

Chapter 116 I Like Her

Sylvia's POV:

I coughed awkwardly, withdrew my hand, and let Rufus wipe my face.

"Prince Rufus, my name is Warren. I'm from the Silver Moon Pack. Sylvia and I are classmates." Warren talked to Rufus tirelessly. It seemed that he wouldn't stop until Rufus responded to him.

Rufus turned his head and looked at Warren, seemingly displeased with Warren's repeated interjection.

"Why are you with Sylvia?"

I noticed that Rufus was already impatient, so I quickly stood in front of Warren and explained, "Warren and I are here to practice more today. He's kind enough to help me practice. Thanks to him, I have improved a lot."

I wanted to say that Warren was a good classmate and a good comrade in arms to appease Rufus. But after those words came out of my mouth, it was only then that I realized something wrong.

"Really?" Rufus' face darkened even more. "But your leg hasn't recovered yet, right?"

After saying this, he looked at my leg.

Damn it! How could I forget it? My body stiffened, and I glanced at him guiltily.

It was too late to pretend that my leg was in pain now. I wanted to cry but had no tears.

At this moment, Rufus took out a crumpled note from his pocket. It was the one I left for Maya. My face turned pale, a little unsure of what to do with Rufus next.

"Maya gave me this note." Rufus unfolded the note and showed it to me. "This is your handwriting, right?"

I didn't say anything and just grabbed the seam of my trousers. My palms began to sweat.

"I really believed it, so I immediately went to find you."

Upon hearing this, I lowered my head guiltily, regretting using such a lame excuse to Rufus. It was really my fault because, after all, I agreed to be his date at the ball in the first place. I should have refused him decisively from the beginning.

"But your roommate said that your leg had already recovered," Rufus continued in a calm tone of voice. Then he paused for a moment and added, "Sylvia, what the hell is going on?"

Since he already knew the truth, there was no use hiding it from him anymore. I gritted my teeth and looked up to meet his eyes. "I just didn't want to go, so I made this excuse."

"Why?" Rufus asked calmly.

This one-word question sounded so simple, but it was difficult for me to answer. My head was in a mess, and I didn't know what to say.

I didn't want to tell him that I backed out at the last minute because of my inferiority complex.

And I didn't want him to find out that I had feelings for him either.

"Sylvia, don't lie to me."

It seemed that Rufus had noticed all my emotions and expressions. He was like an experienced hunter, cornering me until I had nowhere to retreat. Then he would catch me in the next second.

I was still panicky when Warren suddenly stood up to help me out.

"Prince Rufus, Sylvia is not your accessory. She has the right to make choices too. So please don't push her like that."

It could be said that Warren was very rude, so I winked at him, hinting at him to stop talking. But he seemed fearless.

"Sylvia is an independent individual, and she can do whatever she wants."

"Warren, stop it." I hurriedly stopped him. I was afraid that he would suddenly say something shocking. I used to think that Warren was a cold werewolf of few words. But after these two days, I discovered that he was not only talkative but also a chatterbox who wouldn't stop until he got what he wanted.

"No, Sylvia. Let me go on," Warren said sincerely, looking at me.

I felt that the temperature around us had dropped to a freezing point, so I couldn't help covering my face with one hand.

"Sylvia is always tired from training every day. It's only reasonable that she doesn't want to go to the ball. She deserves to enjoy the vast world, so you should give her freedom."

As soon as Warren finished his words, Rufus' face turned gloomy, and his eyes filled with malicious intent. "Who do you think you are to speak on her behalf?"

The murderous look on his face was so terrifying that I couldn't help pulling his sleeve. "I'm so hungry now. Let's go get something to eat first."

"Because I like Sylvia," Warren suddenly said in a sonorous voice.

There was dead silence. I felt like a thunderbolt struck my head, causing my scalp to tingle.

What the hell was he talking about?

I blinked my eyes a few times. Before I could start to explain, Rufus instantly turned into a giant silver wolf and pounced on Warren fiercely.

Chapter 117 Jealousy

Rufus' POV:

No one had dared to covet what belonged to me. Moreover, it was my mate. Anger surged through my veins.

I didn't have time to think. I instantly turned into a wolf and pounced on the man. I was so angry that I bit his vital parts.

I had forgotten how to be a gentleman and the aristocratic etiquette I was taught all my life. The primal instinct to fight drove me crazy. Anger and jealousy made my blood boil. Sylvia was mine. I wouldn't let anyone take her away from me.

Warren reacted quickly. He instinctively turned into a wolf to fight with me. However, he didn't have the strength or power to fight me back.

"Sylvia is a free individual, not your private property. I have the right to compete fairly with you!" Warren's wolf yelled as I beat it over and over again.

