

# The Alpha King And His Second Chance

## Chapter 41

Sierra

“I cant thank you enough for taking the time to teach me all of this.” I said, gesturing to all of the books and folders scattered across my desk.

“It’s an honor. It is nice being needed again.” Sylvia smiled, closing the practice budget report she had just had me compose.

It has been over a week since the former Luna and Queen, who was also my mother-in-law, Sylvia, started teaching me how to fulfill my new role. There was so much more to it than I had anticipated. I guess seeing my mom do it growing up, I neglected how much work she put in. In my childish mind, all I saw was my mom getting us ready for school and making dinner and helping us with homework afterwards. I missed the part where she accompanied my father to meetings, visited the hospital to check on the injured, planned events, handled finances, and was basically a mother figure to all of the pack, plus more. It was a bit daunting. Being that I was not only going to be Luna to a pack of mostly of lycans, I was also going to be Queen of the entire Northern territory. That came with a whole new set of expectations I was wildly underprepared for.

“I have three more books for you to read. I regret to tell you that they are less than interesting. All about diplomacy, you’ll need to know it for when you meet the other kings. There are certain unspoken protocols that are followed.” She said, setting the stack of books on my desk.

“Thank you. I’ve almost finished with the others you gave me.” I smiled, picking up one of the books.

“Already?!”

“I love to read, it hardly matters what.”

“Well, goddess bless you, I could hardly get through the first cheaper of that one your holding. I wish you luck.” She laughed.

“Knock knock!” Ella said from the doorway. “Sorry to interrupt, but I was hoping we could send out the invitations for your Luna ceremony today? Its only three weeks away now.”

“Yes! Lets get that out of the way.” I nodded and waved her in.

“Come sit.” Sylvia said from the couch, scooting over to make room.

I got up from my desk and waddled over to the other side of the couch where there were two recliners. I decided to take Edward up on his offer to let me redecorate, but only for my office. Although Hope's style was well, gorgeous, it lacked comfort. And being pregnant as I was, I needed comfort.

"Okay so, here are the invitations, per your request." Ella said, handing each of us an invitation.

"Ella, these are gorgeous!" I said, looking over the silver and gold invitation.

"Classy yet sophisticated, well done," Sylvia complimented. Ella beamed with pride at the praise.

"I have already asked Edward for his guest list, which I have here. I just need yours." Ella said, looking at me expectantly.

"Let me go grab it." I said, standing up awkwardly from the chair. I reached inside my desk, grabbing the sticky note that was my guest list. "Here ya go." I said, passing it to Ella.

"Only two?" Sylvia asked.

"I thought that was good, all things considered." I shrugged.

"Well, alright then. I'll have these sent out today." Ella smiled.

"Can I look at Edwards guest list?" I asked.

"Sure." Ella said, handing me the list.

There were far more than two, but not as many as I had anticipated for a king. His immediate family, obviously, the other kings, the council, his Gamma and Delta, and a few dozen others who I didn't know. They were probably someone very important though to have made the list. We weren't inviting the entire pack. We had decided to forgo the massive Luna celebration for summertime, when things would be calmer and warmer and I would be less pregnant.

"If you haven't found a dress yet, I would like to offer my services to you." Ella said, taking my attention away from the list.

"You sew?" I asked.

"She does, and her work is exquisite! You should take her up on the offer." Sylvia exclaimed.

"How could I refuse? I would love it if you made my dress Ella!" I smiled.

“Edward may have given me some inspiration already. I would like to surprise you with it if that is alright?”

“Absolutely!”

“Perfect, then if you don’t mind me grabbing some measurements,” She asked, pulling out a tape measure. She quickly started wrapping it around my body, jotting the numbers down on her notepad. “I won’t finish the dress until the night before, your baby is going to grow a lot in the next three weeks and I want to make sure the dress fits perfectly.”

“I am huge already, I cant believe I still have about three weeks to go.” I sighed.

“Edward was quite a large baby, and given the fact that you are a werewolf and he is a lycan, that doesn’t help your cause. I wish you luck with labor and delivery.” Sylvia chuckled.

“Is it as bad as they say?” I asked, scrunching my face up.

“Worse. But you forget all about it afterwards.” Sylvia laughed.

“Great.” I said, feeling uneasy.

“You’ll be fine, you’ll have your mate by your side and a well-trained team ready to go and all the pain meds you could ask for.” Ella laughed.

“Speaking of which, when will you be giving me grandchildren Ella? Its been quite a few years since you and Jackson have marked each other, I would have thought you would have a whole litter of pups by now.” Sylvia asked.

Ellas’s face fell, her eyes welling up with unshed tears. “Whenever the Moon Goddess will allow it, we are more than ready.” She said, taking another measurement.

“Ella, I don’t mean to pry, but how long have you been trying for?” I asked, stopping her from continuing.

“Over five years.” She wiped a rogue tear from her face. “We have tried everything. The doctors can’t explain why we can’t conceive. They said we should look into adoption or a surrogate at this point.”

“Oh, Ella, I had no idea, I’m so sorry for bringing it up.” Sylvia said, looking mortified.

“Can I try something?”

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“Are you sure about this?” Ella asked as she watched me flitter around my kitchen.

“Well, I have never actually tried this on a person, but I practiced it when I was at the coven.” I looked through the cupboards in search for a mortar and pestle. Our kitchen was state of the art with all the fun toys. I was sure there would be one somewhere.

I had just spent the last hour looking for specified plants in the garden, knowing Edward would probably flip if I went any further on my own. After successfully finding all the components I was looking for, I got to work. Sylvia left to go see Abby, giving us some privacy, and Edward was out somewhere doing something. With it being just me and Ella, she opened up to me a lot more about her fertility struggles. She had gone through so many treatments and testing and exams it wasn't even funny. She and Jackson wanted a pup so badly. I knew what I was doing, but my confidence fell a bit. I worried if this didn't work for some reason and I just got her hopes up for nothing, she would resent me forever. She probably secretly does already. I wasn't even trying to get pregnant and now here I am approaching my due date. It didn't seem fair.

“What is all the stuff anyway? You look like a mad scientist.” She said, looking over the items on the counter. Adaline had packed my bag full of everything I needed to cast spells of all sorts, including some less common ingredients. I had a small cauldron heating up on the stove, along with half a dozen apothecary jars filled with all sorts of base ingredients. I pulled my spell-book out just to double check my work as I went, making sure I followed every step perfectly.

“I kinda feel like one.” I laughed. “Its basically a witches spell casting starter pack.” Ella laughed and watched me intently. I tried to narrate everything I was doing. “Im breaking down the plants into a paste before I put them into the cauldron to cook.” I said, scraping the contents into the cauldron. “While that boils, I will grab my base ingredients which are what help the magic along.”

Ella asked me a lot of questions, fascinated by it all. Half an hour later, I was pouring the cauldron out, the liquid being strained through a cheesecloth into a teacup, reciting the old incantation. “High priestess take favor, grant this family a child sooner than later.” I stirred it to help it cool down before handing Ella the teacup. “Drink up.”

“Is-is it safe?” She hesitantly asked.

“Definitely.” I laughed. I squeezed the majority of the liquid out of the remains held in the cheesecloth and put it into a bowl while Ella drank the tea.

“Wow, that is bitter.” She scrunched her face up but continued to drink.

“Sorry, I wish I could make it better.”

“Do your eyes always light up purple when you cast spells?” She asked.

“They lit up purple? I never knew, that's interesting.” I said, coming around the kitchen island to where Ella was sitting with what looked like a bowl of mud. “Lift your shirt

please.” She hesitated but eventually stood up and lifted the hem of her shirt up slightly. I scooped up some of my muddy looking paste and spread it over her stomach just under her belly button before saying the last part of the spell. “So does this child grow in love and in harmony.”

“They lit up again.” Ella smiled, taking a sip of her tea while I started cleaning up.

“Really? It must be a witch thing I never knew about. I guess I never really watched someone cast a spell, I was just given instructions and followed along....Oh, one last thing, you and Jackson need to get down to business tonight. You have twenty-four hours before the spell is null and void.” I said, wiggling my eyebrows.

“But I’m not in heat...”

“That doesn’t matter, the spell will take care of that. Now go find your man and have fun!”

“That shouldn’t be a problem.” She said downing her tea. “I’m going to go find him right now.” She smirked and gave me a wink before saying her goodbyes and leaving to find Jackson.

“Good luck!” I laughed.

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Ella

“Good luck!” Sierra’s words kept ringing in my head. I don’t understand much about magic or spells, nor do I pretend to, but I hoped this worked. I didn’t feel any different, except maybe a bit queasy from drinking what tasted like dirt water. I swear I thought I saw her add dirt to it.

“Jackson, where are you?” I linked my mate when I couldn’t find him in our home.

“Patrol, I have an all-nighter. Seth’s mate just delivered so I’m covering for him. Don’t wait up for me.”

No! No! No! Are you kidding me right now?! Of all the times! I growled in annoyance.

“I need you to come home tonight. Find someone else to cover”, I shot back.

“Is everything okay?”

“I-we need to try tonight.”

“Ella, I thought we had talked about this, I thought we were going to take a break from trying and just focus on us? You know how depressed you got last time. I don’t want to see you like that again.”

“Jackson, please. I promise this will be the last time. Please just come home tonight.”

He didn’t answer me for a few minutes. I paced the house contemplating if I should go out looking for him.

“Alright, I got someone to cover. I’ll be home in an hour.”

Yes!! I was practically bouncing out of my skin in excitement. To distract myself, I made Jackson and I an aphrodisiac dinner. Oysters to start, steak with asparagus for dinner and chocolate covers strawberries for dessert. I lit a few candles and even changed into a sexy little teddy I had tucked away for special occasions. Anything to try to set the mood.

“Eloise, is it hot in here?” I asked my wolf. Fanning myself with a magazine. This almost felt like my heat cycle.

“No, I think we are going into heat.” She answered, confused herself.

“That dirt tea works fast, I guess.”

“Hey Baby, I’m home.” Jackson said, strolling through the elevator door that led to our floor of the palace. His scent hit me like a brick wall, igniting my libido. As soon as he stepped over the threshold, I jumped him, taking him by surprise. “Its nice to see you too”. He laughed. “Wait, are you in heat?” He asked in disbelief.

“Mhm.” I continued to kiss him, barely able to let him get a breath in.

“I thought you weren’t due for another month?” He said, setting me down on the couch and yanking off his shirt. “You look fucking gorgeous.” His eyes were now black, filled with lust, his extra appendage noticeably hard even through his jeans.

“Its a long story, just focus.” I said, unbuckling his belt and pulling his pants and boxers to the ground. I grabbed his manhood and took it in my mouth, giving it a few good bobs before Jackson practically ripped me off of him and tore my lingerie off. He pushed me back onto the couch and kissed his way down my body, stopping when he came across the mud on my skin.

“Why is there mud on your stomach?” He said, pulling away, probably to get a towel.

“Never mind that! Fuck me!” I hissed. Jackson looked at me in shock. I almost never use swear words.

“Yes ma’am.” He smirked and continued kissing my body, avoiding the dried patch of mud on my lower belly. His tongue played with my clit while his fingers did what they did best. He brought me so close to my peak but stopped short, slamming his manhood into me instead in one foul swoop. My body readily accepted him, my walls clenching down on him. He threw my legs over his shoulders and slowly thrust in and out of me, driving me wild.

“Faster” I begged.

He grunted and picked up the pace, putting more of his weight into it as well. I could feel myself reaching my climax and Jackson getting harder within me. I vaguely remember screaming out his name when he swiped his thumb over my clit. We came at the same time, our bodies melding together. Our pants filled the otherwise silent room. Another reminder of just how much I wanted a pup. Jackson pulled out of me and I kicked my legs up onto the back of the couch, hoping that if nothing else, gravity would be on my side.

“Ella...”

“Shut up.” I said, a tear streaming down my face. Years of disappointment welling up within me.

Jackson wordlessly sat down next to me and held my hand. I hoped I could give him a pup. I prayed that this time would be different. We sat there for a good ten minutes before I finally sat back up, leaning into my mate’s embrace.

“I love you no matter what,” he said, kissing my head.

I nodded at my supportive mate, grateful that the moon goddess gave me him. Another wave of heat soon came over me, making me hot and bothered all over again. I guess we weren’t done.

## **The Alpha King And His Second Chance**

### **Chapter 42**

Edward

“I had no idea they were trying.” I said, looking over the mess in the kitchen.

“Jackson never said anything to you?” Sierra asked, packing things away and into her backpack.

“No.”

“Huh. Well please don’t mention it then, Ella wasn’t exactly open to talking about it right away either.”

“Not a problem. You can leave all that out if you’d like. You don’t have to hide it away.” I said picking up one of the many apothecary jars filled with red powder.

“Really?” Sierra said excitedly, taking the jar away from me. “Careful, that will give you hiccups for a week.”

“Of course. In fact, take one of the spare bedrooms and make your own brewery, or whatever you’d like to call it.” I said looking over my hand carefully, making sure I didn’t get any powder on me.

Sierra smiled and went around the counter to give me a hug, her bump getting in the way. “Thank you.” She said, adjusting herself so we were hip to hip. “When do I get a date night with you again?”

“I wish I could say soon. There is just so much to do before your Luna ceremony and before the pup comes. How have you been feeling?”

“Tired. Hips ache. My feet are swollen. Acid reflux. But everyone says I’m glowing.” Sierra chuckled softly.

“I have an hour before I need to return. How about a foot rub?” I suggested.

“That would be amazing.” Sierra said, visibly relaxing.

“Come, sit with me.” I sat on the couch, Sierra following along. I pulled her legs onto my lap and began massaging her very swollen feet.

“Goddess, that feels amazing.” She hummed in appreciation.

“Happy to help.” I smiled, though her eyes were closed. “I think most everything is in order and booked for your Luna ceremony.”

“Yes, Ella and Sylvia have been a huge help. I don’t know how I would have done it without them, and you, of course. Which reminds me, you had a suggestion for my dress?” She cracked open one eye to look at me.

“Perhaps,” I shrugged. “I think you’ll like it. Its fitting.”

“I can’t wait to see it.” She paused for a moment before speaking again. “Hey, wanna talk pup names?”

“Ha, I almost forgot about names with everything else going on. Yes, what are your thoughts?”

“Peter?”

“Pass. John?” I suggested.

“Too common, pass. Ian?”

“Boring. Blake?”

“Na...how about Oliver?”

“Na-uh...Chester?”

“King Chester? I don’t think so babe.” Sierra laughed. “This might take more time than we thought,”

“I guess so.” I gave a small laugh before glancing at my watch. “Speaking of which, I had better get going. I’m needed in the throne room.” I said, standing up, carefully placing Sierra’s feet back onto the couch.

“What’s in the throne room?”

“William informed me today that a group of rogues came seeking asylum from King Bruno. It happens every so often. I typically take them all in as long as I can’t find anything heinous in their records. Many sentences in this chapter have been removed because you are not reading them on J o b n i b . c o m. King Bruno is a dick and treats his people like garbage, his own family too. A lot try to get away but die trying from what I understand. If it wouldn’t have caused a war, I wouldn’t have put him on the guest list for your ceremony.”

“Can I come with you?”

“You really want to? Its not for the faint of heart. Most have a horror story to share.”

“Then I definitely want to be there. If anyone understands a horror story, it’s me. Help me up.”

I grabbed Sierra’s hands and pulled her up and we walked hand in hand to the throne room. “Please have a seat.” I said, pointing to the throne next to mine. It was basically the same except mine was boxier and more masculine and hers was rounded and more feminine.

“Actually, I am going to stop at the restroom first, this pup is dancing on my bladder. I’ll be right back, don’t wait for me.” She said, scooting out of the room.

“Bring them in William.” I linked. A moment later, a group of five rogues came walking in, surrounded by guards and all wearing handcuffs as a safety measure. Their clothes were

all torn and ragged looking. They smelled like they hadn't bathed in weeks. A few had bandages. What a fucking mess.

"What brings you to the Northern Kingdom?" I asked the group with a booming voice.

"We seek asylum, your majesty." The oldest looking male answered, bowing his head in respect. He looked like a hobo with his overgrown hair and beard. Thin too.

"Where do you come from?"

