Althea furrowed her brows. "What are you talking about?" She blinked her eyes in confusion. "Where am I?"

Alex smiled at her, he slipped. "You are in the palace."

For a few second, Althea only blinked her eyes, trying to comprehend that piece of information. She didn't believe what she heard. "What did you say?"

"You are in the palace."

Althea gasped and then looked around her. "How can I end up here?" She thought she was with Killian, but when she saw it was Alex, who came to see her, she felt this feeling of relief.

"You were unconscious last night, so I took you here."

Althea leaned her body over and narrowed her eyes. "Are you working in the palace?"

Alex chuckled when he heard that, he nodded. "Well, you can say so. Come, you need to eat before your food turned cold." "What happened last night?" Althea could feel her mouth was watering to see the food that Alex brought.

"I will tell you later"

Chapter 16

Willow arrived at the mainland and wasted no time to start searching for Killian's whereabouts, she looked for him frantically with the help of her father's connection, but it was not enough because she was still having a hard time to finally find him.

"Chile, I don't think this will be right for you to see him right now. Give him some time. He will come around eventually if he loved you." Brian tried to talk sense to his daughter, but Willow was adamant to see Killian.

"What if he didn't look for me? What if he didn't want to see me and will not come around?" Willow looked gaunt, she had not been sleeping for a few days and she looked very miserable.

She really regretted her action when she left Killian for her destined mate and when things were not as beautiful as she thought, she wanted to scramble back to him.

"Brian! Why did you say something like that to her?!" Abigail scolded her mate. She then consoled her crying daughter. Willow was crying so hard again inside the carriage, as they stopped in front of the house that Killian had rented to stay in this capital city.

"I only told her the truth. If she couldn't handle the possibility of what might happen, we shouldn't be here in the first place." Abigail glared at her mate, she couldn't believe that he would say something very heartless like that and this was enough to make Brian shut his mouth, because he knew there was no way he was going to win this argument over.

Meanwhile, Abigail kept babying their first daughter. She consoled her and told her that everything would be alright, feeding her lies that Killian would accept her back because he loved her so much.

Hearing that, Brian could no longer handle it and chose to get off the carriage. He stood next to the carriage and stared at the bleak sky. He wondered where Althea was right now.

He had looked everywhere, but it was hard to find her. Harder than to find Killian.

Not long after, the carriage door was opened and Willow looked a little bit better when she entered the entrance of the house, a few warriors greeted her and talked to her about something, while Abigail approached her mate and started reprimanding him for how insensitive he was to their daughter.

“How could you say something like that and broke her heart again?” Abigail chided, she rambled for more than fifteen minutes before she finally realized that Brian didn’t listen to her at all. He only stared at her with this incredulous expression on his face. “What? Am I say something wrong?”

“You do realize that Althea suffered because of her lies?” Brian stated. “You talked about Willow’s suffering, in which the consequences of her action, but what about Althea? When she was accused of killing her own sister, we didn’t even believe her. No one by her side to trust her, to console her. You do remember that, right?”

“That’s a mistake.” That was the only thing that Abigail could say to justify herself. She didn’t want to talk about this, because she didn’t want to face her own guilt.

“And the mistake not even Althea’s.”

“Althea should make things clearer for herself and tell us more detail about what happened.”

Abigail didn’t have a word to say to Brian, as she stomped her feet and then went into the carriage. She used to do this whenever she couldn’t win an argument and Willow was exactly like her, probably because of that too, Abigail preferred their eldest daughter more than the younger one.

Seeing the way Abigail had been acting, Brian couldn’t do anything and shook his head. He stared at the quietness of the night and prayed Althea would be fine and they could meet again one day.

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Chapter 16

He was going to let her know how much he regretted it for not believing her. He wished her well until the day they met again.

Actually, Althea was more than well enough, because currently she was under the care of Alex. The man paid close attention to her health, down to what she ate with the pretense that she was pregnant, he didn't allow her to go anywhere, or did something that would tire her out.

"I can't afford to sleep in this fancy room. I am sure you will be scolded if your supervisor learned about this."

Northern almost choked on his saliva when he heard that, he stared at the king in disbelief, but the look on Alex's face didn't give away his identity.

"Don't worry, I am very well respected. No one will be angry with me," he said in gentle voice. "This room is free, you will not be charged on anything."

"At the very least, let me work...."

"I will be doomed if I let a pregnant woman to work."

And after a few back and forth, finally Althea dropped the topic, at least for now and Alex was adamant for her to take some rest, or she could walk in the garden if she was bored out of her mind.