'Compete fairly?' His words infuriated me. Even if he didn't know that Sylvia was my mate, he still didn't have the chance to compete with me. After all, Warren didn't have the strength to even defend himself from my attacks.

"Rufus! Stop it! Are you going to kill him?"

I heard Sylvia's muffled voice. She sounded terrified and wanted me to stop fighting.

However, the concern in her voice drove me insane. 'What the hell is going on? Is she afraid that I might kill him?'

I was seething with rage and continued to hit Warren over and over again.

I was terrified when I found some other she-wolf was wearing Sylvia's dress, pretending to be her. I was afraid that something had happened to Sylvia. But I was a fool. She had made up a clumsy excuse to cancel on me, just to hang out with another man.

I grew violent as I thought about it.

Just then, a petite wolf materialized and rushed between us. It was Sylvia.

It all happened too fast and I almost ended up hitting her. Soon, I realized what was going on and quickly retreated as I turned back to my human form.

"Are you crazy, Sylvia?" I had never yelled at her before. The fact that she had risked her own safety to protect the man infuriated me.

Sylvia also returned to her human form.

She glanced at me and rushed to Warren instead of answering my question.

Warren had lost his consciousness and was lying on the grass with bruises on every part of his body. His raven hair had lost its luster and looked quite messy.

Sylvia patted Warren's cheek and nervously checked his injuries.

After a long time, Sylvia wiped the sweat off her forehead and glared at me. "Do you know that even if you are a lycan prince, you will still be punished for hurting a student of the school in a private fight? What the hell were you thinking? Couldn't you just talk to him?"

Although Sylvia was shouting at me, I could tell that she cared about me, which was the only solace for

my burning heart.

But I was still unhappy. I grabbed Sylvia's hand and forced her to face me. "Don't look at him. You can only look at me."

She was still angry. "You almost killed him! Do you even know that?!" she growled, slapping my chest.

I didn't want her to care about anyone else, so I held her in my arms.

"So what? I don't want you to care about him so much, Sylvia," I croaked.

Sylvia struggled for a while and finally dropped her hands as she realized she wasn't as strong as me. "I'm not caring about him," she mumbled and looked up at me. "I'm only worried about you, Rufus!"

It was the first time Sylvia had openly admitted that she cared about me. The anger subsided as my heart throbbed at her sweet words. Unable to control my feelings anymore, I kissed her.

Chapter 118 No Longer Have Anything To Do With Each Other

Sylvia's POV:

Rufus suddenly lowered his head and sealed my lips. I was so shocked that my eyes widened. I stared at his eyelashes in a daze. I only realized what was going on when I felt him licking my lips.

I panicked and tried to push him away. But he firmly wrapped his arms around my waist and pulled me closer to him forcefully.

He seemed dissatisfied with my reaction and gently bit my lower lip. My face instantly burned, and my heartbeat went abnormally fast.

"This is not right," I pursed my lips and snorted vaguely.

But Rufus didn't seem to hear me. He lowered his eyelids and continued sucking my lips.

"Open your mouth," he whispered in a low and sexy voice. Then he stuck his tongue to the gap between my lips, trying to go further.

"No..." As soon as I opened my mouth, Rufus took the chance to invade it. His tongue pried open my teeth nimbly and licked my upper jaw. His breath was like an electric current running through my spine, making me numb and unable to resist. So I had to hold my breath and endure his aggressive kiss.

His kiss this time was possessive. It was totally different from the peck last time. It was so fierce that my entire senses were numbed. And my heart palpitated, making me unable to breathe.

Just as I was indulging myself in Rufus' kiss, I suddenly heard someone passing by. I immediately sobered up and hurriedly pushed him away with all my strength.

Much to my surprise, he didn't get angry at me. Instead, he stared at me with his deep eyes, reached out his hand, and tucked a strand of hair behind my ear. I was a little upset that he did that to me for no reason, so I stepped back to avoid his touch. After making sure that the passer-by was already far away, I raised my eyes angrily and glared at him.

"Rufus, what do you think you're doing? Instead of dealing with a slave here right now, you should be at the ball, choosing the most excellent and noblest she-wolf to be your future wife," I complained to him to vent my anger. I could no longer hold back the emotions I had hidden the whole day. How could he just take it for granted? I felt a lump in my throat, so I lowered my head angrily and didn't look at him.

Rufus was silent for a moment. "Is that the reason why you backed out as my date?"

I took a deep breath and calmed down. "You also know why your mother is holding this party for you, right? That's why you want to take me there to embarrass everyone."

I paused and looked up at him before I continued in a cold voice, "Are you dissatisfied with your mother's attempt to arrange your marriage? Are you planning to fall out with her completely?"