"We were taken captive by the Southern King. We come from all over the map." He answered again.

"Your name and original pack?" I looked at the furthest wolf to my left first.

"Clyde Smith of the Blue Spruce Pack in the West," he said with a shaky voice. He was a very tall wolf, he had a fresh looking scar running alongside his throat.

"Do you, Clyde, have any transgressions that would prevent me from granting you asylum?" I asked using my Alpha command. If he were lying I would know.

"No your majesty." He bowed his head.

"Then you are welcome onto my land. My men will take you to your temporary housing. I wish you the best." One of the guards took his cuffs off and escorted him out. "Next?"

"Maria Walter of the Rushing Falls Pack in the East." She tried to sound confident but her voice squeaked, showing me just how nervous she was. She had vibrant blue eyes and fiery red hair.

"Maria, same question. Do you have any transgressions that would prevent me from granting you asylum?"

"No, King Edward."

"Then you are also welcome onto my land." I nodded to the guards. "Next?"

"Gary Moore of the Black Fur Pack in the South." Gary looked like a wet cat someone dragged inside. He looked like he had some rash going on with his skin.

"Gary, do you have any transgressions that would prevent me from granting you asylum?"

"Not unless turning my back on my king the same way he did to us is considered a transgression." He practically spat.

"I won't turn my back on you Gary. You are welcome on my land."

He gave me a curt nod and walked out with his head held high.

“Olivia Yarrow of the Snow Den Pack in the East.” Olivia was a beautiful young woman with an old scar running alongside her face and her arm was bandaged.

“Olivia, do you have any transgressions that would prevent me from granting you asylum?”

“No Alpha.”

“Welcome to the Northern territory.” I looked at the guard who was uncuffing her. “See that she and the others get the medical attention they need.”

“Yes Alpha.”

“Thank you.” She said, crying tears of joy.

“And last but not least, please?” I said, looking at the hobo-looking wolf.

“Former Alpha Andrew Wilson of the Clear Waters Pack in the North. And before you ask, I do have some transgressions.”

“Did he just say he was who I thought he said?”

“Oh shit.” Edmund said.

A shattering noise caught my attention, my mate standing in the doorway, her glass of water spilled and broken on the ground, her expression of pure shock.

“Daddy?” She whispered.

I looked back at the man standing in front of me, his eyes were glued to my mate, as if he was seeing a ghost. “Sierra?” he croaked. “Is it really you?”

“Oh Goddess.” She ran to Alpha Andrew, throwing her arms around him, sobbing on his shoulder. He was equally emotional, but struggled to hug her back with the handcuffs.

“Release him.” I said to the guards, approaching my mate and...father-in-law?! After Sierra peeled herself off of him, the guards uncuffed him and he gave his daughter a proper hug.

“I’m sorry I smell dolly.” He said into her hair.

She let out a shaky laugh. “I’m just so happy you’re alive. I thought you were dead, I thought-” she started sobbing even harder.

“I know sweetie, me too.” He kissed her head again. “You look just like your mother. She would be so proud of you.” He said, looking her over.

“Thank you daddy.” she smiled with tears in her eyes.

“Who got my little girl pregnant? Is he a good man? Does he treat you well?” He asked.

She laughed and wiped her tears. “King Edward.” She pointed to me. For a split second, I thought he looked like he wanted to kill me. “He is my mate, I’m going to be made Luna and Queen soon.”

“My little girl a Queen? And a mother! The goddess is surly good.” Andrew said, hugging Sierra again.

“Sierra, Alpha Anderw, why don’t we take this somewhere more private?” I suggested after a few minutes of seeing staff members taking too long of a look. They both nodded. Andrew wiped one of Sierra’s tears away, doting upon his daughter. “I have a guest room that should suit your needs. Please, follow me.”

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Sierra and I sat in the living room on our floor, waiting patiently for Alpha Andrew to finish showering.

“I just cant believe it...” Sierra said, holding a box of tissues close to her.

“It is something.” Although I had no reason to not trust this man I found it strange that he managed to survive all these years. Maybe it’s just my own paranoia getting the better of me. I rubbed Sierra’s back reassuringly.

“Or you’re just jealous that mate is giving her attention to another man,” Edmund chipped in.

“He is her father. I have no reason to be jealous. But I can be cautious.” I defended myself. Though he might have a point, up until now, I have been Sierra’s one and only. Now I will be sharing her attention.

A few minutes later, Sierra’s father emerged from the bathroom. He looked like a whole new man. With the layer of dirt and grime gone, I could easily see his tan skin, highlighted by the black shirt and blue jeans I had brought up for him. He cut his hair short and trimmed his beard, looking like a civil man of society. He was actually quite good looking. As I mulled over his appearance, I began to find the similarities between him and Sierra. Same hair color, same eyes, same ears and same forehead. It was undeniable that these two were father and daughter.

“You clean up nicely.” Sierra smiled, getting up and sitting next to her father who had taken a seat on the far side of the couch.

“Ha, thank you. It was well overdue.” He smiled at Sierra. “When is my pumpkin due?” He asked, carefully placing his hand on her stomach. “Goddess, it’s weird asking that.”

“A few weeks, on the winter solstice. The same day as my Luna ceremony.”

“I’m going to be a grandpa. I never thought it possible.” He said, lost in thought.

“So, shall we address the elephant in the room? How did you make it out alive? Sierra said your pack was attacked.” I asked bluntly.

“Edward..” Sierra started to interject.

“No, no. Its alright. You need to know.” He said, clearing his throat. “I remember it like it was yesterday. My father had warned me about being mated to a hybrid, but I didn’t want to listen. The day those men came, they wanted one thing. Your mother.” He said, looking at Sierra. “They knew she was special and wanted her gone. When I refused them and told them to leave, they retaliated. We were outnumbered by a landslide. Flames came up from every direction. It was a mess. I had told your mother to take you and Seth and run, but only a few minutes later, Seth was by my side and your mother following closely behind. They separated us, but not before beating me within an inch of my life in front of her and your brother. I was taken prisoner, moved to the Southern Kingdom where no one bats an eye about slavery. I spent years trying to escape, only to end up in some other monster’s grasp. It was a fluke that I managed to escape.”

“How did you escape?” I asked.

“There was a fruit delivery truck, believe it or not, that came to our master’s house one day. It was a busy day and the driver was new. We hid amongst the melons and stayed like that for hours. When he stopped driving, we jumped the poor boy and left him on the side of the road. He was pissed. But we couldn’t afford to waste the opportunity. We kept driving until we came across your borders. Your men were quite impressive with their response time. I didn’t even have the car in park before they were yanking us out and patting us down for weapons.” He chuckled.

“What about mom?” Sierra asked, a glimmer of hope in her eyes.

“I felt our bond break many, many years ago. It nearly killed me. I’m sorry to say that she has been gone for a while now.”

“Oh...” Sierra sighed sadly. “And Seth?”

“I wish I knew.” He hung his head. “I spent years trying to send messages to the other slaves, seeing if anyone knew of him. No one knew anything. I would assume the worst

happened when they realized that Seth was a hybrid like your mother. But I thought the same about you.”

“I’m so happy you’re alive.” Sierra started crying again.

“Its okay dolly.” He hugged her. “My only hope was that if you were still alive, that life treated you better than it did me.”

“I had a rough start, but then I found Edward and now I know it will all work out.” She said, staring at me with big doe eyes.

“I’m sorry I couldn’t protect you.” He said with a shaky breath. Sierra tucked herself under his arm and gave him a reassuring hug.

“Alpha Andrew, were there any other survivors in your pack?” I asked carefully.

“Not to my knowledge. Those men burnt everything to the ground.”

“What men?”

“The Black Forrest Pack, or at least that’s their cover name. I don’t know what they actually go by.” He shook his head. “They are an elite group of highly trained men and women who believe in only having a pure bloodline. My father warned me about them. He said they would stop at nothing to find my mate. He was right.” Andrew said, a scowl on his face.

“How did they know mom was a werewolf/witch/vampire hybrid?” Sierra asked.

“Just a werewolf/witch. You got the vampire gene from me.” He said, flashing his vampire teeth. “I’m surprised you found out about it actually. It’s a more recessive gene carried down from your grandfather.” He sighed.

“We only found out when we marked each other.” Sierra said nonchalantly. My father-in-law looked like he wanted to kill me again but chose to bite his tongue. I’ll never apologize for marking my mate, though if I had a daughter I’m sure I would be the same as him right about now.

“Your mother was extra special. We never told you this but she was a twin. Her sister died in a rogue attack that happened in her pack when they were only pups. Your mother was so little when it happened, she never really spoke of it.”

“So what does being a twin have anything to do with it?” Sierra asked.

“Oh, there is an old fable that your grandfather would go on and on about. A set of hybrid twins who would come to be the most powerful beings this world has ever seen. They would rule in unison, bringing together all races. The fable hints towards it being male

twins, but I guess for an extremist group, better safe than sorry. Birth records are public records even in the werewolf community, so really all they would have to do is look and see what twins were born and if they had any hybrid genes in them. Twins are so rare among werewolves, to begin with, it wouldn't be hard to wipe them all out. And you know your mother practiced magic openly, it was only a matter of time really." Andrew sighed.

"What else do you know about this group?" I asked.

"They all have matching tattoos and no one really knows where they operate out of." He shrugged. "Not much else to tell. Not much for you to worry about though, as long as you don't practice your gifts, if you even have any."

"They know about me daddy, I have been running from them for years. They have seen me use my powers."

"And you plan on becoming Queen?!" He looked at me angrily. "Why would you let her become a public figure if you know they are after her?! They'll surely kill her!" he yelled.

"It's not his fault, I accepted the responsibility and I know the risk. I am done running daddy, I'm ready to face them." Sierra said confidently.

"Goddess, Sierra! How could you be so naive!?" He stood and threw his hands up.

"Watch your tone with my mate." I stood up, meeting him eye to eye.

"She is my daughter!"

"And you weren't there for her! She has done everything on her own up until now. Your daughter is the most capable person I know and you owe her some respect!"

"That's enough!" Sierra yelled. Silence filled the room, a palpable tension spreading amongst us. "Ah!" Sierra yelled out, grabbing her stomach.

"Are you okay?" I asked.

"What's wrong?" Andrew asked at the same time.

"Braxton hicks." She said, rubbing her sides. "I am supposed to be having minimal stress in my life right now because I'm supposed to keep this pup in until my Luna ceremony or the council will be pissed off and it could cause Edward his title as king, so if you two will please excuse me I am going to go lie down." She said storming out of the room.

"Jackson I need you." I linked. I didn't want to leave Sierra, but I also wanted my father-in-law to go. I needed someone to escort him to his guest room on the first floor.

"Ella is in heat, I cant right now." He answered immediately, sounding out of breath.

Shit. Who else could I ask that would keep this quiet? Abby would blab to anyone, and William and Oliver are on patrol and training respectively....

“Hey mom? Can I ask a favor?”

“Sure honey, what is it?”

“It’s a long story but I have a guest on our floor who needs to be escorted to a guest room downstairs. I would like to keep his presence quiet for now. Until I know more about him.”

“Always so trusting...” Edmund snorted.

“Sure, I’ll be right up!” She said happily. Her mood has been much better since coming back to the palace and feeling needed again.

“I have a room ready for you downstairs. I have someone coming to get you and escort you to it. If you’ll excuse me, I am going to go check on my mate.” I said, heading in the direction of our room.

“She just means so much to me. This feels like a second chance and I cant bear the thought of something happening to her.” He said, his age showing in his sad expression.

“That’s one thing we can agree on,” I said. As much as I wanted to say more, I knew I needed to get to Sierra and calm her down. The doctor specifically said to keep her stress free and family drama wasn’t going to help that cause.

The elevator’s ding grabbed our attention and out stepped my mother.

“Alright, where is this guest...” Her words fell short the moment they landed on my father-in-law.

“Mate” they said in unison. They held each others gaze, their eyes turning black with lust and shimmers of silver from their wolves peaking through.

Fuck me.

## **The Alpha King And His Second Chance**

### **Chapter 43**

Andrew

“Mate.” We said together as one.

I didn't think it was possible, after my precious mate Lorraine was taken from me, that I would ever be able to find another partner, let alone be blessed with a second chance mate! What a whirlwind of a day it has been!

"Hi, I'm Sylvia." My morning dove introduced herself. "Edwards' mom." She blushed.

"Andrew, Sierra's dad. It's a pleasure to meet you," I said, taking her hand, giving it a quick peck.

"I'll show you to your room." She said, leading the way to the elevators. I followed her like a lovesick puppy.

I would be lying if I said I never thought about finding a new mate. I missed Lorraine dearly, but many years had passed since she was taken from me and, if I was being honest, I was lonely. I longed for a partner. I never thought it possible, being a slave for so many years, let alone my second chance mate being the former Northern Queen. My daughter's mate's mother, oh goddess, this was the start of a terrible soap opera.

"I can have someone else take him, mom." Edward interjected.

"Nonsense, I'll make sure he is well taken care of. Come along Andrew." She glided into the elevator, eyeing me up the moment she turned around, giving no regard to her son who was standing right there.

"Please tell Sierra I'm sorry. Maybe we can have lunch tomorrow? Talk things over?" I asked Edward.

"That would be good. We will see you then." He gave me a curt nod.

"Make it dinner!" Sylvia called. She reminded me of a tiger waiting to pounce.

Edward looked mortified. I turned and headed into the small space. The sexual tension between us was pliable. We somehow kept our composure as we rode the elevator down to the first floor.

"Your room is just around the corner here, its right across from mine, actually," Sylvia purred.

She opened the door, letting me go in first while she waited in the doorway. It was more than just a room, it was more like a mini apartment. It was more than I had since my pack went up in flames.

"Does this room...suit your needs?" Sylvia purred.

"Its perfect, thank you." I said, looking around. "Would you like to stay and chat for a bit?"

“I would love to,” She said, closing the door behind her.

I went to the table just off the kitchen and pulled out one of the chairs for her to sit down on. She gracefully sat down, crossing one ankle over the other, her hands rested on her lap. She looked so poised. I sat down across from her, appreciating the view.

“So, tell me about yourself.” I said, trying to break the ice.

“Are we going to act like pups about this?” Her attitude seeped through her voice.

“Excuse me?” I frowned at her sudden change of tone.

“I had a mate once, he was the love of my life. If I could have changed anything about our relationship, it would be to have more time together. I trust the moon goddess’s judgment. If she says you should be my second chance mate, then I accept it. I’m not looking for games, Andrew.” She said with her head held high.

I stood from my chair, circling the table and coming up behind Sylvia. I moved her hair to the side, brushing against her marking spot, and grabbed her by the throat gently, using what was left of my Alpha tone, my breath fanning her neck. “Make no mistake, woman, I do plan on doing things to you tonight that will leave you shaking.” She shifted in her seat, goosebumps covering her soft skin. “But I would first like to know a thing or two about my second chance mate.” I released her from my grasp and headed into the kitchen, pouring us both a glass of water. I handed her the beverage and she gulped down half the glass immediately.

“What would you like to know?” She asked, taking a steadying breath.

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Sylvia

“What are your interests?” He asked me.

“You,” I said, trying to regain my composure. “In all seriousness though, I have had a hard time coping since my first mate was killed. I had to move away from here, the memory of him hurt so much. I spent a lot of time traveling and sight seeing. Now that I’m back, it doesn’t hurt as much, it doesn’t feel like home anymore. Especially since I have a grandpup on the way and a Luna to train, I feel as though I have purpose again.”

“I am sorry for your loss, I understand more than you know. My first mate was taken from me as well.” He admitted, his expression serious, focused even.

“Sierra never mentioned you, yet here you are.” I said as more of a question.

“I was once Alpha of the Clear Water pack. We were attacked and I shamefully lived as a slave for many years. I managed to escape and ended up here just this afternoon. I didn’t know my daughter was still alive all these years.”

He looked so broken. My heart hurt for him. He had everything and it was all taken away. Maybe this was why the moon goddess put us together, redemption. I got up from the table and skirted around to where Andrew was seated. He looked up at me, his blue eyes boring into me. “I’m sorry for your past.” I said and pulled his head against my chest. He wrapped his arms around my center and pulled me onto his lap in a straddling position.