"You didn't tell her? She didn't know?" Northern, the royal beta was shocked. He started to question the king once they were alone. "Why? Why did you do that?"

It was already very odd for Alex to be attached to a woman and for that said woman to be very casual with the king, but as things stood, this was the king's doing...

"She didn't ask," he replied nonchalantly.

"That's not an answer, Ales. What if the people in the court knew? It is fine if you brought back woman to your bed, but for a pregnant one... it wouldn't look good." Northern narrowed his eyes. "What are you planning to do to her actually?"

Chapter 17

What Alex was planning to do to Althea?

He was not sure what his end goal for this impulsiveness. He didn't even know why he was too attached to her and why he acted like this.

Northern was right, this was not like him.

"You bring her here without even having any plan for her, you didn't even tell her about your identity. What do you want to do?" Northern narrowed his eyes.

"I don't know. I will think about that later on."

"You know it is impossible between the two of you, right?" As the royal beta, it was his duty to remind him if he started to go astray. "There is no chance for the two of you to be together."

Alex tilted his head. "Don't say there is no chance, because that only makes me wanted to prove it wrong."

"Alex!" Northern was shocked, he widened his eyes incredulously. "Don't joke about something like that!" He didn't even want to imagine the battle court and the protest from the councils if Alex really chose that woman as his future queen. "No. I, can take anything, but not this!"

Alex's expression didn't give away what he was thinking. He simply stared at his royal beta without saying anything.

"Alex, no!" Northern growled. "She is pregnant with someone else's child, the child will be the main contention in the court. It will give your opponent a weapon to fight you."

"It will make the court more lively then," Alex said nonchalantly and then walked away.

"Alex!" Northern was depressed for the way the king brushed his concern off.

"It's already too late, North, let's sleep. I am tired, stop nagging."

Alex waved his hand and then walked away. He would make a quick stop at Althea's bedroom before he went to his.

However, when he was there, Althea was already sleeping and he felt like a creep to stare at her sleeping face and hold back the urge

to brush off the strands of her hair from her face.

As the king, there was no door in this palace that could stop him. Therefore, he could come and go from Althea's bedroom as he pleased, but he thought, it was not a good idea to do this creepy thing in the long run.

“Good night, Althea,” he said softly and then walked out of the room.

The cold wind caressed his cheek when he walked in the hallway and the only thing in his mind was how peaceful her sleeping face. He could stare at her for the rest of the night.

Northern would go crazy if he knew what was in Alex’s mind right now.

“Who brought her here?!” Killian roared to the five warriors who allowed Willow to enter his house. After what happened, Willow was the last creature that he wanted to see.

What happened that night was; that man managed to beat him. it was a humiliation for Killian that he fell from the window, as their fight took place inside the house as well. He fell unconscious after that and once he woke up, Althea and that man had gone.

At first, he thought that man might be the father of the child in Althea’s womb, but once he calmed down, he realized how ridiculous it was.

He was the one, who had locked Althea inside the alpha’s quarter in the pack house, he also made her being ostracized by the other pack member, thus it would be s**id for him to think some random man could enter his quarter and got her pregnant.

More so, he had never seen that man before.

“Killian, please... let me talk to you.” Willow cried so hard, she begged him not to throw her away. She wanted to make things right with him. “I have gone so far. I have crossed the sea to find you.”

“I didn’t ask you to do that.”

Killian was right, he had never asked her to do so. It was her, who thought it was the right thing to win him over.

“Please, Killian. Give me this one more chance to explain to you!

Killian felt his head was throbbing painfully. He waved his hands, giving a gesture for the warriors to leave the room, so he could talk with Willow. He remembered how stubborn she was.

In the past, he would find this trait of her was adorable, but now, it was downright annoying.

“Talk now, I don’t have time.” Killian felt humiliated by what happened and right now, he was licking his wound, since his pride was being hurt.

And there, Willow came with the same old song, telling him how much she loved him, how much she regretted what she had done and how she wanted them to get back together.

"I am willing to raise Althea's child with you. I am willing to be a mother for your firstborn," Willow said, she was trying to compromise it.

She had thought about this matter long and hard on her way here and if by claiming Althea's child as hers could make Killian look at her with the same love like he used to, it would be worth it.

In Willow's mind, Killian was so attached to Althea because they had a child together and for a shifter, the firstborn was very important.

She swallowed her grievances for the fact that she couldn't give him his firstborn.