"No, Sylvia. You are wrong." Rufus frowned and took a few steps closer to me. "I never care about what other people think from the beginning to the end. I only care about you."

I bit my lower lip and shook my head. I didn't believe what he said. "You are talking nonsense."

"Sylvia, every word I say is true. You can't doubt me." Rufus pulled me into his arms firmly and lowered his head. The tip of his nose gently brushed my ear. He then whispered, "I don't want you to look at any other men. You must only have your eyes on me. I should be the only man in your heart. If you can't do that, I'll lock you up."

After saying this, he bit my earlobe punitively. "Don't stay with Warren alone again in the future."

"Why?" I asked naively. My head felt so dull that I almost stopped thinking. His words echoed in my mind again and again.

Rufus didn't answer. He just sighed and hugged me tighter.

"Just because I'm your mate? Or because I am useful to you?" I pushed him away and pretended to look at him coldly.

I recalled what Warren had said to me before. The gap between Rufus and me was so huge. I was just a humble slave while he was a lycan prince. Being with me meant that he had to bear a bad reputation, so I must cut all ties with him.

"Rufus, I don't think we can continue an ambiguous relationship like this. Of course, I will repay your kindness. But other than that, we no longer have anything to do with each other."

Rufus stared at me in a daze. It was as if he could not believe what I said. Gradually, his face darkened, and the coldness in his eyes became obvious. He sneered, turned around, and left.

Chapter 119 Silent Treatment

Sylvia's POV:

Rufus walked away without looking back. His usual steady pace now seemed a little hasty. I must have hurt him.

While looking at his lonely back, my heart tightened. It hurt like it was soaked in hot water.

I squatted down and hugged my knees helplessly. I screwed up everything.

"Why did you say such cruel words to your mate?" Yana snapped. There was a clear trace of anger in her voice filled with fury I had never felt before.

I didn't answer her question. I felt so desperate, and I was struggling between regret and hesitation.

I didn't want to say such cruel words either. I liked Rufus so much. But the harsh reality didn't allow me to be willful. And I would never want to be a burden to him.

I looked in the direction where he left. I was in a daze, and my heart was filled with powerlessness.

"Rufus treats you so well. He is very kind to you. And it's very obvious that you like him too. Why can't you just open your heart to him?" Yana said helplessly in a disappointed voice. It was as if she wanted me to express my feelings to Rufus at once.

"Rufus only treats me well because I'm useful to him. He..."

"Nonsense!" Yana interrupted before I could even finish my words. She became even angrier. "Everyone with discerning eyes can see that Rufus likes you. You are just being selfish. You're a coward!"

Every word Yana said was like a knife that cut through my heart. I was a little sad that she didn't understand me. "Yana, please don't say anything more. I'm already very brokenhearted."

"If I don't say it, you will only keep making mistakes. Sylvia, wake up. Stop deceiving yourself. If you go on like this, you will only be lonely for the rest of your life. The Moon Goddess has designated such a perfect mate for you, but you are so cruel to him." Yana didn't shut up and continued nagging.

"Am I deceiving myself? I'm doing all of this for Rufus' good. I have made up my mind that I will do my best to improve my strength and not to fall in love with anyone from now on," I retorted aggrievedly.

"What the hell! Have you ever thought about how I will feel if you don't fall in love? Please don't sound so lofty. What do you mean you are doing this for Rufus' good? That's just self-abasement. Rufus never despises you for being a slave. Instead, it is you who always cares about this matter. You trample on his sincerity easily. You are a coward."

Yana's words were so harsh that I was shamed into anger. I stood up angrily and said, "Yana, how can you say that to me? I always think that you're the one who can understand me the most. You let me down."

"I let you down?" Yana asked in disbelief. Then she sobbed and added in a choked voice, "I'm always all for you. I do everything for you wholeheartedly, but you're still disappointed in me."

What she said made me realize that my words were too harsh. Although I regretted it, they had already come out of my mouth. "You should also reflect on yourself."

"Sylvia! I don't want to talk to you anymore. From now on, don't expect me to say even a single word to you." After saying this, Yana immediately blocked me.

This was the first time I had a big fight with her, and she gave me the silent treatment.

After returning to the dormitory, I simply washed my face and brushed my teeth, then lay on the bed in a daze. I felt that everything I did was meaningless, and my world suddenly lost its color.

Flora was holding her phone, probably browsing through her Instagram page, laughing from time to time. Suddenly, she sat up from her bed as if she remembered something.

"Sylvia, did you know what happened at the ball tonight? Prince Rufus lost his temper and left in the middle of the party."

"Umm..." I replied to her absent-mindedly.

Flora lay back on the bed slowly, staring at her phone. Then she muttered regretfully, "It's such a pity that he didn't even get the chance to slice the birthday cake. I heard that it was a ten-layer cake and very special."