“Ditto.” He mumbled into me, I could feel his chest rise from taking a deep inhale. I ran my fingers through his short hair, savoring the moment. Andrew stood to his feet a minute later, taking me with him.

“Oh! Where are we going?” I laughed.

“To the bed,” he growled into my chest.

“I thought you wanted to talk” I chided.

“Fuck it, we can talk more tomorrow.”

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Sierra

“What do you mean they are mates?!” I practically shouted while Edward and I laid in a spooning position on the bed. He had been massaging my hips for a while, giving me some relief from the constant aches. He had gotten me to calm down a bit but decided to rip that bandaid off, dropping that massive bomb on me.

“I saw it myself, though I wish I hadn’t.” Edward mumbled into my hair.

“Does that mean we are gonna be step-siblings now?” I half cringed, half smirked.

“Goddess Sierra, please don’t make this worse.” He said.

“I’m mated to my stepbrother...”

“Sierra,” Edward warned.

“....who also got me pregnant.”

“Goddess, it sounds like a bad porno.” He said, groaning into me. We broke out into a fit of laughter, making light of the otherwise awkward situation.

“As long as they are happy, I guess.” I sighed and snuggled closer to Edward. “This is nice, bumming with you.” I hummed.

“We should be bummy more often.”

“I couldn’t agree more.”

“How about Levi?” Edward asked.

“Levi?”

“Baby names?”

“Levi....I like that.” I said, rubbing my bump.

“Middle name?”

“Hmm, Alexander?”

“Levi Alexander...I think we just picked our pup’s name.”

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“Did you sleep well last night?” I stupidly asked my father.

“Oh I don’t think he got much sleep last night.” A disgusted looking Abby said while she moved her food around the table, refusing to make eye contact.

“You could have moved to another room further away.” Syliva rolled her eyes.

“So dad, what would you like to do tomorrow? I have the day wide open for us.” I asked, trying to change the subject. Both of our parents had fresh markings, a clear indication of what happened last night.

He and Sylvia exchanged a heated glance before he cleared his throat and answered, “I would like to take my wolf for a run, it’s been a while.”

“I don’t think I should be shifting while I’m this pregnant, but I’ll happily walk with your wolf.” I smiled.

“Sounds perfect to me.” He smiled.

“Andrew, Mom, perhaps it would be ideal for you two to move into the lake house.” Edward suggested, obviously still bothered by what Abby had said.

“That’s a great idea!” Abby lit up.

“Ella and I can help you move,” Jackson suggested.

“The lake house?” My father asked.

“Oh, it’s a lovely home, plenty of space, and right on the water. The sunsets are just gorgeous,” Sylvia raved.

“Well, as long as you are okay with it dear.” He shrugged. “I’ll happily go with you.”

“Its settled then. We can start moving tonight.” Sylvia said.

“Thank Goddess.” Abby sighed in relief.

Dinner moved along smoothly, the rest of the week did too, in fact. I was able to reconnect with my father, him with his new mate, Edward and I had more time together, my Luna ceremony was just around the corner and guests were responding, my pup was growing big and strong, Sylvia’s Luna training was running smoothly, everything was well, perfect. For the first time in forever, everything was perfect.

I was in my office, searching for somewhere to put my spellbook that Adaline had given me. It seemed too important to just leave sitting out. The bookshelf didn’t seem quite appropriate either.

“Hey Sierra?” Ella said, knocking on my office door.

“Hey, whats up?”

“I was wondering if I could borrow you for a few minutes. I need your opinion on the centerpieces for the banquate before your Luna ceremony.”

“Sure thing, I’m just trying to find a safe place to put this. I don’t want to leave it out.” I huffed in defeat.

“What about the vault?”

“What vault?”

“The one behind the bookshelf.” Ella pointed. “Didnt Edward show you?”

“There is a hidden vault?!” I asked, both excited and confused.

“Let me see if I remember where it was....” Ella approached the pre-existing bookshelf behind my desk. She looked at it intently for a moment before taking all the books off of the second shelf from the top, then pushing the shelf inward. A few clicks sounded and the entire bookshelf creaked open. “There you go!” She smiled, pulling the bookshelf open like a door.

“No kidding...” I said, stepping into the small room behind it. There wasn’t much space at all, just enough for a single bookshelf and a small table and one chair. On the desk was a notebook and a pen. The floor also had a few boxes stacked in the corner. The bookshelf had a handful of old-looking framed photos and one or two books as well. “I feel like I’m invading her privacy.” I said to Ella, who was still standing in my office. “Aren’t you coming?” I asked.

“If Hope had things stored away, I doubt she wanted just anyone to see them.” She declined.

“I’ll come back to this later. Lets go pick out those centerpieces.” I smiled and let her lead the way.

“Its just through this room here,” Ella said, opening the door to one of the smaller banquette rooms. The lights were all off, I blindly felt for the light switch, flicking it on the moment my hand landed on it.

“Surprise!!” A multitude of voices yelled out. I nearly jumped out of my skin.

“What is all of this?” I said, looking around. The room was decorated in pale blues and greens, there was a gift table and a cake also.

“Your baby shower!” Abby said, putting a sash over my head and arm that said ‘mom to be’

“You really had no idea?” Sylvia asked, giving me a hello hug and escorting me to a table.

“None at all. I actually hadn’t thought much about buying baby supplies with everything else going on.” I said, sitting down.

“Well, it’s certainly a good thing Ella threw this together! Your due in less than two weeks!” Abby laughed.

“Yeah, haha.” I half laughed. The thought of having to deliver soon was daunting. I looked around the room, catching glimpses of some familiar faces and some unfamiliar ones. In addition to Ella, Sylvia, and Abby, I also saw Lauren, Anita, Williams’ mate Rachael, Council woman Leslie, and a few other palace staff members who I had grown close to.

“Sierra, allow me to introduce you. This is Kelly, she is the eldest daughter of King Carson from the West, and Queen Amber, who is mated to King Jesse in the East.” Sylvia introduced.

“Its a pleasure to formally meet you both,” I said, awkwardly standing from my seat. Goddess, this pup made it hard to look graceful. “I cant thank you enough for making the long journey on my account.” I smiled and we shook hands.

“Anything for King Edward.” Queen Amber smiled softly. She was a stunning looking woman, probably around my father’s age. She had beautiful black braided hair and chocolate skin. She wore a pale yellow romper that complimented her hazel eyes.

“We wish you all the best.” Kelly added, her smile not quite meeting her eyes. She looked to be around eighteen or so. She was also stunning, her perfectly done hair and makeup with her perfectly fitting dress making me feel vastly underwhelming.

“Thank you.” I nodded to both of the women before Sylvia escorted me around the room, introducing me to the rest of the guests I hadn’t met yet.

“Luna Sierra, why don’t you come and eat before your food gets cold.” Ella swooped in after half an hour or so, saving my introvert ass from all the socializing.

“If you’ll excuse me” I said, making a beeline for my seat.

“Thought you might need a break” Ella said, taking a seat next to me.

“Thank you!” I said, practically inhaling my food.

“You look like you dropped, any signs of labor yet?” Ella asked.

“Just some Braxton hicks here and there. I have an appointment tomorrow and pretty much every other day until my due date.”

“Only a week away.” She smiled. “You could go into labor anytime now.”

“This pup needs to stay put until after my Luna ceremony.” I laughed. “Speaking of which, how is the dress coming? I’m so excited to see it.”

“Almost done, just a few finishing touches and alterations, of course.”

“Time for gifts!” Abby exclaimed. She practically dragged me to the front of the room where there was a chair and gift table. One by one, I opened each gift, thanking each person along the way. This child was going to be spoiled, there was no doubt about that. He already had everything he could ever want or need and he wasn’t even born yet.

“Last one.” Abby said, handing me a small box. I unwrapped it, confused when I saw that the small package looked like a jewelry box. I cracked it open, awestruck by the beautiful pendant within.

“Who is this one from again, Abby?” I said, pulling the delicate necklace out of its box. The pendant was pear shaped with a halo diamond boarder surrounding a blue topaz gemstone.

“Me.” My mate’s voice took me by surprise. I turned to see my tall muscular man dressed in a button-down shirt and dress pants and holding a bouquet of flowers. “It’s his birthstone.” He said, setting the flowers down and helping me with the clasp. I could hear the other women buzzing with excitement.

“It’s beautiful.” I started to tear up, my raging hormones getting the better of me.

“Thank you all for coming, we are beyond grateful for your love and support and can’t wait for you to meet our pup.” Edward said, saving me from the job of speaking while crying. He rested his hand on my shoulder and gave it a reassuring squeeze.

“And on that note, time for cake!” Abby announced gleefully. Goddess, to have her energy.

## The Alpha King And His Second Chance

### Chapter 44

Sierra

“I can’t believe the turn out, and I really can’t believe how much stuff we got for our pup!” I said, getting the changing table organized. We had gotten everything up to the pup’s room yesterday after the shower and decided to devote today to getting his room setup.

“I am not too surprised, it comes with the territory. But I am very grateful.” Edward said from the corner of the room where he was assembling the crib.

“Can you believe we are going to be parents soon? I mean even if I go over my due date, Dr. White said he wouldn’t let me go past a week, so that in mind, in less than two weeks we will have our pup.” I smiled and headed for the closet and started organizing his adorable little clothes.

“It’s exciting....and intimidating.” Edward said, pushing the newly assembled crib into place.

“You’re not wrong,” I laughed. “There! All done!” I said, standing back and marveling at our handy work. Most of our gifts came with a twinkle twinkle little star theme. Our pup’s room was filled with stars and moon’s and even a few wolves. It was perfect.

“Hey, there is something I have been meaning to talk to you about, it’s kinda a touchy subject though.” Edward said, taking the last bits of trash and tossing them in the diaper pail.

“What might that be, Alpha?” I asked seductively, my arms traveling up his carved body and resting around his neck.

“Alpha Carl and his family arrived late last night. They think they were invited to a dinner in their honor. I plan on deciding their fate today.”

“Oh.” Is all I could muster, my arms retracting. Edward grabbed hold of my hands, staring deeply into my eyes.

“Besides you, they have a list a mile long of broken laws and misconduct. If it were anyone else, I would have them killed on the spot. But because these are your demons, I am leaving their fate up to you. Whatever punishment you have of them, just say the word and it will be done.”

“How long?”

“An hour. I have already appointed a new Alpha to run his pack, he is there now actually.”

I nodded and pulled away, “I’m going to go meditate, clear my head. I’ll be in the gardens.”

“Would you like company?” He asked, concern written all over his face.

“Rain check?”

“Sure, I’ll come and get you when its time.” He nodded, empathy written all over his face.

I made my way to the back of the garden, wanting as much space as possible. I had spent literal years thinking of all the horrible things I wished would happen to Alpha Carl and his family. Now that the power was in my hands, it felt overwhelming. I held multiple lives in the palm of my hand, whatever I decided would change their lives forever.

I sat down on the soft grass, not caring if I got a grass stain on my butt at the moment. I crossed my legs as best I could with my obnoxious bump, resting my hands on my knees and closing my eyes, just as I had done at the coven. What on earth was I going to do?

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Edward

I walked through the garden in search of my mate, I found her at the back sitting on the grass. I saw her head cock ever so slightly telling me she heard or smelled me coming. “Its time.” I said. She nodded and I went to her side to help her up. We walked hand in hand through the lush greenery. “Have you decided?” I asked.

“Yes.” She nodded. “Lets go have dinner.” She smiled.

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“King Edward! Might I say this was highly unexpected!” Alpha Carl said, already kissing ass.

“Alpha Carl. How was your trip?” I asked smoothly.

“Trip? Oh right, it was wonderful, so many sights we saw.” He laughed nervously.

“Please, sit down.” I said, taking my seat at the head of the table. His mate was about to sit next to me when I stopped her. “Apologies, my mate will be joining us shortly. Please help yourselves.”

“You have a new mate?” Alpha Carl asked, wiping his face with his napkin after taking far too big of a bit of food.

“Yes, she is one of a kind. She will be made Queen in just a few days.” I smiled, trying to hide the smug look on my face.

I took a bite of my steak to try to conceal it better.

“Well, what a nice surprise,” Luna Tammy said, though she and Alpha Carl exchanged an odd glance. Their daughter wouldn’t stop giving me fuck-me eyes.

“Yes, it surly is.” I took a sip of wine. “Alpha Carl, I do have to ask, how does an Alpha such as yourself keep your pack together for all these years? I have seen many try and fail, but you seem to have everything under control,” I asked.

“Oh, ugh, well, it’s a lot of hard work, as you know.” He said, sweating bullets.

“So you never had any financial troubles? Or slave labor? You never traded someone as payment?” I asked bluntly.

“I don’t understand..” Luna Tammy cut in, looking just as nervous as her mate.

“Just checking.” I said, taking a bite of my baked potato.

A moment later, the banquet room door opened up, revealing my mate. But instead of wearing any number of the beautiful clothes she now owned, she came in wearing an old looking pair of leggings and a ragged looking top.

“You!” Alpha Carl’s eyes narrowed, immediately recognizing Sierra. “Your majesty, whatever she has told you is a lie. She is nothing but a filthy rogue we took in out of pity!

“She betrayed us and ran away many years ago!” Luna Tammy chimed in.

“Look at her, she cant even seem to keep her legs together!” Their daughter Heather pointed, looking disgusted.

I stood up from my seat and pulled out the chair next to me, Sierra thanked me and sat down, putting her napkin over her lap and taking a sip of water.

“Always a pleasure seeing you three.” Sierra greeted, before digging into her own food, an amused look on her face.

“I believe you have already met, this is my second chance mate, and your future queen.” The three looked like they were fish out of water, their jaws bobbing, not knowing what to say, nervous glances being exchanged. “I’ll make this simple. I know you are a terrible piece of shit. If I had it my way, I would chop off your balls and feed them to you. But I have decided to let Sierra decide your fate.”

“Funny how things turn out, huh?” Sierra smiled.

“Sierra, dear, you know we never meant any harm-” Tammy began.

“Says the scars on my back.” Sierra snorted. The room grew quiet while Sierra happily ate her meal. “So, I was thinking of what to do with you three. I had a lot of ideas.” She shrugged. “But, since I am such a generous person, the more information you tell me, the more I will lessen your punishment. Sound good?”

“Ye-yes Sierra.” Carl stuttered.

“Please, call me Luna.” She said, taking a sip of water. “Who was Brandon working for?”

“Alpha Victor, he was there to train our warriors.” He said, he and his family looked like they were going to be sick.

“Wrong answer.” She wiped her mouth. “Care to try again?”

“We don’t actually know much about them.” Tammy blurted out. “They found us.”

“After King Edward started searching through packs, we knew he wouldn’t like what he saw. Then along came Alpha Victor and his crew of men. We made a deal, he would train our men for battle in exchange for our daughter. We would fight in each other’s wars when and if the time came.” Alpha Carl began. “But after you ran away, all hell broke loose. Our pack members started disappearing, we would find them weeks later wandering in the woods, but they were never the same. I suspected Alpha Victor was behind the abductions, though I could never prove it. When you sent your email asking me to come here, I spoke with Alpha Victor, hoping that he would stand with me. He merely wished me luck and all but packed my bag. I got the feeling we wouldn’t be going back home, either by you or by him. I guess I was right.” He sighed.

“Is that all you know?” I asked.

“They all have matching tattoos, the wolves in Alpha Victor’s pack.” Heather chimed in. Most have it on their wrists, some in other places.” She shrugged.

“How did you know that?” Luna Tammy asked, her brows creased.

“Well, its good to know some things never change.” Sierra chuckled, taking her last bite of food. “If that’s all you know, I’ll get down to it then. She said, wiping her lips with her napkin and placing it on the table. “What do you think is a fitting punishment for all the bullshit you put me through?”

“Please have mercy on us.” Alpha Carl began to beg.

“You are sitting at my table having a meal. You wouldn’t even allow that for me when I lived in the packhouse. I am already more merciful than you.” She stood to her feet and paused before looking at me. “Four brands each. And then they are to be cast out of our kingdom as rogues, stripped of their authority. If they ever step foot in the northern kingdom again, the punishment will be death.” She said, storming out of the room in a fury.

“You should be so lucky.” I said to the three of them. “Guards!”

