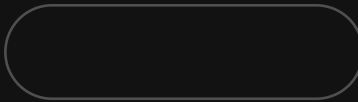
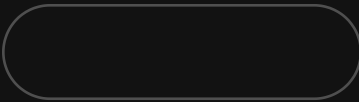


# Lycan Prince Matteo

## Twenty-Three



Matteo

"I'm sorry, his highness for being late." Freya said and I saw her smiling at dad when I looked at her. She didn't give me a glance, so I was sure that she was still mad at me. I know that I had been rude to her and might have scared her earlier. It's just that, Ronaldo came to me telling me that she had disrespected him. In the palace, we learn to respect the elders regardless of rank. It was a basic etiquette for everyone, ranked or not.

"Come on, dear." Dad said and motioned her to sit next to him. "Matteo said that you are not feeling well." he added,

"Yes, his highness," she replied. Eunice was sitting with us along with her father, Ronaldo. They looked happy when I went without my mate and now that she was here, I could see that they were both furious. Their heartbeats tell me so too. I looked at my mate and tried to assess her feelings but I got nothing.

"But I thought that this might be the only time that I would be able to say what I wanted to say, if you let me, his highness." she added, and dad was confused, and so did Calvin and James.

"What is it?" Dad asked,

"This will be the last time that I am going to eat with you, like this."

"Why is that?"

"I didn't want to see the b\*\*\*\* that was claiming my mate when I was eating and an old man who didn't accept me as his princess," she said, so I looked at the father and daughter sitting in front of me. "I understand that you wanted to keep my identity from others, but those you have trusted to keep this a secret were taking advantage of it and disrespected me. Even if I am like this, I am not going to allow anyone to do that to me. I will gladly hand my mate to any b\*\*\*\*, all they need to do is ask."

"Freya!!!" I yelled. I looked at dad and found him looking at me. I know that he already knew why she didn't come with me.

"Your mate is the moon goddess's gift to you. Why are you willing to let him go?"

"The moon goddess wants us to love ourselves as well. I expected my mate to be reasonable and would only believe in me. If it is the case that he believes and listens to his b\*\*\*\*, I would rather let him go," she answered, then stood up. "I'm sorry about his highness, I don't think I will be able to stand seeing the people I didn't like during the meal." she added, then turned her back. "By the way, I would like to remind those two to address my mate as Prince Matteo. Not by his name. They wanted to be respected, they should learn hierarchy first." then left the dining room.

"We will talk after this," Dad told me and I nodded. "This is the last time that you will be eating with us as well, Ronaldo and Eunice. And just like the princess said, you address her and Matteo as Prince and Princess." he added.

"Yes, his highness," the two answered. I was sure that they were both furious. They never thought that dad would be siding with my mate and I was so stupid to actually believe that b\*\*\*\*\*. I had to make up to my mate later. I should have asked Camila too before I confronted her or just simply asked her first.

Calvin and James were both quiet. They warned me not to be hasty when confronting Freya after they heard Ronaldo tell me about how she acted, but I didn't listen to them. I didn't want others to think that she was being unreasonable just because she was the princess and take it against her. I wanted the entire kingdom to accept her easily. That's why I didn't let the fact that she's my mate escalate yet.

I glared at Ronaldo after I realized that he intentionally caused an issue between me and Freya. My eyes landed on Eunice, who had her head down and couldn't look me in the eyes. I had already told her that there was nothing between us and I was not going to accept anyone as my chosen mate and that I was willing to wait for my fated mate.

Freya joined us for lunch and cleared things and I'm sure that my father admires her for her vocal opinion. My mother was like my mate. She always tells dad whatever she wants to say and doesn't bother to sugarcoat her words.

The lunch was over and I headed for the king's office. I had better get ready myself for his scolding because I was sure that I would be getting a lot from him. It was my fault, so I have no choice but to accept it. I may have got a few things for him about how I am going to apologize to my mate.

"I am disappointed with you, son." Dad said. We were all seated and he invited both James and Calvin. I'm sure that these two will definitely tell him what they think as well.

"I know, I just thought that she really---" I said, but he stopped me,

"Enough!" he was angry, I can see that. "You should have asked her first. If you value and accept her as your mate, that is the first thing to do. I can't blame her if she gets mad at you. The way I see it, she is already." he added. My head was just down, I know that I am stronger than him. He admitted that to me as well, but my Lycan was so quiet and he doesn't care if we are being reprimanded.

"Are you hesitating about your bond?" he asked and I was surprised, so I looked at him. "Are you still thinking about that scent that you smelled, 9 years ago?" he added. I don't know what to answer and I am sure that Freya is my mate. But there was something in me that made me think twice.

"Dad, I smelled her before. I should know when something happened to her. There was this one night when I was in so much pain. I went to the palace hospital and asked the doctor but he told me that what I am feeling is not from my mate's infidelity, but because something happened to her." I told him,

"What??" he was surprised because I never told him about it. I even asked the doctor not to tell anyone so this is a secret between me and him. "Does that mean she's dead?" he added,

"I don't know either, dad."

"If she was, I would have known it. You will be in so much pain that a night will not be enough for you to recuperate. It was very painful and will almost kill you," he said, and I nodded. I saw how he was when my mother died and what I experienced was way easier than what he had been through.

"It's not that she rejected Matteo either, right? She didn't know his name even if she smelled his scent as well. She has to know his full name before she can reject him, if ever." Calvin said,

"I think you have to delay the markings." Dad said, I already know that. "Unless her wolf transforms into a lycan, but does she even have a wolf? " he added.

"Yes, I noticed that she was transforming. She's glowing." I replied,

"Then we will have to wait for her transformation. After that, we might be able to have answers to some of our questions." he said, "For the meantime, find a way to soothe her." Yeah, I need to talk to her, I just hope that she will.