"You are being delusional, Willow." Killian raised his head, he felt like his head was going to explode. "You are not worth it to

be the mother of my child. Don't get ahead of yourself, because it makes you look pathetic."

Willow held back her tears. "You used to love me, Killian, can't you find a way to love me again?"

Killian hissed. "It's too late. You are dead to me, so stay dead."

Chapter 18

That was how Willow presented herself in the past few months. She was dead and Killian had moved on and now she was alive and the alpha found it in himself that he didn't care about her.

She could go crawling back to wherever she came from and he wouldn't give her a second thought.

"Killian!" Willow cried. "How could you say something so hurtful like that to me?" She approached Killian and knelt down beside his chair, where he was sitting, she rested her hand on top of his thigh and stared to beg him again.

Her action didn't gain sympathy from Killian, instead it gave the opposite effect, because right now, he felt this strong feeling of disgust for her.

She didn't have any pride and dignity left if she did this and this only made his decision resolute.

This kind of act didn't make Killian want to have her back. He felt so done with her. "If you're done with your cries, you can go back to your parents now."

Killian didn't know whether Willow came with her parents or not and she didn't tell him either, but it was an easy guess for him, because that was how Willow was all this time.

Everything was handed over to her in a silver plate. Her mother and father loved her so much to the point she was being spoiled and was very impulsive.

But then, Killian couldn't blame her, because he actually did the same thing. He spoiled her rotten to the point, she thought it was alright for her to go back to him after what she had done.

One thing that Killian hated the most was a traitor and Willow had betrayed his trust.

"You are used and broken. I don't want you anymore. Now, leave." This time, Killian looked at Willow in the eyes, she was crying pitifully, but there was not an ounce of pity for her.

In the past, Killian would have killed anyone, who made her cry, but right now, he was the cause of it and he didn't care.

On the other hand, Althea was always on the background. She was always be the afterthought in her family and no one really cared about her.

Killian did the same.

Because he thought his mate was Willow and Althea was still a minor at that time, he didn't think much about it, but right now, he felt like he wanted to stab himself.

"Killian... please," Willow kept pleading with him.

She then suddenly stood up and undressed herself, which made Killian widen his eyes angrily. She must have lost her mind to think that it was alright to seduce him, if she couldn't win him over with her tears than her body would do.

That body that had been used by someone else, by random man

Killian would be doomed, if he ever touched that kind of body. He immediately stood up when Willow was already naked

and tried to touch him.

Not only that, he went out of the room and ordered his warriors to remove Willow from his room, while inside she was still naked, therefore, the five of them accidentally saw her nakedness and Willow screamed, she was mortified!

“Get out! Get out!”

Willow had never felt this humiliation before. They saw her naked and Killian let them!? How could he do that to her? How could he be so cruel to her?!

Althea woke up when she smelled something delicious and the baby in her stomach started to kick in, waking her up. This made her chuckled, because this warmed her heart, thinking she was not alone and her baby reminded her that she would always be there for her.

“Good morning, my lady,” a young maid s**t greeted her, she looked so young, probably two to three years younger than Althea, but she had this cute dimple on her cheek.

“G- good morning, you can call me, Althea. I am not a lady,” she said. She pushed herself from the bed and saw the savory meat, the source of that delicious smell must have come from it.

“I can’t my lady,” she said politely. “If you need something, just ring the bell and I will come.” She pointed at the little bell beside the tray.

“Thank you so much, what is your name?”

“I am Thalia,” she said sheepishly. “I will be your personal maid now.”

“Personal maid?” Althea’s eyes widened. “Where is Alex?”

Thalia widened her eyes, she was shocked when Althea called the king’s name very casually, she looked stuttered when she answered the question. “In... in the throne room,” she replied. She had been told not to expose the king’s identity in front of her.

Now it clicked in her mind why Althea called the king very casually, as it turned out, she didn’t know that the man that helped her all this time was actually the king.

“Oh, he must be busy, but can you let him know that I want to talk to him as soon as possible?”

“Yes, yes, my lady,” Thalia replied, she hurriedly left the room, afraid that she would ask more question that she couldn’t

answer.

Althea felt a little bit off with that the way Thalia reacted, but she paid no mind to that and eat her meal, because she was hungry and her baby kept kicking her ribs.

After she ate her food, she walked in the garden. It had been a few days since she was here and she felt bad because she didn't do anything and keep eating the food without paying, she was also worried because she didn't go to the flower shop anymore without saying anything.

"Who are you?"