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“I just got word back that Carl, Tammy, and Heather have been cast out. Its done.” I said, coming up behind my mate who was still agitated.

“I just have a bad feeling, Edward.”

“They won’t come back, they can’t hurt you anymore.” I said, kissing her neck.

“Not them, what they said. Abductions? Is anyone safe there? They made a deal with Alpha Victor, but the new Alpha has not. What if something happens to him?”

“I have a number of our men posted there with Alpha Paul. If something goes wrong, it will be dealt with quickly.” I gripped her hips, pulling her flush to me.

“Edward, those men aren’t normal. They hunt hybrids for a living. What if they are there for more than just training people to revolt against you?”

“Then we will deal with it as it happens.” I nipped at her marking spot, earning me a tiny gasp.

“Its hard to stay focused with you doing that.” She hummed.

“Then don’t”

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Ella

“Leaving late again, huh?” Dr. White asked as I punched out.

“You’re here too. What’s your excuse?” I laughed.

“Research.” He shrugged.

“Have a good night doctor.” I smiled and continued on my way.

If I was being completely honest, I was avidly trying to stay as busy as possible. There was plenty to do between work, helping Sierra with her Luna ceremony planning, and sewing her dress. I headed home, linking Sierra that I would be home soon to fit her in her dress. Her Luna ceremony was tomorrow and that was the last thing that needed to be done.

“Ella?” Sierra knocked.

“Come on in!” I said, greeting her at the door.

She waddled in, one hand on her hip, the other on her enormous belly. She looked miserable.

“Are you okay?” I asked, looking her over.

“I’m so over being pregnant.” She huffed. “We have been so busy I have tried to ignore all the annoying pregnancy symptoms, but I’m done, I’m over it, this pup needs to get out. Eviction notice is about to be served.” She leaned down and rested her elbows on the arm of our sofa, slowly swaying her hips from side to side.

“Just one more day, if you don’t go into labor before then, I’m sure Dr. White wouldn’t have a problem inducing you early.” I said, trying to reassure her.

“One more day,” She said, standing up straight. “Okay, let’s get this fitting going, I’m sure you want to go to bed just as much as I do. I just hope you have enough fabric to cover my whale-like body.”

“Dont worry, I’ve got you covered.” I smiled. “Now go put this on.” I said, handing her the garment bag.

“Ella!! This dress is gorgeous!!” Sierra gawked a few minutes later. She spun in the mirror a few times, loving my work, thank goddess.

The dress was an off-shoulder-aline ball gown. I used a lighter fabric to make the dress easier for Sierra to wear since she was so pregnant. The flowy fabric was a multicolor iridescent chiffon, matching her wolf's coat, according to Edward. I had added a few fabric flowers around her waist, highlighting her bump. Sierra looked breathtaking in it.

"Thank you, now hold still." I laughed, trying to place a few pins where I needed to take in her dress. But, it was nearly perfect, all things considered.

"Where did you learn how to make dresses?" She asked.

"My grandmother taught me when I was little how to sew on buttons and it kinda just grew from there." I got on my knees and placed a few pins in the bottom of the skirt.

"Wow, well you're amazing."

"There, you are all pinned up. You can take this off and I will have it ready by morning." I said, putting my pin cushion down and standing back up.

"Thank you so much." Sierra smiled and quickly changed back into her clothes. "Forgive me for asking, but how did things go after you drank the tea I made you?" She asked hesitantly.

"Well, I went into heat almost immediately after, if that's what you mean." I shot her a look.

"I did warn you." She laughed softly. "Have you tested yet? Its been long enough."

"No...I'm afraid to."

"Whatever happens, I'm here for you, however you need me to be." She smiled and gave me a reassuring hug. We said goodnight soon after and I was left alone with my thoughts. I made quick work of hemming Sierra's dress and packing it up for tomorrow, trying to distract myself.

"Hey babe" Jackson said, giving me a quick kiss on the cheek and continuing to the bathroom.

"Hey, have a good day?"

"Yeah, but I smell. I just finished two back-to-back training sessions. I need a shower."

"Want company?"

"Always." He growled and came back over to me, scooping me up and throwing me over his shoulder. He nipped and squeezed at my butt cheek on the way, earning a few squeals from me.

Our shower was less than pure. The only redeeming factor was that there was soap and water involved at some point. I stood in front of the mirror brushing my hair out, wearing my fuzzy purple robe, feeling well satisfied with a few new hickeys on my body.

“How was your day?” Jackson asked.

“Good, busy.” I sighed.

“Is that a good or bad thing?” He asked, picking up on my tone immediately.

“I could technically take a pregnancy test today.” I blurted out, getting right to the point.

“Okay.” He came up from behind me and wrapped his arms around my waist, his head nuzzling into my neck. “So what do you want to do?”

“Its killing me not knowing, but knowing might also kill me. So I’m stuck in limbo.”

“How can I help?” He said, staring at me through the mirror.

“I don’t suppose you could take the test for me?” I said, turning around in his arms.

“No....but I could read the results if that would help.” He said, tucking a loose strand of hair behind my ear.

“Yeah?” I nodded.

“Go take it and i’ll deal with the rest.” Jackson said, kissing my forehead and nudging me towards the vanity where I kept my pregnancy tests. I quickly peed on the stick and put it back in its package, leaving it on the counter for Jackson to read. I made myself busy putting dishes away and pulling out our clothes for the Luna ceremony tomorrow. I climbed into bed a few minutes later and tried to get cozy on my side, figuring enough time had gone by. It must be negative. Disappointment filled my spirit, I tried my best to hold back my tears but a few got the better of me. Jackson joined me a few minutes later, cuddling up next to me.

“Why are you crying?” He asked.

“Its negative, isn’t it?” I turned over to face my mate.

“No, it’s not. Its positive Ella, we are going to have a pup.” He said, the biggest smile plastered across his face.

“What!?” I sat up, Jackson joining me.

“See for yourself.” He handed me the test that he had put in a clear sandwich bag and had drawn a big smiley face on it. Sure enough, there were two lines staring back at me. I began crying tears of joy, my dream of having a pup finally coming true.

“I’m going to be a mom.” I whispered.

“And a great one at that.”

# The Alpha King And His Second Chance

## Chapter 45

Sierra

Today was the day. The day I thought would never come. The day that I have been worrying about for weeks, today was my Luna ceremony and inauguration. Edward and I got up early to have a few quiet minutes together before the chaos began. Guests would be arriving soon and there were so many moving parts today we would need all hands on deck.

“Did Ella finish your dress?” Edward asked me as we dressed in semi-formal attire to greet our guests. We would change into our ceremony clothes right before the banquet.

“I hope so. She did my fitting last night. The dress is stunning.” I smiled while fixing my hair in the mirror.

“Good. I’m glad you like it.” Edward smiled and planted a quick kiss on my cheek. “How is our pup doing?”

“Hanging in there.” I huffed, still feeling very over being pregnant. But despite my disposition, our little boy needed to stay in just one more day.

“And you?”

“Nervous, excited, exhausted.” I shrugged.

“You will do fine, and after this we won’t have any other big events for a while. Plenty of time to spend with our pup.” He said, kissing my bump.

“Thank Goddess.” I sighed, leaning on my mate.

“Jackson just linked me, the Eastern King and his family have just arrived, shall we?” He said, extending his arm.

“And so our day begins.” I smiled and took his arm, waddling alongside him.

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“King Jesse, Queen Amber, allow me to formally introduce you to my mate, Sierra,” Edward said.

“A pleasure to meet you. Amber has said nothing but good things about you.” King Jesse smiled. He and his mate were regular werewolves. I had learned after my baby shower that only Edward and King Bruno were actually Lycans, the other two kings were just your average Joe werewolves. Lycans were a dying race, apparently. It made sense though, with all the cross breeding between lycans and werewolves, only one would end up flourishing and that one was the werewolves.

“I am honored. Please, let us show you to your rooms.” I said, just as Sylvia had trained me. Edward smiled at me and gave me a wink. He looked proud of me, which sent butterflies soaring in my stomach.

“So how did you two meet?” Queen Amber asked.

“Oh, it’s a long story for another time,” I said.

“All that matters is that we found each other,” Edward added.

Our love story wasn’t exactly all hearts and flowers. Today was not the time to dive into our ugly pasts.

“The Moon Goddess surly favors you, not many get a second chance.” Queen Amber smiled. “And how lucky you are to have a pup on the way already.”

“You must be overjoyed, King Edward,” King Jesse said.

“Yes, I am beyond blessed,” Edward answered.

“Do you have any children?” I asked Queen Amber.

“Unfortunately, no, it wasn’t meant to be,” King Jesse cut in. He and Queen Amber were clearly past having pups, they were closer to our parents’ age. Though his words seemed to strike a nerve with Queen Amber, it made me sad to see her that way.

“Lunch will be provided shortly, and the banquet starts at 5pm.” Edward swooped in, narrowly saving the mood. “And your room, here is your key, and we will see you tonight.” Edward said, handing over the keys and shaking hands with King Jesse.

“We look forward to it.” King Jesse nodded and he and his mate headed inside to get settled in.

“Thanks for saving me there.” I whispered to Edward. “Anything else I should know ahead of time?”

“King Carson’s mate is ill and on bedrest so she won’t be attending. They only have daughters. Three to be precise. King Bruno has a son...his mate situation is a bit complicated,” Edward answered as we walked back to the front of the palace.

“Complicated? What does that mean?” I asked.

“He has a mate, or so we believe, though I have only heard of her. I have never met her. The council hasn’t bothered him about finding a mate, so I have to assume she is somewhere back in his kingdom. Though, you’d never know it, King Bruno is not afraid to get handsy at parties with other women.”

“Thats awful!”

“Mhm. He is scummy alright. But that might be the least heinous of his offenses.”

“Then why did we invite him?” I practically hissed.

“He is a King. If we didn’t, it could be considered an act of war. Right now there is peace between the four kingdoms and I plan on keeping it that way.”

“Oh...I still don’t like it.”

“Welcome to royal living.” He sighed.

“King Edward!” A booming voice greeted him.

I turned to see a well dressed werewolf with light blond hair. He was probably in his forties, surrounded by three younger girls. This must be King Carson.

“King Carson, we are pleased to have you here. This is my second chance mate, Sierra.” Edward said, confirming my suspicions.

“Its nice to meet you, these are my daughters, Kelly, Kelsey, and Kylie.” He pointed to each of his daughters who all looked remarkably the same, just different heights. The oldest looked to be in her mid teens and the youngest no more than seven or eight.

“You have a beautiful family. Please send my regards to Queen Carleigh, I hope she gets well soon.” I smiled.

“Thank you, I will.” He smiled. “Now, if you don’t mind, I would love to get settled in, these three are driving me crazy!” He whispered the last part.

“Right this way.” I laughed and led the way.

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“Okay, that is just about all of our out-of-town guests, except King Bruno.” I said, looking over Jackson’s guest list. All but a few names were checked off for having already arrived. “We need to get ready soon. How long will we wait for him?”

“King Bruno? I thought I saw him arrive early this morning. He was with his son” Ella said, coming up behind us.

“Well, he didn’t come in through my doors. I’ve been there all morning.” Jackson said with his brows furrowed. “Where did you see him?”

“He was hanging out around the ceremony space outside. Gave me the creeps.” She sundered in disgust.

“I wonder why he hasn’t come in. If nothing else, we have a room waiting for him.” I frowned.

“I don’t find it surprising. He always seems like he is up to trouble. Jackson and I will go look for him while you and Ella finish getting ready. This day is all about you after all.” Edward said, kissing me before he and Jackson went on their way to find King Bruno.

“Ready?” I asked Ella, who had a gleeful look on her face.

“Yes!” She exclaimed, locking arms with me. “I have something to tell you.” She smiled.

“Oh?” I asked, a smile already creeping up on me.

“Your pup is going to have a cousin soon.” She said, beaming with pride.

“It worked! Youre pregnant?!” I exclaimed as Ella and I walked towards the elevators leading up to our floor.

“Shhh! Yes! I just found out last night! I can’t thank you enough!” Ella whisper-yelled to me.

“This is so exciting!! I’m going to be an aunt!” I practically started crying. “I’m so happy for you!”

“What is all the fuss about ladies?” A man’s voice called from around the corner. A moment later, he came into view. He was very tall with perfectly cut dark brown hair and wore a dark red suit. Next to him was a younger man, a teenager, who looked like his spitting image.

“King Bruno, Derek, welcome.” Ella greeted them and gave a small bow. Her sudden change of tone was amusing.

“King Bruno, it’s a pleasure to meet you, I’m-”

“I know who you are, you’re the hybrid mate, Sabrina, correct?” He said, eyeing me up and down, making me feel very uncomfortable.

“Its Sierra, actually.” I stuck my chin out defiantly, already not liking this guy.

“King Bruno.” My mate called in a stern voice. “What a surprise to see you here. I would have thought you would have used the front doors like everyone else coming to visit.” He stalked closer, placing a protective arm around me.

“King Edward, you know how I like to keep things interesting.” He said, eyeing me once more. “And apparently you do too. A hybrid for a mate? A bit bold, don’t you think?”

“Watch your tongue. And stop looking at her that way. Need I remind you whose land you are on.” Edward bit back.

“Tisk tisk, always so testy. I’m only having a bit of fun, that is all. No need to get your hackles up.” He said in a velvety smooth voice, calmly putting his hands up in a mock defeat.

“Why don’t we show you and your son to your rooms?” Jackson cut in, his tone almost as venomous as my mates.

“Wouldnt that be nice.” He practically purred. “Come along Derek.”

Jackson and Edward led them the opposite way down the hall. King Bruno kept his head held high and had a swagger in his step while his son could hardly peel his eyes off the floor. He walked a few feet behind his father, something seemed off there. But seeing how King Bruno was in front of us, I can only imagine what he was like at home. Poor kid.

“Goddess, that man is a creep!” I said to Ella the moment the elevator doors closed.

“Ugh, I know, I am grateful that we only have to deal with him every once in a blue moon. I don’t know how people in his kingdom handle being around him.

“No wonder we keep getting refugees.” I sighed.

“Nevermind him, this is a wonderful day meant to be all about you. Lets not give that creep another ounce of your attention.”

“You’re right. The banquet will be starting in an hour. We had better hurry.”

Ella and I got ready in her home. She curled my hair and put it into a fancy updo that complimented my profile. Then she started on my makeup. She did it very natural and

subtle looking. I took a quick peek in the mirror and finally started to feel like the Queen I was about to become.

“You look stunning!” Ella beamed with joy.

“All thanks to you!” I hugged her.

“Ready to get your dress on?”

“Let me go pee first.” I scurried off to the bathroom and handled my business. I was drying my hands when it felt like my pup dropped. “Holy cow.” I said, placing my hand on my stomach.

“Sierra? Are you okay?” Ella asked, knocking on the door.

“Yeah, I just think my pup dropped, like drop dropped.” I said, coming out of the bathroom. My stomach tightened up, making me stop in my tracks.

“Wow! You do look a lot lower....should I call Dr. White?” She asked, helping me over to the couch. I sat down and the tight feeling soon subsided.

“No, I’m alright. Just give me a minute, then we can get dressed and go.”

“If you’re sure...”

“I am. Come sit with me. Do you have any baby names picked out yet?”

“Oh I have a few.” Ella blushed.

“Well, let’s hear them!”

“I like the name Joy if it’s a girl, and if it’s a boy, Benjamin. I just wish I knew what we were having! I want to start on a baby blanket so badly!”

I smiled, already knowing what she was having from a few visions I had. She caught my look and then it dawned upon her.

“You already know, don’t you!” She exclaimed. “Tell me!”

“Are you sure you don’t want it to be a surprise?” I laughed.

“No, I need to know.” She deadpanned.

“Your daughter will grow to be a fierce warrior.”

“A girl?! I’m having a girl?!”

“Yes, she is beautiful, looks just like you.”

“Oh Goddess! Are you sure?”

“Mhm, come here.” I said. I placed my hands on her temples and showed her my visions like I had done with Edward. The first was when she and Jackson found out they were pregnant while lying in bed together. The next, her pink-themed baby shower, then her daughter’s first birthday party where Ella was sporting another bump. And finally, her daughter, as a grown woman, giving Ella a hug and thanking her.

