

Chapter 10 : An Unexpected Turn Of Events

Anaya was curious but she didn't have the time nor the resources to quench it. She could only forget about what she heard and go back to the preparations on the next day.

She woke up early and perfected her mindset. It was her birthday as well but no one seemed to remember it.

"Happy birthday Arnold." Anaya whispered lightly into the air, hoping the wish would drift over to her dead brother.

Anaya sat up on her mattress and said, "We are eighteen now. This was supposed to be a special year for the both of us, but unfortunately you are not here to celebrate it and no one wants to celebrate this day for me. I guess we are both unlucky on this part, huh?"

There was less time at hand and a lot of things to do. Anaya didn't speak more and left the attic to go and get ready for the day.

Since it was a big party, a buffet was to be prepared. Anaya and a few other servants from different families gathered together outside in the open to cook. It was windy so it was hard to keep the flame on the stove but after a lot of effort they were able to stabilize it.

While the food was being prepared by them in a corner, the others were decorating the large tent. The party would be held there.

Once the tent was on, they started to hang garlands, lights, chairs and all kinds of things inside. The stars of the party were getting ready in their homes.

Anaya was the one who went to the shop to pick up Charlotte's dresses. She had seen just how pretty they were. Anaya felt an inexplicable sense of jealousy from her own sister. Anaya never received any of this. Even in her twelfth birthday, she wasn't a part of this celebration.

Anaya was distracted for a while and was brought back from her thoughts due to someone cursing at her. She looked down and saw that the fire had extinguished again, but this time the stove was also dripping with water.

"How did this happen?!" Anaya gasped and looked around at others, "Did someone pour water on it?"

Another one of the servants frowned, "Weren't you the one who did it? You have been so distracted all this time. If you can't do a job properly then go away, don't make this harder than it already is!"

Anaya didn't understand their accusations but accepted it naturally and apologized. She was used to accepting the mistakes she didn't do, this was not a big deal. Anaya's confidence of defending herself against accusations was killed under the hit of her mother's whip.

Anaya didn't remember pouring the water but she took the responsibility to restart the fire and then they continued to cook. They were all servants here and were not necessarily invited into the celebration. But since the food was prepared just on time and also placed in their rightful places, the other servants went home to get ready and attend the party.

Anaya went home as well and changed into a dress she had. It was an old blue dress with no special features, it was plain with a few prints. It wasn't hideous, but it was definitely one of those dresses that no one looked at in the store.

After getting ready Anaya went to the tent and stood in a corner, away from everyone's sight.

The few kids who had turned twelve this year made an entry and caught everyone's attention. They were dressed well and were smiling heartily.

Anaya's eyes drifted off towards Charlotte. She was wearing a princess dress with a crown and all sort of accessories. She looked like a fairy out of a fairy tale.

Anaya sipped on her apple juice and placed the glass aside once it was finished. She didn't go for another one. She watched as the pack's priest blessed them.

The kids were taken out of the tent and made to pray to the moon goddess as well. Once it was done, it was time for the others to give blessings and gifts. The kids received countless gifts from the pack members.

Amidst the happy occasion there was no place for Anaya, she quietly slipped away from the tent and went outside to get some fresh air. The happiness in the air was choking her into tears. Anaya walked along until she caught a familiar scent. It was the scent of Jonas, the future beta.

Anaya didn't want to deal with him or David right now. Anaya was about to sneak away silently, but a hand fell on her shoulder and stopped her. Anaya froze in place. The touch of that hand sent goosebumps all over her body, she couldn't distinguish whether it was out of disgust or something else. Her heart trembled and started beating loudly.

"So it's you?" Jonas' voice came from behind. Anaya looked down and turned around. She was uneducated on every topic of their lifestyle. If it was someone else, they would have realized what was happening, but Anaya was unaware of the situation.

"Is there something you need?" Anaya asked in a whisper.

"Huh? Are you dumb?" Jonas sneered, "I am already disgusted to see that the goddess would pair me with someone as useless as you, don't try to play stupid in front of me."

Anaya's eyes widened with horror. For once in her lifetime Anaya looked up. Fear was shining like stars in her eyes and her lips were trembling with anxiety.

"W-What?" Anaya stammered, "You are m-my -"

Jonas snapped his fingers close to her face and effectively scared Anaya into silence. Anaya stumbled back a few steps.

"Don't say that word. You are no mate of mine." Jonas snapped, "Although the moon goddess has selected you for me, I won't accept this. My life cannot be ruined like this. I am going to reject you right now and you have to accept it."

Anaya had already prepared herself for this day. Although she didn't expect her mate to be him, she already knew she was going to be abandoned by her mate. When her own family didn't like her, didn't want her, how could she expect someone else to give her happiness.