"Huh?" Althea startled when two maids approached her. She must have deep in her thought, she didn't realize she walked out of Alex's quarter and bumped onto them.

Chapter 19

"Who are you? Are you coming from there?" One of the maids pointed at Alex's quarter, their eyes widened in shock.

"Oh, yes..." Althea was not sure what to answer the question, but thankfully, Thalia immediately approached the two of them.

She didn't know what she said to them, but all of sudden, their eyes widened and they looked shocked. Their attitude changed drastically and they immediately excused themselves.

"What happened?" Althea asked curiously, because the way they reacted to whatever Thalia told them didn't feel right. "What did you tell them?"

Thalia replied to her question sheepishly. "I only said that you are a special guest."

Althea didn't believe that. She knew there was something more that Thalia hid from her, thus she pressed more, but the maid looked trouble, which made her felt bad.

"I am sorry, I can only tell you that much," Thalia said apologetically. "Yes, he is someone of power."

Althea knew that Alex was not someone ordinary, but she didn't have any idea that he was very important to the point people were shocked to know that she knew him.

However, Althea didn't prepare herself for the truth.

Later that night, she was invited to have a dinner with Alex, near the fountain. The set up was beautiful and it felt a little bit intimate.

“Alex, may I know what position you hold in the palace?” Althea asked carefully, because she didn’t want to appear as very noisy. She was grateful for his help and he didn’t want him to be uncomfortable.

Alex knew this question would come, he put down his cutleries and looked at her, his gaze softened. “If I tell you that my position is very important, what are you going to do? Will you leave?”

Althea was not sure how to answer that. “I should leave eventually. I can’t live here and also...” She glanced at Thalia and lowered her voice. “You didn’t need to give me a personal maid. I feel so bad for her.”

Alex chuckled when he heard that. “You shouldn’t feel bad. She is a new recruit, she also needed you to learn about everything in this palace. You help her too, actually.”

“Alex, you changed the topic,” Althea said, pointed it out that he had not yet answered her question.

“I am not changing the topic, but I am thinking of how to answer that.”

“Are you the king’s advisor?”

“Do I look that old?”

“You should be old to be the king’s advisor?” Althea didn’t really know how the rule in the mainland worked, because it was so different from her former pack.

Alex chuckled when he heard that. “An advisor should be someone wise and wisdom is something that you got from experience, so yeah, I think it related to one another.”

“I think you are wise enough for your age.”

Alex smiled and placed his hand over his heart. “Thank you.”

“And then? What is your position?” Her baby kicked in and she caressed her bump, she loved it whenever her baby made her presence known, because it was a reminder that she was not alone.

“Guess,”

“If you are not an advisor, you might be...” Althea tried to think harder. “The royal g**a? The royal beta?” And Alex shook his head to all of her answer. “Or maybe you are the

king...?" She said this because she didn't think she could find another position that suit him.

She thought Alex would laugh, but he simply smiled which made Althea was taken aback.

"You are the king?" She furrowed her brows, she still didn't believe what she just learned.

"I am."

Now everything made sense for Althea. The way those maids looked shock when they learned that she came from Alex's quarter and how Thalia didn't dare to mention Alex. She would know right away the moment she addressed him, but no, Thalia had never addressed Alex in front of her.

"Heaven..." Althea breathed shakily when she learned about it. She was not sure what proper reaction that she should have right now.

"This is the palace, not a heaven," Alex said lightly. "I want you to stay, Althea. I want you to be here, at least, until you gave birth to your baby. I have the royal healer that could help you during the childbirth."

Althea didn't know what to say about such generous offer, especially when she didn't have many choices. She didn't have money to afford to live on her own.

"She had been crying ever since she returned from Killian's house," Abigail said, she was worried about Willow, because she had been locking herself up inside her bedroom and refused to eat. "What should we do?"

Brian shook his head. "I don't know."

"Go to Killian and talk to him, tell him to see her for a while. There is no way he completely didn't care anymore about Willow, they were in love before."

Brian shook his head again. "I think Killian is done with her. You can't force the two of them to be together."

And with that, Abigail exploded, she accused him not to care about their daughter and how her condition. She was so angry because Brian refused to talk to Killian, despite his explanation.

"He will listen to you, he looked up to you, at the very least, he will respect you enough to give in!" Abigail was hysterical at this point and now Brian could see how different her reaction toward their two daughters.

When Althea was accused of killing her own sister, Abigail was freaking out and used all of her power to hurt her, but when she learned that was not the truth, she was still standing by Willow's side.