“Woah...” Ella sat back, tears flowing down her face, ruining her makeup. “That was amazing.” She cried. “And she has siblings.”

“You have a wonderful life ahead of you, Ella.” I hugged her and handed her a tissue. When she settled down enough, I got up from the couch, needing to finish getting ready. “Zip up my dress?” I said, waddling over to the garment bag.

“Yeah, of course.”

I quickly dressed and Ella made sure I was picture perfect, adding a few pieces of jewelry and my crown as the icing on the cake. I couldn’t believe it was me I was staring at in the mirror. I finally felt like a beautiful grown woman who deserved just as much respect as anyone else in the room.

“Thank you so much Ella.” I said, fanning my face to keep the tears from falling and ruining my makeup.

“Anytime.” She smiled. “You better get going though, its almost time!”

I looked at the clock, she was right, it was getting close to the start time. I decided to head downstairs while Ella finished fixing her makeup. I was coming off the elevator when someone covered my mouth and dragged me into a spare bedroom.

“Hey-” I yelled, my hands glowing ready for a fight. My eyes too, undoubtedly.

“Shhhh!!” Derek said, throwing his hands up in surrender.

“What is the meaning of this?!” I hissed.

“I’m sorry, I needed to talk to you-”

“And you had to cover my mouth and drag me into an empty room to do that?!”

“I know, I suck. But you need to listen, you are in danger, my father he-”

“What’s going on here?!” King Bruno came barging into the room. He didn’t seem to care much about his son, but his interest was definitely in me. I could practically feel his eyes burning into the back of my head. I took a steadying breath, my body relaxing and no longer glowing. I looked at Derek, whose eyes were pleading for me not to say anything.

“A misunderstanding is all,” I said casually, turning around to face King Bruno. “I will see you both in the banquet hall,” I stormed out of the room.

“She’s mine you stupid pup, don’t you think for a second that you deserve a woman like that! You are scum just like your mother.”

“I didn’t do anything.” He defended himself. “And I don’t want her.” He scoffed in disgust.

“Go find someone else to get your dick wet.” King Bruno said, followed by a hard bang.

I lept out of my skin and practically ran the rest of the way down the hall, as best as I could, running into Edward in the vestibule on the way.

“There you are, is everything okay?” He asked, putting his hands on my arms. I saw him look over my shoulder and his eyes narrowed. “Did he do something to you?” Edward said seriously, looking me over again. I saw King Bruno casually walking by, a smirk on his face, Derek nowhere to be seen.

“No, it’s not what you think. A big misunderstanding is all,” I whispered.

“Sierra, I do hope my son didn’t do anything....unforgivable. You know how teenage boys are,” King Bruno winked as he passed us by.

“What?!” Edward snapped, looking between the two of us.

“It’s not what you think, this isn’t the time or place.” I snapped back. I felt my stomach tightening again, taking my breath away.

“Are you okay?” Edward asked.

“Fine, I just need to sit for a minute.” I said, planting myself down in one of the plush chairs in the vestibule.

“Hey pumpkin! You look stunning!” My dad said as he and Sylvia walked through, heading towards the banquet hall. He bent down to give me a hug.

“Thanks dad.” I smiled and returned his hug, my stomach feeling normal again.

“We’ll see you inside!” He said and he and Sylvia walked away hand in hand.

“We should be going too.” Edward said, looking at his watch. “We can discuss King Bruno and his son later. Are you ready?”

“Yeah, let’s go.” I nodded. Something in my gut told me this was only the beginning of a very, very, long night.

## The Alpha King And His Second Chance

### Chapter 46

Sierra

“Hello everyone, I want to thank you all for coming and celebrating this momentous day with us. I never thought that I would be so blessed to have found my second chance mate. She is everything you could ever ask for and more. I’m sure in time you will all see that for yourselves as she steps into her new position as Luna and Queen. So, without further ordeal, I would like to introduce you to your new Luna, Sierra.” Edward announced, waiving me forward. I passed by several tables in the gold and white banquet room. Everything looked amazing. The guests looked content. I picked up on a few comments on the way which confirmed my vision from several months ago. Ha, how naive I was then. How much has changed in such a short time. I met Edward up at the front and he asked me if I wanted to say anything to our guests, which of course was expected. I took the microphone and thanked him. Okay, show time. This is what I practiced for.

“Good evening everyone, thank you all for coming to witness my Luna ceremony and inauguration. I hope you all enjoy yourselves while you are here and we look forward to spending some time with each of you. That being said, let’s eat!” As soon as I finished speaking, dozens of waiters came in all at once with platters of food, ensuring that everyone was served at the same time. It was impressive really, considering this was a five-course meal. The poor servers were going to be running a marathon by the end of this.

Edward and I ate and conversed with the people at our table during the soup and salad, then ventured off to go mingle at other tables. The waiters followed us around, ensuring we ate with our guests no matter which table we were at. There were quite a few tables for us to get through but we somehow managed. My stomach tightened a few more times throughout the meal. I tried my best to brush it off, but it was getting more frequent, more intense, and lasting longer.

“Sienna, you don’t think...”

“Honey, I think you need to find a doctor, this pup is gonna be here soon!”

“But my water hasn’t broken, I still have my plug, I can’t be in labor. Maybe just really strong Braxton hicks?”

“Today is your due date. You are having contractions. Get to the hospital!”

“You okay?” Edward asked me, nudging my arm under the table.

“Fine, just nerves.” I smiled at him, though my head was spinning, I can't go into labor now! We only have a few hours left, all the planning would have been for nothing if I don't have my ceremony. Not to mention Edwards's title on the line.

We were more than halfway through dinner, then came the formal dance between Edward and I. The floor would be open for about an hour before the ceremony began. First the Luna ceremony, then the inauguration, both outside around sunset. I just had a little while longer to hold out for.

“Tom, Gloria, I would like you to meet-.” Edward began to introduce us.

“Sierra! Golly, its nice to see you again.” Tom smiled and gave me a hug.

“I just knew you two were perfect for each other!” Gloria beamed.

“Oh Goddess!! Its so good to see you!” I cried, my hormones getting the better of me once again.

“You all know each other?” Edward asked, confused looking.

“Tom and Gloria helped me after I left my pack. We stayed connected for a while until...you know” I pointed to my wrist. “Came along. I haven't seen them since. Goddess I missed you both!” I hugged them again.

“What about me?” Cyrus said, strutting up to our group.

“Cyrus!” I greeted him with a hug also, much to his annoyance.

We chatted for a while, Tom and Cyrus catching up and sharing war stories, while Gloria, Edward, and I spoke about her and Tom moving to the palace.

“I don't know....we like where we live.”

“It would be much safer for you here, if something happened to one of you, what would you do?” I pleaded.

“I would call Mr Muscles here.” She laughed weakly. She and Tom didn't look in good health at all anymore. It made me sad.

“Please Gloria, consider it. Consider what's best for you and your mate. You wouldn't have to worry about a thing here,” Edward said seriously.

“Maybe it wouldn’t be such a bad idea...”

“You won’t regret it,” Edward said, carefully holding her frail-looking hands with paper-thin skin.

Just under an hour later, we finished mingling and eating. There were about 200 guests and I probably remembered four names.

“I think that’s pretty good, all things considered” Sienna shrugged. I almost snorted at my wolf’s comment. “Now get to the hospital!”

I felt so full it hurt, or maybe it was the contractions. They were happening every twenty minutes or so now. But I still had time.

“Ready for our dance?” Edward asked, holding his hand out for me to take.

“As I’ll ever be.” I laughed uncomfortably.

We had only practiced a few times together. Edward already knew how to dance but, I, on the other hand, had two left feet. I spent a lot of time practicing with Sylvia, which was quite comical. I just hoped I could remember all my steps. We had hired a MC for the evening who would announce our first dance. He got the attention of our guests and then introduced us and the instrumental music began playing for us to begin our waltz. Edward escorted me to the center of the dance floor, pulling me close to him, and began to lead our dance.

I remembered most of my steps, the ones I forgot weren’t totally obvious thanks to my mate. He glided us across the dancefloor, my dress flowing behind me, the lights dimming, it felt like a dream. Until the next contraction hit. My grip tightened around my mate, trying to stand up straight and continue our dance, which was almost over.

“Sierra?” Edward linked, as I took focused breaths to try to get through the contraction. I couldn’t answer, only nod and give a weak smile.

“How lovely are these two?!” The MC announced as our song came to an end, along with my contraction. Thank Goddess.

“What’s wrong?” Edward asked as we went back to our table.

“Braxton hicks is all.” I lied. Edward grunted in acknowledgment and we continued on our way.

We weaved through the tables, my eye catching King Bruno’s son Derek, two tables over. His eye looked swollen and bruised and his lip was split. His expression was blank, seeming unphased even. His eyes met mine for a second, something in them called out to

me. He needed help. But how was I going to stand against a king? I sat down at the table and began sipping my water, thinking of what I could possibly do to make things better.

“Sierra, may I have this dance?” King Bruno asked, his hand extended. Sylvia warned me of this. It was customary for the other kings to ask the new queen to dance, as a sign of respect, though I didn’t get the feeling that was why he asked me.

“Of course.” I answered nicely, though my wolf and mate both seemed equally pissed. I just had to get through tonight. We made our way to the now crowded dance floor. King Bruno didn’t hesitate to put his hands on me, which I repositioned as politely as I could so as to not cause a scene.

“What did my boy want from you?” He came right out and asked.

“He wanted to formally say hello and congratulations is all.” I lied.

“I see.” He said, looking over my shoulder to where Derek was seated. “Pups are nothing but trouble, you’ll know soon enough.”

“If they are, it’s only because of poor parenting,” I shot back in my sweetest voice.

He narrowed his eyes at me. “Where are you from, originally?” He asked, diverting the conversation.

“I have always lived in the northern territories. Though I have moved a lot over the years,” I answered carefully.

“Its amazing they haven’t snatched you up by now.”

“Excuse me?”

“Let’s skip the act, you are a hybrid, and rumor around here is that you are powerful. I have no doubt that they have their eyes set on you. I know I would.”

“Who exactly are they?” I gritted my teeth.

“Ah, so you know them. The Purebred Guardians. They love to hunt down hybrids such as yourself. Its surprising they haven’t killed you yet. But fret not, your time will come, I’m sure.” King Bruno said, slowly twirling me.

“How do you know their name? I thought it was a secret, unless you are one of them too” I asked. Another contraction creeping up on me.

“Quite the opposite actually. We have a complicated relationship with the likes of those. A love-hate relationship, you see, we both want power, and will stop at nothing to achieve it.” He whispered the last part into my ear. It felt like a threat.

“May I cut in?” King Jesse asked firmly but politely.

“Of course.” He smiled at King Jesse, a glimmer of evil resting in his eye. “Thank you for the dance, it was...enlightening.” He turned and walked away.

“Goddess, your timing was perfect.” I nervously laughed.

“Happy to be of service.” He smiled and we gently swayed back and forth, finally someone easy to dance with. “My understanding is that you came from the Clear Waters pack, correct?” He asked.

“Yes...how did you know?” I asked, feeling uneasy.

“The servers seem to know everything.” He brushed it off as nothing. “Years ago I was told that the pack had been attacked, though I was told there were no survivors.”

“And why would that concern you?” My brows furrowed.

“The Clear Waters pack was on the edge of the northern territory, but was close to all the other borders as well. Some of my people left my land to go live there with their mates. I was sad to hear it had been attacked.” He said smoothly.

“Yes, it was a terrible day. My father and I seem to be the only known survivors.”

“Your father?”

“Yes, Alpha Andrew.” I said, pointing him out of the crowd. “He was taken as a prisoner but managed to escape just recently.

“I see. Well, I won’t keep you. Thank you for the dance. I look forward to working with you, my dear.” He said, giving my hand a gentle squeeze. Okay, two for two with weird kings. I watched him for a moment from the dance floor. He passed by my father, heading for the glass doors that led to the gardens where my ceremony would be held shortly. A moment later, I could see my father standing and heading in the same direction. Coincidence maybe? Hopefully?

“Care for one more dance?” King Carson asked, his eyebrows raised in question.

“It would be an honor.” I agreed, though the only thing I wanted to do was go lay down and rest.

“My daughter Kylie loves your dress, she won’t stop talking about it.” He smiled.

“Oh, thank you, my Beta’s mate sewed it for me.” I said, feeling relieved that the conversation wasn’t so heavy.

“Its wonderful that Edward found you, though I am a bit disappointed that my eldest daughter Kelly and him never hit it off.”

What the fuck? Sienna and I thought together

“Oh?” I asked, trying hard to hide the scoff in my voice.

“As you know, I only have daughters, and call me old-fashioned, but I was hoping to marry her off to Edward so our kingdoms could be merged together.”

“Why merge them? Why not just create an alliance?” I asked.

“It wouldn’t be proper to have a woman running the kingdom. There needs to be a man on the throne.”

“You don’t think your daughter is capable of becoming ruler one day without a man by her side?” I said, feeling irked for his daughter.

He shrugged. “Like I said, call me old-fashioned.”

“I see.” I said tight-lipped.

Our song came to an end at just the right moment, the MC announcing that the ceremony would begin in just 15 minutes. I excused myself to go grab some water and use the bathroom, needing a reprieve from my crazy neighbors.

“There you are!” Ella said, catching me as I was about to head into a stall. “Guests are taking their seats now. I need you outside in five minutes, okay?”

“Okay.” I nodded.

“Do you want me to wait for you?” She asked.

“No, go. I’ll only be a minute.” I shewed her. I just needed a minute alone. My introvert self could only handle so much. I locked myself in the stall, grateful for the walls surrounding me. I relieved my bladder and then just sat there for a minute, enjoying the peace and quiet. When I went to flush, to my horror, I saw I had lost my plug.

“Get to the hospital!! Pup is going to be here soon!!” Sienna screamed in my head.

“Just because I lost my plug doesn’t mean I’m having him now! I protested as I washed my hands at the sink. “It could still be hours or days! And I only have to get through the ceremony now!”

Another contraction hit, way more intense than any of the others had been. I grabbed onto the sink, breathing heavily through it. The moment it started to ease up, I began slowly waddling myself outside to our ceremony space. Just a little longer.

The ceremony space was probably the most beautiful thing I have ever seen. Just outside the palace, but before the start of the garden, was a small ceremony space that had been setup. There were white chairs setup in a crescent shape all facing a small gazebo that had been handcarved just for the occasion. It was made of dark oak wood and had vines and flowers running along the beams. Soft white lights were strung around the gazebo, offering more light as the sun began to set. On the ground at the ends of each isle were glass lanterns with black metal trim, illuminating the cobblestone paths that had been laid. The guests were all too distracted by the fairy tail-looking setup to notice me standing behind them, giving me another moment to myself, thank Goddess. I took a steadying breath, knowing my life was officially about to change.

“Ready, Luna?” Edward said from behind me, making me jump.

“Yes.” I smiled softly.

“You’re going to do great. Remember I’ll be there with you the entire time. If you get nervous, it’s okay to take a minute and compose yourself.” He reassured me, pressing his forehead to mine.

“Thank you.” I closed my eyes and took a deep breath, Edwards’ scent calming me significantly. “Okay. Lets do this.” I nodded.

## The Alpha King And His Second Chance

### Chapter 47

Edward

I flicked my head, giving the signal for Sierra’s Luna ceremony to begin. Councilman George said a few words to settle the crowd down and officially begin. I took her arm and we walked through the sea of guests towards the gazebo. Although typical Luna ceremonies have all pack members present, we decided it was best to invite just a handful of guests. Thus, limiting the amount of exposure given to my very pregnant mate and allowing us to plan it in the short time given by the council. There were still quite a few people present but it was nothing compared to what it could have been. Most of our warriors were present, standing in for our pack. The kings and their families were also present, much to my disappointment. I was about ready to kill King Bruno on the spot when he asked my mate to dance.

When we reached the gazebo, I let go of Sierra, needing to officiate this part of the ceremony. I could feel her nervousness through our mate bond. I grabbed the tiny dagger and began.

“State your full name and origin pack.” I said in my booming Alpha voice, gathering everyone’s undivided attention.

“Sierra Hope Wilson of the Clear Waters pack.” She answered confidently.