I sat up and looked at her in shock. "What birthday cake?"

Flora was taken aback by my reaction. She stammered, "Cake... specially made for him... It was a chocolate cake I heard..."

"That's not what I'm asking!" I interrupted anxiously. "What I mean is, why was there a birthday cake? Whose birthday was it?"

Flora blinked her eyes and asked in confusion, "Didn't Prince Rufus tell you? It's his birthday today."

Chapter 120 Overwhelming Emotions

Sylvia's POV:

I was too stunned to speak. My mind was in a mess.

Today was Rufus' birthday? Why hadn't he told me about it?

"So, you didn't know? The ball tonight was actually a birthday party for Prince Rufus arranged by the queen herself!" Flora exclaimed. "Except he ran away halfway through his own party and left the guests unattended. The queen usually favors Prince Rufus, but even she got angry tonight."

For some reason, hearing Flora's words made me feel suffocated. I got out of bed and headed to the window, hoping for some fresh air. Meanwhile, Flora continued her story, "It seemed that Prince Rufus' act made a lot of the noble ladies very unhappy. I would have guess that his departure felt like a slap to their faces. Now, there are a lot of complaints about Prince Rufus' behavior going around." Flora then looked at me and asked, "Are you okay, Sylvia? Why did you open the window? Are you feeling hot?"

As the cold wind blew on my face, I leaned against the window and gave Flora an absent-minded nod. To be honest, all I could think about right now was Rufus.

Flora seemed to buy my answer and continued again, "Oh, I also heard that it was Prince Richard who appeased the crowd when Prince Rufus left. He decided to formally announce his high-profile proposal to Lucy as his mate and displayed their love there. Obviously, everyone has a better impression of Prince Richard now."

I lowered my head, not saying anything. For the first time, I felt like the moonlight was shining too bright and stinging my eyes.

"Poor Prince Rufus. I heard the lycan king even reprimanded. He might run out of favor very soon." Flora sighed sympathetically. "I can't believe that was how he spent his birthday. It's quite a pity you weren't there at the party. You should have seen it in person."

Flora also got out of bed and followed me to the window, thoughtfully handing me a cup of water. "Oh, by the way, Prince Rufus also came to see you earlier today. He looked so anxious. His suit was even messy like he had run for miles, but he didn't seem to notice it. I told him you might be at the training ground. Did you see him?"

I looked out the window. I didn't know how to answer that.

Flora saw my face and quickly put the cup down. "Sylvia, are you crying? What's happening?"

Dazed, I touched my cheek and found that it was indeed wet with tears. I sniffled and swallowed down my sobs, trying to fight the urge to cry but tears were already flowing uncontrollably out of my eyes.

"What's going on? You're scaring me! Tell me what happened!" Flora was stuttering on her words and she hurried to hand me some tissues.

I pursed my lips and suddenly ran out of my dorm room before I burst into tears. I let my feet take me all the way to the school gate.

Right now, the only thing I wanted to do was to see Rufus.

But the guards stopped me at the gate.

"You're not allowed to go out at this time."

"But there's something important I really need to deal with! Please, let me out. I'll only be a while!" I begged hard. If I failed to see Rufus tonight, I would never forgive myself. Today was his birthday, but I

hurt him so much. I was so mad at myself and guilty to the point of insanity.

"No, young lady. You must obey the rules. Just deal with whatever the problem is tomorrow," the guard shouted at me. I could sense him growing impatient.

There was no choice for me but to go back. On the concrete pavement, the streetlight behind me casted a long silhouette of my lonely body.

I took out my phone and hoped that I could call Rufus. I just wanted to hear his voice. Perhaps he could let me greet him a happy birthday in person, even if he was still angry with me.

Unfortunately, it seemed that his phone was turned off. My calls couldn't get through to him.

I watched the time pass by on my phone's home screen. When it finally struck 00:01, I gave up. I had failed to greet him a happy birthday. I felt like anything I did after this would be meaningless from now on.

"Why? Why didn't Rufus tell me that it was his birthday? Why did he have to leave his party to see me? Why is he treating me so well? Yana, I'm scared. What if he never talks to me again?" I murmured, hoping Yana would answer me. But she ignored me.

Dazed, I walked back absent-mindedly and didn't even pay attention to where I was walking. As I walked down the stairs, I had accidentally stepped on a stone and fell down.

"Sylvia! Are you okay?" Finally, Yana couldn't bear to ignore me anymore and asked.

I stayed on the ground, covered in mud. The emotions that I had been bottling up burst out. Regardless of how stupid it looked, I let out a loud cry.

"I was wrong, Yana. I messed up big time. What have I done?"