"I will not do this for her," Brian said firmly. "She brought this up to herself, she is going to face the consequences of her decision."

Chapter 20

"Brian! It's not fair to Willow!" Abigail raised her voice.

"Do you think this is fair for Althea?!" Brian snapped back and this made Abigail took a step back, because Brian had never yelled at her before this. "Do you think it's fair for Althea to be accused of something that she didn't do and was punished for that?! She is out there! Alone! Pregnant!"

Abigail started crying when she heard that and Brian was merciless with his words this time.

"You are a mother to her too, how could you be so callous to your other daughter's predicament?"

And this time, Abigail didn't stop crying, she cried her heart out and this made whatever word Brian wanted to say to her became meaningless, therefore he didn't try.

"I am going outside to find any clue about Althea's whereabouts."

However, this time, Brian indeed would visit Killian, because he was sure that the alpha must have found something. He had been here for a few weeks now and he got his resources.

"The alpha didn't want to see you, sir. I am sorry," one of the warriors rejected Brian. He had expected this to happen.

"Tell him that I am not here for Willow, but for Althea. Tell him that I want to find Althea too."

Brian tried everything that he could to convince Killian to let him to see him, he also gave up all the information that he had gathered all this time to the warrior to be delivered to Killian.

Finally, after two hours of relentless negotiation, Killian was willing to meet with him and he was escorted to his study room. This room smelled so awful. The alpha must have picked up his habit to smoke again, but Brian was not here to lecture him. "If you mentioned anything about Willow, I will have the warrior to escort you out."

That was the first thing that Killian said when he saw Brian. Just like what Abigail said, the alpha respected him enough to let Brian talk to him if he insisted, but he was not here for that.

"Abigail has been working in a flower shop, but it has been a few days since the last time he came for work."

Brian talked straight to the point. He couldn't care less about Killian's warning because right now, all of his focus was on Althea.

"I know about that," Killian said tiredly. "I have met with her."

"You have?!" Brian was surprised to hear this news. "Why she is not with you?!"

"Someone with him, a man." Killian said, he slumped on his chair again and then recalled his encounter with Althea.

He hated to admit that he was outpowered by that man, but at the same time, he needed to tell Brian everything that he knew.

"So, got a clue about who is this man?" Brian sat down on the chair in front of him. He asked how Althea was.

"No. I didn't get a clue. Not yet." He was going to throw him out of the window if he met with that man again. He would make sure it killed him. How dare he was inside the room with his pregnant mate? What they were doing there? "She looked... terrified." He recalled the look on her face when she saw her.

It was full of dread.

He had hurt her so much, to the point the sight of him terrified her and now Killian had no one to be blamed, but himself. He brought this to himself.

He should have checked carefully about the accusation that he gave to Althea. He shouldn't have hurt her... she was his mate by the end of the day. Hurting her was the same like if he hurt himself, but he couldn't care less at that time and he was being blinded by rage.

"What actually you have done to her?" Brian had been wanting to ask this. He knew that Killian had locked Althea inside the alpha's quarter, but he didn't have any idea what kind of punishment that the alpha gave to her.

However, knowing Althea was his destined mate, he thought, there was nothing h**dous about it...

"Something bad."

"How bad?"

Killian couldn't bring himself to answer that question. He felt this sense of... regret and embarrassment for what he had done to Althea. He couldn't talk about it, especially to walk Brian down to every detail torture that he gave to his daughter.

Therefore, the alpha didn't say anything and thankfully, Brian didn't push the matter.

But a while later, a warrior knocked on the door and entered the room with a big news.

"We knew who was that man, alpha," he said, he looked troubled.

"Who is he?"

"He is the king, he is the king of the mainland."

Althea agreed to stay in the palace, but she didn't want to stay in that luxurious room, she preferred a smaller room for herself and she didn't want Thalia to be around to help her, but for the later, Alex insisted.

"That girl will not help much, she will learn a thing or two from you."

That was his reason and Thalia looked sad when Althea said that she didn't want a personal maid, therefore she relented.

"But, I don't want to live here for free."

She wanted to do something, thus Alex chose a suitable position for her. She would handle the greenhouse, where various flowers were planted there. This was perfect for her and Althea was more than happy for that.

It was a win win solution, but Northern and Greyson voiced out their concern about the current situation, because they could smell trouble with the way the king was infatuated with that pregnant woman. This should stop before it went too far.

"The elders heard about her already," Northern let Alex knew about this. "They were not happy."