“Your middle name is Hope?” I linked her, trying to hide my smirk at the irony. She shrugged the slightest bit, a soft smile pulling at her lips.

“Do you, Sierra Hope Wilson, here on this day, give yourself fully to the northern pack?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to lead with integrity and truth?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to be an example which others may follow?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to put your people ahead of yourself?”

“I do. So help me Goddess.”

“Your hand please.” I reached out and took her extended hand. “Then I, King Edward Sullivan, Alpha of the northern pack, do hereby name you Luna.” I pricked her finger with the dagger, letting a drop of blood escape. She held out her hand, letting the drop of blood fall to the ground, landing on the grass, thus completing the ceremony. A fit of howls broke out, the pack accepting her as their own. I could see her shiver, undoubtedly from the new wave of power that she had just received. Sierra had the biggest smile on her face, but only for a moment, before she looked like she was in pain. Something was going on with her. She claims Braxton hicks but I have been watching her all night to know it’s been happening more than normal. But she wouldn’t be in labor and still be standing there. That would be insane. Maybe we can scoot out really quickly after this and have Dr. White check her over.

“I am happy to introduce to you all, your new Luna, Luna Sierra.” I announced, giving Sierra a moment to handle whatever was going on. The crowd went wild with whistling and howling again, buying her some time.

“We will begin the inauguration now, if you are both ready.” Councilman George looked between us expectantly.

“Yes.” Sierra nodded, seeming okay again.

In the gazebo was a table with a large stone bowl resting on top of it. It had been in our family for generations, said to be blessed by the moon goddess herself. It has been used at every inauguration for as far back as our lineage went. A precious heirloom, to say the least.

“Today I have the honor of performing this ancient ritual, naming Luna Sierra as Queen of the Northern Territory. If anyone objects, please speak now or forever hold your tongue.” He paused for a moment. “Good, that was the hard part.” He laughed, making light of the otherwise heavy moment. “Please take each others hands.”

“With pleasure.” I smiled.

“King Edward, do you take this woman to be your reigning Queen?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to rule together, in harmony?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to produce an heir, and if one cannot be produced, to pick a successor at the appointed time?”

“I do.”

“Luna Sierra, take this man to be your king?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to rule together in harmony?”

“I do.”

“Do you promise to produce an heir, and if one cannot be produced, to pick a successor at the appointed time?”

Sierra looked at her stomach and back at the councilman, earning a chuckle from some of our guests. “I do.” She smiled.

“Wonderful.” He smiled and began mixing some ingredients he had stashed behind the bowl. He then filled the bowl with just enough water to cover the bottom plus an inch, then took my right hand and Sierra’s and dipped them into the water. He coated our hands with his powder mixture, then handed us each a dagger. “Today these two will

become one, ruling in unison. King Edward and Luna Sierra, please cut each others palms and then join hands over the bowl.”

I went first, piercing Sierra’s skin as gently as possible. She cupped her hand and then returned the favor. We joined hands over the bowl, our blood mixed with the powder dripping into the bowl. The bowl began changing from clear, clean water, to pink, then red. Just as it had at my last two inaugurations I had been a part of.

“Woah...” Sierra said, her breathing getting heavy. She grabbed the table and squeezed my hand a bit harder.

“Its normal, it’s your aura coming into place. No one can deny you now except another king or queen or the council.” I explained in a hushed tone.

“Is it supposed to do that?” Sierra whispered to me, staring into the water.

“Goddess....” Councilman George’s eyes went wide with horror or amazement. I wasn’t sure.

The water began changing colors, turning a beautiful teal color.

“How is this possible?” I asked.

“Its impossible....the legend...its true....” Councilman George said wide-eyed, staring at my mate. He dropped to his knees and planted his face on the ground, bowing to her. The guests began to mummer, almost causing a scene.

“Councilman?” I asked again, firmer this time.

“Bow to her you fool! All of you!” He yelled. Our guests began dropping to their knees, confused looking, but not daring to refuse one of the councilmen. I was halfway down when Sierra stopped me.

“With all due respect, councilman, I just took an oath to be his equal.” She said to him, then turned her focus to me.

“Do you know what this is about?” I linked her

“Not a clue.” She shrugged.

“We need to read up on this legend he is speaking of,” I added.

Sierra nodded in agreement, her grip on me tightening again. She started taking deep breaths in and out, only adding to my concern.

“What’s going on? I know you are keeping something from me.”

“I might be in labor...”

“Then what in goddess’s name are we doing here!?” I said, pulling her to leave.

“Edward, wait, the ceremony is almost over, I’m okay, really. I can get through the ceremony and we can go later.” Her grip loosened a moment later, her features relaxing again.

“Councilman George? I’m sorry to bother, but may we please finish?” Sierra asked firmly but politely.

“Y-yes, of course.” He stood up again, our guests following his suit. He dunked our hands in the water, cleaning them off, and then Sierra and I helped each other bandage each others hands. He took a match and threw it in the water, which ignited on impact, the flames a matching teal color to the water. “It is my profound honor to introduce to you all here today, our new queen-”

“Councilman George? I do believe you are forgetting something.” King Bruno spoke up, cutting him off. Councilman Georges’ eyes narrowed at him, obviously displeased.

“And what freytell, might that be?” he asked, obviously pissed over the interruption.

“Luna Sierra is not officially queen yet, not until they consummate the union among witnesses,” King Bruno said, a sly look in his eyes.

“Excuse me?” Sierra frowned. “Why didn’t you tell me?!” Sierra whisper-yelled to me.

“I didn’t think it would be necessary given her current condition.” I said to everyone, gesturing to Sierras’ bump. Although an older practice, consummating a union between a king and queen with witnesses was something that was regularly practiced among us wolves. Hope and I had to do it before she was made queen. But Hope was raised among many, many wolves. She was comfortable with nudity to begin with, it was still a bit awkward, but not mortifying. Which is exactly like how Sierra looks right now, mortified.

“But according to the law, it is part of her becoming Queen. Without it, her inauguration would be null and void.” King Bruno continued.

“Councilman George-” I looked at him, he seemed equally pissed at King Bruno. He pulled out a large old book and flipped through the faded pages, stopping when he found what he was looking for.

“Unfortunately, I cannot change the law, I only uphold it.” He sighed. “Luna Sierra will be made queen after you consummate the new union with at least two members of the council and one already ruling king present to witness.” He closed the book, looking to Sierra and I for our next move.

“She could have our pup anytime now, there must be some exception that can be made.” I tried to bargain.

“King Edward, if she is not made queen today, you will renounce your title as king tomorrow.” Councilman Aurthur said from the crowd.

“But-”

“Edward, its fine.” Sierra said, her eyes closed obviously in discomfort and breathing deeply again. “Lets just get this over with.” She said.

“You may choose who is present,” Councilman George said, trying to make things better.

“Councilwoman Leslie, Councilman George, and King Casron.” Sierra said, letting out another deep breath. She opened her eyes again, seeming to be back to normal.

“Ella, please prepare a room.” I sighed, not wanting to again put Sierra on the spot, especially with something so intimate while she is so pregnant and maybe even in labor. Ella scurried off, my mom right behind her. Both knew how to prepare the room, allowing as much privacy as possible.

“Five minutes.” Ella unceremoniously yelled.

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Sierra

Oh goddess, is anything ever easy? As if it’s not hard enough getting through today while going into labor, now I have to put on a show for everyone! Edward kept trying to reassure me while we went to the room Ella and Sylvia had prepared for us, Councilman Georga, Councilwoman Leslie, and King Carson all following closely behind us. I figured it would be less awkward with a woman for one, George was the first man to ever bow to me, so he has my respect there and I obviously have his, and King Carson has three daughters. I can only hope I remind him of one of them and he’s not a creep about it like I know King Bruno would be.

“Here you are Luna.” Ella said, handing me a big white fluffy robe. Sylvia handed one to Edward as well. We followed them inside to one of the guest rooms that had been rearranged for the occasion. There was a large partition along one side of the bed, the lights were dimmed with just a few candles offering more light.

“Thank you both.” Edward said in a tone that told them it was time to leave.

“So how does this work...” I asked, knots in my stomach.

“First we change into our robes and then get settled on the bed. Our company will be off to the side. I promise it won't be as terrible as you expect it to be.” Edward said, running the back of his hand against my cheek.

“Let's just get this over with so we can move on with life.” I nodded, trying to reassure myself.

Edward and I went to the bathroom and changed out of our fancy clothes and into our robes. We sat on the edge of the bed waiting for our witnesses. Another contraction hit, they were definitely getting closer together. But my water never broke, so I still had time, or that's what I kept telling myself anyway.

A quick knock at the door grabbed my attention, it was time.

“Come in,” Edward said.

King Carson, Councilman George, and Councilwoman Leslie came walking in single file. They stood diagonally from the bed, allowing plenty of space between us, but still close enough to see what was happening. Councilman George gave a curt nod to Edward, who then focused all of his attention on me.

“Ready?” He whispered.

“As I'll ever be.” I nodded.

Edward cupped my face with both hands and pulled me towards him, his lips planting a searing hot kiss on mine. We spent a few minutes kissing. I think Edward was trying to get me to relax, which unfortunately wasn't working so well between the witnesses and contractions. Finally reading the situation, he pushed me onto my back, peppering my neck with kisses and nips. He kept my robe tied and worked around it on his way down, giving some attention to my swollen breasts while his fingers played with my clit.

I fought hard not to moan in front of everyone, but my breathing was getting heavy the more Edward did. He pulled away again, this time getting off the bed completely, his erect cock poking through his loosened robe. He grabbed my legs and pulled me to the edge of the bed, my legs hanging off. I instinctively wrapped them around him while he slowly dragged his cock through my weeping core. He carefully pushed his way inside, I threw my head back trying to bite back the pleasure that just came over me. Edward shamelessly groaned out, enjoying it as much as me apparently. He pulled back out and then slowly slid in again. I heard the door slam, which caught my attention, but I couldn't see anything with the partition in my way.

“They left. They saw what they needed,” Edward answered my unspoken question. He pulled out and started to fix his robe, leaving me hanging. “It's official, you are the Northern Queen.”

“Who told you to stop?” I growled, a fierce wave of horniness coming over me.

His expression changed from sweet and caring to dominant and fierce. He undid his robe again, letting it fall to the floor.

“You want this cock?”

“Yes, Alpha.” I sat up off the bed and took it in my mouth, bobbing my head up and down on his thick member. Edwards hands found the back of my head and took control of the pace, mercilessly fucking my mouth, hitting the back of my throat. Today has been such a stressful day, this is exactly what we needed.

I pulled back, coming up for air, Edward took the opportunity to push me back onto the bed and thrust inside of me, filling my core completely.

“Ah!” I moaned.

“Thats right, take it all.” He pulled back out and thrust in again, even harder this time.

“Edward!” My back arched off the bed, my tits jiggling. My mate took one in each hand and rolled my nipples between his fingers while he fucked my pussy. I felt like an unintelligible mess, writhing beneath him. He was being rough and I loved it.

“Get up.” He ordered, pulling out of me. I immediately obeyed, taking Edwards’ hand for extra help sitting up. As soon as I was standing, he turned me around and pushed me forward, my hands on the bed, my feet planted on the ground. He used one foot to spread my legs apart further, spanked me hard, then thrust inside, continuing his relentless barrage. He grabbed a handful of my hair and pulled me back slightly, allowing him better access to plan with my breasts. I could feel myself getting close.

“Edward...” I moaned.

“Not yet.”

“Please!” I begged.

His hands let go of my hair and tits and grabbed onto my hips, pounding into me hard and fast. I could feel his cock getting bigger and harder within me, he was right there with me.

“Let go.” He ordered. I cried out as I felt myself shatter, my mate growling through his climax and stilling a moment later, filling me with his warm seed. We stayed like that for a few minutes, catching our breath and bonding together before Edward finally pulled out of me. He went to the bathroom to grab us a warm washcloth to clean up with.

“Goddess, that was.....shit.” I said, looking down at the puddle of water that now soaked my feet.

“What?! I thought that was one of our best yet...I thought you liked it a little rough...” Edward frowned.

“Not not you, me, my water just broke!”

“Edward!! I need you!!” Jackson yelled, banging on the door.

“It will have to wait!” Edward yelled back, his attention on me.

“It cant, there are rogues in the garden, fuck, they’re everywhere!!” Jackson yelled. “We need you!!”

“Ahhhh!” I yelled, an intense contraction nearly taking me to the floor. I could feel my pup moving south and fast. “I need to go to the hospital!!” I screamed.

## The Alpha King And His Second Chance

### Chapter 48

Edward

“It cant, there are rogues in the garden, fuck, they’re everywhere!!” Jackson yelled. “We need you!!”

“Ahhhh!” Sierra yelled “I need to go to the hospital!!”

Shit. Shit. Shit.

“How many are there?” I barked at Jackson, grabbing our clothes from the bathroom. I helped Sierra back into her dress while I settled for just my pants.

“Hundreds, Edward! We are out numbered!”

I flung the door open, helping Sierra out to the vestibule and into a chair. “Sierra is in labor! I need to get her to the hospital!”

“She can’t leave, the place is surrounded!”

“Edward....Something is wrong.” Sierra looked at me and then lifted the hem of her skirt to show me her legs, which had blood dripping down them.

“Can you open a portal?” I asked my mate.

She tried but her portal was small and looked glitchy. I don’t know much about magic, but I know for a fact that it wasn’t safe. “I don’t understand...Ah!!” She held her stomach.

“Jackson, I will keep them busy. I need you to get Sierra to the hospital. Keep her safe. Go out through the cellar doors on the far east side.”

“But-” Sierra objected.

“I will be there when I can, but I need to make sure you are safe first.” I shut her down. “Now go.”

“I’ve got you.” Jackson said, helping Sierra up, letting her put most of her weight on him.

I took off into a sprint, heading for the sounds of battle. I passed a few scared-looking servers on the way, reassuring them that everything would be fine and to lock all the doors and windows which were built with special reinforcement for occasions such as this.

“Edward!” Ella exclaimed.

“Ella, Sierra is in labor, Jackson is taking her out through the east cellar. Please go with them. She needs help.” Ella nodded and ran down the hallway to catch up.

I practically flew outside, the once beautiful garden now a bloody battle ground. I ran through the sea of dead bodies, heading into the heart of battle. I shifted midstride, letting Edmund take over. He leapt into the air, landing on one rogue and biting the neck of another. Jackson was right, we were terribly outnumbered. Thankfully, we had four alpha kings on the battlefield.

As Edmund barreled his way through the filthy vermin, I noticed these rogues were weak, just like the others that had invaded our land a few months ago. There is no way that all these rogues would have gotten past our border patrol without notice, they had to have gotten in with help or magic. A sinking feeling came over me. Why would they keep coming here when they obviously didn’t stand a chance? What was their angle?

“Gloria!” Tom yelled.

I snapped my head to where the yelling was coming from. I saw Tom running to his mate who was lying limp on the grass next to a tree. He tripped twice on the way, his old age getting the better of him. What were they doing out here?! Edmund bolted towards them, killing a dozen rogues on the way. He came to a skidding stop in front of the two. Tom cradled Gloria in his arms with his back against the tree, petting her hair. She was lying in a puddle of blood, a nasty bite on her side, undoubtedly fatal.

“Its okay.” Gloria said weakly. “I get to see Daisey again.”

“Tell her daddy said hello.” Tom cried.

“I love you.”

“I love you more.”

Gloria’s breathing slowed to a stop. I quickly shifted to human form to console Tom.

“Tom, I don’t know what to say...” I began. But when I was met with no answer, I gave Tom a shake, only to realize that Gloria’s death had taken its toll on him.

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Sierra

“Ahhhhh!!” I screamed out, leaning against the cold cement wall in the basement. The contractions were getting way more powerful, taking my breath away with each spasm.

“I know this sucks but we need to get you to the hospital.” Jackson said, picking me up and carrying me.

“Jackson! Sierra!” Ella called, running up behind us. “Edward told me you were in labor, im coming with you. I have already called the hospital. They are waiting for you.”

“T-thank you.” I said, trying to catch my breath.

“Lets go, we still have a ways.” Jackson said, scooping me up and picking up the pace. He led us through the basement, a cellar door greeting us at the end. He set me down and quickly checked to make sure it was safe. “The coast is clear, but I don’t know for how long. We need to move fast.”

He picked me back up and we headed up the stairs leading outside. We were halfway to the palace gates when I looked behind us and saw a group of rogues gaining on us.

“Jackson! Look out!” I yelled.

He turned to see what I was looking at, stopping in his tracks.

“Ella, get her to the hospital, I’ve got them.” He shifted and sprinted towards the rogues, buying us extra time.

“Okay, its okay, we can do this.” Ella tried to reassure me, she helped me walk, taking most of my weight on herself.

We got to the gate, a single rogue trapped on the other side waiting for us. Jackson was still far behind us, holding the other rogues back. I tried to use my powers but couldn’t focus enough during my contractions that were coming every three minutes now.

“We need help....Ahh! Goddess!”

A car came flying up in front of the gates, running over the rogue. "Get in!" A voice called.

"Who is that?" Ella asked.

"Does it matter?!" I barked.

We got to the car and, to my utter surprise, Prince Derek was the driver. He quickly hopped out and opened the back door, stuffing my obnoxious dress in with us, while looking around to make sure nothing else was coming.

"How did you know?!" I asked, another contraction soon taking over.

"I saw it. Hang on tight." Derek warned.

"Are you even old enough to drive?!" Ella exclaimed.

"Ugh...no." He said, taking off like a bat out of hell. "But I turn 16 next month..."

Ella tried her best to sooth me and help me breathe through each of my contractions on the excruciatingly long feeling drive over to the hospital. It was only about ten minutes away, though Derek did it in less time. He was not the worst driver, though some of his turns and stops were jerky. I couldn't care less at the moment, I was just grateful he showed up when he did. We came to a skidding stop in front of the emergency room, a group of nurses all gloved up and ready to go. Dr. White was there with them, barking orders while they helped me into a wheelchair. Ella and Derek were following the parade of nurses that wheeled me up to the labor and delivery floor.

"Her contractions are every two minutes." Ella said to Dr. White while two of the nurses helped me out of my dress and into a delivery gown behind a curtain.

The nurses hooked me up to all sorts of monitors while Dr. White checked me, Derek and Ella waited outside my room for privacy, though with how intense my contractions were, I didn't care if the fucking janitor was in here getting a full view. I could deliver on a football field right now and not care. I just needed to get this pup out of me.

"Alright Luna, you are fully dilated, its time to push. Where is your mate?"

"Off fighting rogues." I said through gritted teeth. "Does that mean I cant get an epidural?"

"I'm sorry Luna, the baby is coming so fast, by the time we give it to you he will already be out. I need you to push when I tell you, okay?"

"I'm scared," I admitted.

“We can help.” Ella said, now dressed in scrubs. Derek trailed behind her, looking a little terrified. “Derek, get her a cool washcloth for her forehead.”

He nodded and ran to the bathroom, coming back with a cool towel that felt amazing on my head. “You got this.” He encouraged, refusing to look anywhere but my forehead.

“Okay, push!” Dr White instructed. Ella helped by grabbing one of my legs, pulling it into my chest. I pushed as hard as I could, feeling light-headed from holding my breath.

“Good work Luna....okay again, push.”

Twenty minutes of intense pushing had passed and I felt exhausted. How did some women do this for hours?!

“Push.”

“I-I can’t.”

“You are right there, he is crowning. Push!”

I pushed again and felt an awful burning in my most sensitive parts. I vaguely remember growling while I pushed, giving it everything I had left. Not a moment later, the pain subsided, and Dr White placed my pup on my stomach. Nurses began drying him off while Dr White cut the cord. I scooped him up the first chance I could, crying over the tiny miracle in my arms. He looked just like Edward, but had a full head of hair the same color brown as mine. I nursed him for a few minutes before he fell asleep.

“Luna? If you don’t mind, we would like to get him checked over and Dr. White will finish with you.” One of the nurses smiled at me. I nodded and handed her my pup, my little Levi. It was perfect timing too, because not a moment later I felt another strong contraction hit. And then another.

“Is this normal?” I asked. I felt like I needed to push again.

“Just the afterbirth, nothing to worry about.” Dr White reassured me.

“Are you sure? This feels really intense.” I said, now sitting up more, getting back into a pushing position.

“Probably because you tore a little. Its normal, try not to strain too hard, it will come on its own.”

“No, I need to push. Something isn’t right.” I said, pushing with all my might. I pushed again and again and again until I felt the same relief after Levi was born, much to Dr. White’s protest.

“What in Goddess’ name....” He said, staring intently between my legs.

“What’s wrong?” I asked.

His face looked confused for a moment, turning into panic soon after. “Get an incubator now!” He snapped at the nurses. He picked something up and turned away from me immediately.

“Whats wrong? What’s happening?” I began to panic.

“I don’t understand....” Ella said and joined Dr White and the nurses in ignoring me.

“Derek, whats going on?!” I pleaded with the teen, hoping that he could give me some information. He reluctantly pulled his eyes from the wall behind me and approached the group of caretakers surrounding an incubator.

“Its a second pup.” He said over his shoulder. “But it doesn’t look....complete.” He said confused.

“Let me see my pup!!” I ordered using my new Queen aura command.

The room stilled and Ella rolled the incubator over to me. I furrowed my brows, confused at what I was seeing. A hand with no arm, a foot with no leg, the top of a head, and part of a tummy. All located where they should be on a newborn pup, but it was as if parts of him were missing. Almost as if my pup were invisible.

“I don’t understand...”

“We don’t either.” Ella answered quietly.

I popped open the incubator and reached inside, picking up my pup where I thought his back and head were, if they existed. I pulled him close to me, trying to remember a spell Adaline had only told me to remember about a thousand times, but for whatever reason I always struggled to remember it.

“That which is hidden, let it be known. That which is lost, let it be found. Show to me now that which is concealed.” I recited. My pup began to shimmer, his full body coming into view. Gasps were heard around the room, including myself. Goddess, he also was a spitting image of his father, he also had a full head of hair but his was dark like Edwards.

“How...why....” Ella stuttered.

“I am a hybrid...and I did practice a lot of magic while pregnant, including making myself invisible. I guess it affected him too.” I said, bringing him to my other breast to nurse him.

“My father can never find out about this, you have to hide them, or at least one. He can never know. Do you understand me? He will try to kill them and you if he knows!” Derek warned, talking a mile a minute, running his hands through his hair, completely freaking out.

“Why? I said, holding my pup closer. Ella came over and handed me my first born again, which I was grateful for. “Why would he try to do such a thing?” I could feel my temper rising, my fluctuating hormones adding fuel to the fire.

“Sierra, calm down, your eyes are turning red.” Ella warned. “No one is going to hurt your pups.”

“Luna, I must insist that I start sewing you up now. You have lost a lot of blood.” Dr White said, nudging my legs open again. “Someone please take the pups.”

“I will take pup B. He still needs to be cleaned up and measured.” The nurse said, scooping him up from my arms.

“I’ll take little Levi.” Ella said, keeping him within my sight.

“The legend, its all he ever wanted, you are it, your pups are it.”

“This will sting but only for a moment, Luna.” Dr White said.

“But why?” I winced at whatever Dr. White had just done.

“He wants power.” He hung his head. “Nothing else matters to him. He will stop at nothing to get his way.”

“Edward is on his way up.” Ella said.” He just linked me. I’ll wait for him outside of your room. I wont tell him the news yet.” She said, setting Levi down in his rolling cart next to my bedside.

“I had better go. Congratulations,” Derek said. He paused and looked like he wanted to say something else, but bit his tongue and left the room in a hurry.

“Just gonna take this little pup for a bath.” The nurse said, leaving the room in a hurry.

“Hold still Luna, I’m almost done. Those pups weren’t very kind to you unfortunately.” Dr. White said, very focused on what he was doing.

I closed my eyes and took a few deep breaths, my adrenaline seeming to have dropped off. I felt light-headed and weak, but I made it. I gave birth to not one but two pups, escaped another rogue attack, and became Luna and Queen all in one day.

“What a fucking day.” Sienna huffed, though she was otherwise quite content, same as me.

“When will that nurse be back with my pup?” I asked. “I miss him already.” I said while I stuck my hand into my firstborn’s hospital bassinet. I rubbed the back of my hand across his soft cheek, he stirred a little but soon drifted off again.

“What was that?” Dr. White asked, turning off his light aimed in between my legs, having finished sewing me up.

“The nurse, she just left to go give my pup a bath. How long will she be gone? I miss him.” I said, readjusting myself to a more comfortable position.

“A bath? Why would she be doing that? They aren’t supposed to leave your room. Not without monitors in place. Plus, you haven’t had a chance to bond yet.” He said, looking around.

“Where are you taking him?!” I heard Ella yell from the hallway. “Edward, stop her!!”

A cold sweat came over me, I tried to get out of bed but Dr. White insisted I stay put. He left to go see what was happening. I could hear a commotion coming from the hallway. Ella ran into the room, holding my pup, which I immediately took from her.

“What happened?” I began to cry. My little boy was crying with me, his blanket ruffled, no longer wrapped in its swaddle.

“She was one of them, Edward...dealt with her.” She looked just as sick as me at what almost happened.

“Where is he?!” Edward asked, frantically looking around the room. His eyes landed on me and pup B, his features visibly relaxing. He was covered in blood and only wearing a pair of scrub pants. “Thank Goddess.”

## **The Alpha King And His Second Chance**

### **Chapter 49**

Edward

I just tore into the last standing rogue, an eerie silence falling over the gardens. Those who were unharmed, or mostly unharmed, helped the more severely wounded. I could hear Andrew and my mom giving orders and directions, trying to get everyone who needed to get to the hospital as soon as possible. William was calling off duty warriors and hospital staff and coordinating with them while Oliver and a few others dealt with the dead bodies.

“Where is Sierra?! I cant find her or Ella or Jackson anywhere!” Abby ran up to me, she had the guest list in hand and was responsible for getting a headcount.

“They left for the hospital, she went into labor. I need to go find her, I don’t know if she made it there.” I said, shifting and taking off towards the east cellar where I had instructed Jackson to take her. I could smell blood in the air, although I was covered in it, it smelled much more potent and fresh. I could see in the distance someone waving at me. I pushed myself to go faster, shifting back midstride.

“Are you okay? What happened?!” I asked, looking around at the group of dead bodies Jackson had piled up.

“Been better, one of them bit my leg pretty good.” He said, limping closer to me. “A group of them came after us, Ella had to take Sierra alone.”

“Ella, are you both okay? Did you make it to the hospital?” I asked frantically.

“All good, Sierra did amazing. Pup looks just like you.”

“Jackson and I are on our way now.”

“Grab on.” I said, shifting. Jackson climbed on my back and I took off to the hospital. I dropped him off at the ER to get stitches for his leg while I headed to labor and delivery. I grabbed a spare pair of scrub pants from the employee stock room before hitting the up button for the elevator. The ride up felt ten times longer than it probably was, my anxiousness getting the better of me. When the doors opened, I nearly ran down a nurse holding a tiny pup. I excused myself and we traded places. I could see Ella running down the hall.

“Edward, stop her!” She yelled. I turned and held the doors just before they closed. The nurse looked angry, like I had just ruined her day. “She is trying to pup-nap your pup!” Ella yelled.

“Lets kill this bitch.” Edmund growled.

“Give him to me.” I growled.

Her grip tightened, making me see red. I stared at her a moment before using my Alpha speed and strength, punching her square in the nose. She dropped her hands, my pup now free-falling. I anticipated this to happen and was ready and waiting to catch him. He landed softly in my arms, goddess, he did look just like me. My son.

“Edward, I can take him.” Ella said. I carefully handed him over, turning my focus back to the bitch in front of me.

“Who are you?!” I snapped, grabbing her by the throat.

“One of many.” She smiled.

I looked at her wrist and saw the same matching tattoo that Abby had drawn. I looked back at her, squeezing her neck until I heard a snap and her body went limp. I dragged her out of the elevator and unceremoniously threw her body into an empty patient room. “Have someone handle that.” I said to the receptionist, who looked mortified. She nodded and picked up the phone while I sped down the hall in search of my mate and pup. I could hear crying, which only added to my angst.

“Where is he?!” I asked, frantically looking around the room. I relaxed when I saw my mate holding our pup. “Thank Goddess.”

“Edward!” Sierra exclaimed, holding out her free arm to beckon me closer. Fresh tears falling from her eyes and running down her face.

“I will give you some privacy,” Ella said, and left the room.

“Oh, Ella, Jackson is in the ER getting stitches. He is okay, just a scratch.” I reassured her.

“Thank you.” She nodded and left us alone.

“Are you okay? Is our pup okay?”

“She-she tried to take him.” Sierra cried, her voice hiccuping.

“I know, but we stopped her and our pup is safe in your arms.” I tried to reassure her, though I felt ready to throw up myself at the thought of someone taking our pup. Sierra nodded and continued to rock back and forth with our little guy while I gently ran my fingers through her matted down hair. “Goddess, I’m so proud of you, I’m so sorry I wasn’t here.” I said, kissing her forehead. Committing her scent to memory.

“Are the rogues all gone?” She asked, sniffing a few times.

“Yes love. We took care of them.” I nodded.

“Do we know why?”

“Nothing yet. I left William and Oliver to handle things, your father too. I feel awful that I wasn’t here for you.”

“It’s because you weren’t here that I was able to safely deliver in a hospital and not a hallway.” Sierra looked up at me. “Did....did we loose anyone?”

“Yes, but we can discuss that later.” I said, not wanting to tell her about Tom and Gloria just yet.

“Come sit next to me.” She said, scooting over on the bed. She winced but insisted I sit next to her, who was I to argue with my queen. “Do you want to hold him? He just fell back asleep.”

“Are you sure? I don’t want to take him from you.”

“He is your son and you are my mate and you are right next to me.” She smiled, her features looking tired.

She carefully handed him over to me. I felt like I was a bull in a china shop. He was so tiny in my arms.

“Levi.” I smiled.

“No, this is actually Levi.” Sierra said, scooping up another tiny bundle that was in a cart next to her bed.

“What?! Twins?! How is that possible?!” I said, looking between the two identical boys.

“Congratulations daddy.” She smiled softly. “I have a theory, but I haven’t asked Dr. White yet.” She said, fixing Levi’s little hat.

“Which is?” I asked, my eyes locking onto the pup in my arms.

“He said I had a lot of extra fluid my entire pregnancy. I practiced a lot of magic during my pregnancy. My thought is that either our pup was affected by it, or he learned it himself. When he came out he was half invisible.” She chuckled.

“So what you are telling me is that it is entirely possible for us to have a pup who can turn invisible at will?”

“I didn’t think of that....” Her face blanched.

“Goddess help us with these two.” I looked between the two of them again. “How will we tell them apart?”

“Well, Levi has lighter brown hair and Pup B has darker hair like yours.”

“That’s the best we have? What if their hair falls out or gets lighter or darker? Can we put an ‘X’ on one?” I half laughed, half panicked.

“I have a feeling these two will give us a run for our money.” She laughed.

“So what are we going to name this little guy?”

“I had a thought. What about naming him Alexander? We both loved the name. We could call him Xander for short.” My mate lit up. “If you were okay with it, of course. I also thought we could give them our fathers’ names for their middle names.”

“So Levi Nathan and Alexander Andrew? Or Levi Andrew and Alexander Nathan?” I asked.

“I like the second one, what do you think?” She blushed.

“I think that’s perfect.” I said, kissing her head. “Levi and Alexander.”

As if on queue, both twins opened their eyes, revealing the most stunning eyes I had ever seen.

“Woah.” Sierra and I said together, our eyes hadn’t left our babies the entire conversation.

I took a closer look at both of them just to be sure what I had seen was real. Levi’s left eye was blue and his right green, while Alexander had a green left eye and a blue right eye.

“I guess we know how to tell them apart now.” I laughed. “This must be one in a billion...”

“Twin Prince hybrid wolf boys with contrasting heterochromic eyes, I think it’s called? Born on the winter solstice.” Sierra’s eyes shot up.

“Maybe one in a trillion.”

“We need to keep them safe, and at least one hidden. We can’t announce that we have twins.” Sierra said seriously.

“Why would we do that?” I questioned.

“I don’t know if you know, but King Bruno’s son Derek helped me get here today. Without him, a rogue probably would have gotten us or I would have delivered them on the street. He warned me last night and again today that his father is all about power and will stop at nothing to achieve it. Regardless if this mysterious legend is true or not, there are obviously people who are willing to abduct babies and do other terrible things to see that things play out a certain way. We have to protect them.”

“I see. We need to find out what exactly this legend is all about.” I sighed. “Maybe then it can give us some insight. In the meantime, I can cut the staff down, maybe even move some of the onsite workers into different housing.”

“I don’t want to take away their homes. I’m sure we can trust them, right?”

“Your nurse just tried to take our pup...now I haven’t looked into her employment records but she got past us. How long has she been working here? Is she the only insider? Until I can properly reevaluate every staff member, I think its best to keep everyone away.”

“Yeah, I suppose you are right.....but can we check Anita first? I could really use some of her home cooking when we get back.” Sierra chuckled.

“You got it.”

Sierra nursed both of our pups, Levi was a gentile, respectful pup, taking only what he needed before falling back asleep, while Alexander was greedy about his milk, having latched on to Sierra much harder and getting milk all over the place. We laughed at the stark contrast between the two, wondering if this is how they would grow up together.

An hour later, Ella, nurse Judy, and Dr White came up, wanting to check on the pups and Sierra. They did a quick checkup on each pup, which both passed with flying colors. Dr. White decided to give Sierra some extra blood and fluids because she still hadn't quite perked up since delivering. Her face was pale and her movements shaky. After making sure she was taken care of, he had a hot meal brought up for Sierra and I which we both inhaled.

Ella left me with the twins while she helped Sierra in the shower. Sierra refused my help, saying she didn't want me to see her this way. I was at her mercy, completely blown away by the tiny miracles she brought into this world during such chaos. Only my mate. After she was all cleaned up, I helped her into a new bed with fresh sheets, then went to take a quick shower myself while Ella was still here to help. Jackson joined soon after, only stopping by for a few minutes to meet his nephews before he and Ella headed back to the palace to help handle the mess left behind.

“Alpha, Luna, you have some visitors.” Nurse Judy said from the doorway.

“Who?” Sierra asked, munching on a turkey sandwich.

“The grandparents!!” I could hear my mom yell from the hallway.

“And Aunt!!” Abby added.

“Let them in.” Sierra nodded.

Our family came rushing in, immediately flocking to the pup in my arms, not noticing his twin sleeping peacefully next to Sierra's bed.

“Everyone, this is Levi.” I smiled. My mother immediately used the hand sanitizer dispenser that was secured to the wall and found a chair to sit on before extending her arms, just waiting for me to hand Levi to her.

“I'll take him!” She said excitedly.

“Do you want to hold him, or his brother?” Sierra smiled, Xander now in her arms.

“There are two of them?!” She exclaimed.

Abby’s jaw was slack and Andrew looked like he had seen a ghost.

“Surprise.” I laughed softly, handing Levi to my mom.

“I get to shop for two pups!!” Abby exclaimed.

“Who else knows about this?!” Andrew said, fear in his voice.

“Its okay dad, only a handful of people know and we plan on keeping it that way as much as we can.” Sierra answered seriously. “Now come and hold your grandpup.” She smiled softly.

“He looks just like his dad.” He said, holding our pup like he was made of glass.

“Goddess, they are so cute.” Abby sighed, looking over our mom’s shoulder at Levi. “I cant wait to find my mate and have pups.”

“I’m sure you will find him soon.” Sierra tried to reassure her.

“When can you leave?” Our mom asked.

“A few days, I think. Enough time for me to recover a bit and the pups to be cleared to go home.” Sierra shrugged.

“Dont you have a spell or something you could use to speed up recovery?” I asked my mate. Although I wasn’t personally there for her birth, I can clearly see how large these pups are and how my mate keeps wincing when she moves. I don’t think things went especially easy for her.

“I do actually, but my magic was a little spotty before having these two. I plan on waiting a bit before trying. I’m not sure how well it will work though, Dr. White gave me some stitches, even if I cast a healing spell they would still take time to dissolve.”

“How big are these pups?” My mom asked.

“Levi is ten pounds four ounces and twenty-three inches long. Alexander is ten pounds six ounces and twenty-two inches long.” I answered proudly.

“Goddess, you poor thing.” My mom said, looking at Sierra.

“It’s alright, it was well worth it.”

Our family stayed for another half hour before leaving with the promise that they would buy a double of everything for our surprise pup and rearrange their room to

accommodate. Sierra and I spent the next few days in the hospital, learning how to be parents to not just one but two pups. Levi and Alexander slept best when they were next to each other or in our arms. Levi was easy going and Alexander was more demanding, and when they were both together they were trouble. It became clear very quickly that our pups were gifted. Alexander liked to disappear, though his clothes would give him away, his magic wasn't yet strong enough to alter more than himself. Levi, on the other hand, was found levitating more than once. It would be interesting to see what else these pups will throw at us over the next eighteen years. I was just happy we could tell them apart.

## The Alpha King And His Second Chance

### Chapter 50

Sierra

Several months had passed since the twins were born and life was a whirlwind. After we left the hospital, we took our pups home, keeping the fact that we had twins a secret. We held a massive funeral for all the fallen and burned the dead rogues. We then, unfortunately, let go of half the staff, but not without making sure they were properly compensated while we helped them find new positions within the pack. I placed a spell over the palace grounds to shield the outsiders from looking in. From an outside perspective, it would look like no one was home, a hologram almost. But inside my shield, we could freely move about the grounds without worrying that someone would see both of our pups, giving us some extra peace of mind.

Ella and Jackson gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Joy, who was the cutest pup, besides my own, of course. The cousins loved playing with each other. William and his mate Rachael were also expecting, our home was filling up with lots of new life fast. My father and Sylvia were living the dream, their relationship seamless, lots of pups to love on, and plenty of privacy at the lakehouse.

My duties as Luna and Queen were finally starting to become second nature. Any doubts I had about being Luna and Queen were out the window. I knew for certain that I was meant for this. We held our Luna ceremony picnic over the summer and I was blown away by all the love shown towards me. Alexander was our wild card, so we left him at home with Anita caring for him. She linked us at least twelve times due to his antics. Our pups were full of surprises, to say the least.

I sat at my desk going through my mail that had started to pile up. Today was a rare day when both pups were asleep. Edward was busy, and no one was knocking on my door asking for something. Many sentences in this chapter have been removed because you are not reading them on J o b n i b . c o m. We received an invitation for Kelly's sixteenth birthday party, and an invitation to dinner at King Jesse's palace. I called both queens and

let them know that we would be attending, interested in seeing the other kingdoms and how they ran things.

I was putting away a few things when I remembered the secret room. I hadn't had a chance yet to see what was in Hopes' hidden library. This was the first slow day, and I wasn't going to waste the opportunity. It took me a hot minute to remember how Ella opened it up, but once inside, I dove into all of her books, diaries, files, and everything else in between. Of course, the first thing I opened was her journal filled with secret love notes to Edward. Part of me felt jealous and wanted to keep the book from him. I was his mate after all. The other part had more empathy for our mate and thought maybe he should have the option to read it. I set it aside, Sienna and my own conscious playing pinball together.

An hour in, I was fully immersed in her own personal diary, she wrote a lot about her insecurities as queen. I guess I wasn't the only one who didn't feel fit to rule starting off. She also spoke of her family and some of the problems that came with her having a position of authority. Her younger brother Darren had some hard teen years and that caused some backlash when she couldn't get him out of trouble, but rather gave the punishment. I felt sorry for her really. She had a lot on her plate at such a young age. She was barely twenty when she took on the weight of the world. After prying into her life long enough, I decided to go to the files stacked in boxes in the corner. There was a journal sitting on top of it all, covered in a layer of dust. I cleaned it off and began digging in.

The very first page was filled with chicken scratch. Some of the writing was faded or scribbled out, the pages crinckeled. A few things stood out to me; the questions she had written. Who are they? What do they want? Where are they? I thumbed through the pages, catching the names of packs, various dates, and more questions. Then I saw it. At the end of her journal was a picture of the tattoo. The one that still haunts my dreams. The one that has only ever wanted to ruin my life. Below it was actual legible writing.

"Today I met an interesting man, his name was Chase. He came to our palace looking for refuge. Edward granted it, as he almost always did. After speaking with the man, I couldn't help but feel uneasy. I had to talk with him again. I went out of my way to meet with him privately. I knew Edward wouldn't approve, but I had a gut feeling I needed to follow. He said he came to us when his pack in the south was attacked. He said it was unexpected, he was the beta of his pack at the time. Although it was terrible what had happened, his pack wasn't the only one this happened to. We have heard this happening all over the map. What made this different was how the attack happened. It was...sophisticated. Unlike any normal rouge attack or another pack trying to take over. They only had one demand; they wanted a specific young boy. A hybrid. When they refused, they burned the pack to the ground. Chase said he fought one of them before getting knocked out, thought to be dead. On his arm was a tattoo. To anyone else, this would be less than shocking. But I couldn't seem to let it go. So I didnt. I began my search. I started asking around.

After months of secret meetups with refugees, I finally had something to work with. The tattoo. Whoever these people were, they were part of a group in search of hybrids. The questions still remained: who, why, and where? Who were they? Why did they want hybrids? Where were they located? If being queen has taught me anything, it's been not to trust anyone. I have bad feelings about more than one person who holds power. But I can't simply go accusing everyone without any proof. So I turned to my deceased father-in-law for help. While Edward was away for a week doing negotiations with King Carson, I snuck into his office, into his record room specifically. I spent days going through everything, leaving Jackson and his new mate Ella to hold down the fort, claiming I had the stomach bug. I pulled two boxes worth of files amongst dozens. There was so much King Nathan had bad feelings about, so many suspicions he had never answered. I needed to find those answers, starting with this tattoo.

I spent more and more time searching, getting lost in King Nathan's notes and the attached reports. It was becoming all-consuming. The more I questioned things, the more I felt like I was being watched. My wolf Hannah felt the same. Maybe it's just paranoia. Maybe not. We have a large banquet planned in just a few weeks. I plan on playing detective then. Hopefully someone will slip up. If something should ever happen to me, I pray that whoever is reading this will solve my mystery. If not for me, then for King Nathan, and if not for him, then the entire werewolf race."

"Holy shit..." Sienna whispered.

I all but tore the lid of the first box of files open, spending the rest of the day going through everything and piecing it all together. Hundreds of packs over the years have been attacked. Many missing person reports were filed. King Nathan had so many theories and dead ends. He seemed to have gotten further along than Hope did. But some of the notes looked to be in different handwriting. His father's from what I could gather. How long has this been going on for? How could it have gone unnoticed for this long? Hope wasn't a hybrid, but she was doing a lot of digging. Edward said she was killed by a man in a cloak. The same man I saw kill Adaline. They knew she was onto them. Which makes me now wonder how King Nathan was actually killed. Was he onto something too? His notes say yes, but Edward doesn't speak of his death. If the two were connected, that would mean there would have to be someone close to home involved. Hope seemed to be doing everything under the radar. I would imagine King Nathan would be the same. Why else would he have a secret room filled with notes?

"I think it's time we go find our mate." I stood up from the ground, tiptoeing around all the piles of papers I had in the small secret library.

"Agreed."

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I asked Sylvia and my dad if they could watch the twins while I sought out my mate, which they were eger to do so. Thankfully, my father knew a thing or two about having

twin pup hybrids. Most others avoided them like the plague, not knowing if one would disappear and the other levitate to the ceiling. It was intimidating watching our pups, especially since they were starting to crawl, usually in opposite directions.

“Edward, a word.” I said, leaving no room for debate. He was in the middle of speaking with some contractors about the finishing touches on our hybrid training center addition. I normally wouldn’t interrupt him in a meeting, but this took precedence over paint colors. “Sorry gentleman, this will have to wait.” I said to the three men sitting at the conference table.

Edward shot me an amused look. I was never this bold. “Send the options to my email and I will review them and get back to you all. You should be set to move forward in the meantime.” He gave them a curt nod and followed me out. “Everything okay?” He asked.

“I need you...in private,” I said, taking determined steps to the elevator that led to our floor.

“If you wanted me, all you had to do was ask.” Edward purred, grabbing me by the hips and nipping at my neck.

“No, not that!” I huffed, my body betraying me. I needed to focus.

“I can smell your arousal, I can feel your want.” He said, sliding his hand underneath my shirt and bra.

“Edward! This is serious!” I yelled, fighting back a moan. Goddess I wanted him but now was not the time.

“Then tell me.” He said right before sucking on my marking spot, sending a delicious chill up my spine. “You know I think its really hot when you are bossy. Makes me want to dominate you.”

“Edward....please, I need you to be serious!”

“I am serious.” He said, pinning me against the elevator wall.

“It’s about your father’s death.” I blurted out. He stilled and looked me in the eyes, a million questions written all over his face. The elevators dinged, opening up on our floor.

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Unknown

“Your status report?”

“They left the hospital with twins.”

“So the legend is true then. We will prepare for war. Keep a close eye on them. If anything should change, notify us immediately. I will send my apprentice in when the time is right.”

“Yes sir.”

Everything was falling into place. Years and years of hard work preserving the bloodline and it was all going to pay off in due time. The beginning of the end was near. I could almost taste it.

“Your orders Sir?” My apprentice asked.

“I want to see what they are really made of. Keep sending in the smart rogues.”

Smart rogues, to outsiders, were weak, a pitiful excuse of a wolf. We spent years working on a formula to gain control of them. Now they were nothing more than worker bees following orders. Their primary function was to allow us to observe our target, see how they fight and what they are capable of. That way, when it came time for a real fight, we always had the upper hand. One of our better experiments that has come out of the lab. That and my apprentice, of course. Dr. Hemsworth was truly a mad scientist. His work will go down in history one day. A true hero amongst our kind.

“Yes Sir.” He nodded and left.

“Alpha Victor!” I snapped.

“Sir?”

“See to it that more bodies are recruited. Dr. Hemsworth is on the brink of something great.”

“King Edward banished Alpha Carl, he has Alpha Peter running the Blood Crest pack now. He has undercover men in there too.”

“Hmph. Leave them alone for now then. Send our men into the west. King Carson will be too busy with his daughters to even notice.”

“As you wish.”

Everything is going as planned.

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Sierra

“I can't believe it...she knew all along.” Edward said, reading over Hopes' journal. “Why would she have kept this from me?” He shook his head.

“She probably wanted something tangible before getting you involved. It sounded like you had a lot on your plate at the time.” I reassured him, rubbing his back while we both sat cross-legged in my tiny hidden library.

“I did...but this would have come first. After reading all of her notes and my father's, I think it's safe to say that they were both killed by the same person.”

“How did your father die?” I pushed. He had been tight-lipped about it all afternoon.

“I wish I knew. He went off to do negotiations with King Bruno, and was killed on the way. I got several different stories from his men upon their return. I let them all go after that, the entire palace staff actually, not knowing who to trust. I didn't have much time to look into his death after that. I was only eighteen and was crowned king with no staff and missing over a decade of knowledge and training. I found Hope a few months after that and we were so busy trying to figure out what the fuck we were doing, it just got put aside.”

“So what if we spoke with all the men that went with him?”

“And risk one of them being our culprit? Plus, he left with a small army, figuring negotiations would go sour.”

“I wonder...”

“What?”

“Well, remember at the training center when Darren and I ‘fought’?” I said using air quotes.

“Yeah?”

“Well, I had a vision, but it was of his past. It was the first time that had ever happened, me seeing into the past. I wonder if I could do it again somehow. Then maybe we could go visit his old staff and I could have another past vision.”

“It's not a bad idea, but we need to be careful...obviously whoever is our traitor was someone involved with my father and Hope. That means they got past two people who were looking for them completely unnoticed.”

“I'm hoping that I can find something in all of this mess. Maybe they knew their killer but didn't realize it until it was too late. There has to be something that both of them have in common...” I said, moving a stack of files.

“While you do that, I think I’ll have a word with my mom about it. Maybe she can remember something.” Edward said, standing up and stretching.

“We’ll figure this out, Edward.”

“I know we will, we have to.”