

Fated to the Cursed Lycan Dark Knight Prince Chapter 21

Chapter 21 The Curse

Ethan's POV:

Rufus' words pierced my heart like sharp daggers. It was my fault he had become like this.

Many years ago, there was a witch who I had an entanglement with, and she had fallen deeply in love with me. But I refused to promise her anything. This made her so angry that she cursed me and Rufus, who at the time was only seven years old. She cursed his bloodline, saying that he would never bear any children and that every full moon, he would transform into a vicious monster.

It was my debt that I owed, but my son was paying the price. I would always be ridden with guilt whenever I was reminded of it.

At the same time, one of my mistresses was already pregnant with my child, but fortunately the witch did not know of it.

I had to come up with a plan. I sent out some of my men to find a way that my son's curse would be removed. But just in case, I had brought in my newborn illegitimate son and named him Richard, announcing that he was the queen's second son. After all, I was going to need an heir to the throne no matter what was going to happen. This illegitimate son of mine still had my blood anyway. If the curse could not be removed and Rufus wouldn't be able to have children, the Duncan family bloodline would end with him. So, as a king, I had to make a tough decision and be ready with a backup plan. If Rufus' curse still had not been broken by the time I died, I would have no choice but to bequeath the throne to my second son. It was only Rufus and I who knew about his curse. Even the queen did not know. Fortunately, she was sensible enough to accept my illegitimate son as her own eventually, although we had quarreled about it many times. Deep down, I also felt guilty to my queen.

As my first child, of course I looked forward to Rufus taking on the world on his own. I loved and raised Rufus just as much as the queen. He had been excellent since childhood. I was impressed by his talents and courage even at a young age. If he were to end up on the throne, I had no doubt he could become an even better lycan king than I.

But now, I was already getting too old. My health worsens every waking day. Yet until now, we had no clue as to how to undo Rufus' curse. I had to consider the future of the royal family and thought carefully about who the heir of the throne was going to be. I just didn't expect Rufus to find out that I had been training my second son in secret as well. "I'm sorry," I sighed. I was afraid this would make Rufus distance himself from me. "Maybe Sylvia isn't the daughter of a traitor. I'm going to find out the truth," Rufus said softly, purposefully changing the subject. I had known Rufus since he was born. Never had he ever come to the defense of a she-

wolf like this. A part of me was relieved, but I was also a little sad. I decided to let him be. As long as he really liked the girl, I guessed it was okay. Like he said, what was the meaning of his life if he could not even choose his own mate? Besides, I did owe him a lot. "Fine, I can let the she-

wolf stay with you. Although I didn't have time to stop the news about the traitor from spreading, I was able to suppress the fact that she is your mate." I had taken the initiative to compromise. Rufus was still my son and I had to protect him. With the she-wolf's lowly status, I supposed she could stay with him as his mistress.

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Chapter 21 The Curse "I'll deal with the traitor news myself." Rufus seemed so determined to find the mastermind behind this. This boy was always sharp minded. He was decisive and tough, I couldn't help but feel proud of him, but

"That's up to you. I just hope you will also consider the dignity of the royal family, Do not expose her identity or get too close to her. At least not until you figure out the truth," I reminded him. He looked at me for a while before finally nodding.

Chapter 22 The End

Rufus' POV:

"You may go." My father seemed a little tired already. He waved his hand and dismissed me.

I nodded expressionlessly and left. Although I got Ethan to agree to keep Sylvia, it didn't mean I could delay the investigation on Sylvia's mother any longer. Otherwise, we could get into more trouble later on. If that were to happen, the problem would not just be as simple to solve as gossip. "Anything about the investigation I assigned to you?" I asked my attendant

n a low voice. "The file indicates that Miss Todd's mother was indeed a Beta. She rebelled later on and was said to have killed the former Alpha. Because of this, she was executed by her own pack members," the attendant reported back. "Mm. Anything else?" "Yes, well. It seemed all this information came from one source—the Gamma of Miss Todd's pack." So, it turned out to be Mateo after all. I honestly thought it was going to be that bumbling idiot Shawn. I did not expect that a Gamma could make so much trouble. Immediately, I was put in a bad mood, but I did not let it show on my face. "However, there does seem to be some loopholes in this case. The witness of the trial instantly disappeared after the execution of Miss Todd's mother. Along with this, all physical evidences also seem to have been since destroyed." Upon hearing this, I finally felt like this case was getting somewhere. The mastermind behind all of this probably never expected that this case would be dug up one day. The more seemingly flawless the case appeared to be, the more suspicious it actually sounded. Disappearing witness and evidences were something that did not happen every day. "Alright. Keep investigating. Start with the missing witness." After giving out the order, my mind immediately went to Sylvia, who was probably waiting for me in my living room. I walked back as quickly as I could. As soon as I entered my room, I saw Sylvia sitting obediently on a chair. She wore a white dress and had simple make up done on her face. She smiled brightly when she saw me, which was undoubtedly enough to overshadow everything else around her.

Her beauty stunned me for a moment. I couldn't take my eyes off of her. Until I felt that there was something wrong. I could tell she wasn't really in a good mood. Although she was smiling, it looked fake, which made me uncomfortable.

"What's wrong?" I asked, slowly walking up to her.

Sylvia shook her head and smiled even wider. "Nothing."

I looked into her eyes, trying to find the truth. She lowered her head and tried to avoid my gaze.

Following her eyes, I looked down and saw some hair scattered all over the floor, making me suspicious.

"Your Highness, please forgive me. I was combing Miss Todd's hair very carefully. But because her hair was a little dry and brittle, some had fallen out," the head maid spoke up.

This maid had spoken without my permission.

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The End I felt a little displeased. She seemed to like butting in. This was already the second time today she had cut into our conversation. But with Sylvia in the room, I didn't want to scold the maid in front of her for fear that she would get scared of me again. "Is that so?" I turned to Sylvia, hoping to get some confirmation in her eyes. Sylvia averted my gaze and stood up, shrugging, "It's no big deal. It doesn't really matter." When Sylvia said that, I noticed in the corner of my eye that the maid smiled mischievously. My face darkened in anger, finally piecing together what really happened. Why didn't Sylvia tell me immediately that she was being bullied? "Your Highness, the banquet is ready." A guard came through the door, interrupting my thoughts. "Okay, let's go." Sylvia nodded and walked out first. She seemed to be in a hurry, perhaps afraid that I would ask her any more questions. Her reaction made me feel a little helpless, but I could not help feeling angry at the thought of her getting pushed over. "Guards, take that maid away. Demote her to a slave and assign her to pick up after the horses." I looked down at the maid who had knelt to the floor after hearing my words. "Your Highness, please forgive me. What have I done wrong? Whatever it is, I will correct my mistake. Please give me another chance. I worked hard to be a head maid," she begged desperately. "A head maid?" I sneered. "Well, whoever promoted you to that position can come and work with you at the stables." "Sire, please! Spare me!" The maid tried to rush up to my feet and beg more, but the guards had already dragged her away. I didn't bother looking back at her. Instead, I turned to the rest of the people in the room and said, "That is what happens to whoever dares disrespect their master."

Chapter 23 Lost

Sylvia's POV: "Why don't you just tell Rufus that the head maid is belittling you?" Yana asked in confusion. I walked around the long corridor and paused. "If I complain to him, it will only make people look down on me even more." "I don't think so. If they see that Rufus is protecting you, who will dare to bully you?" Yana said playfully. "It's not that simple." I continued to walk forward aimlessly, feeling more and more depressed. Then I suddenly thought of something. "Haven't you ever wondered how that head maid knew my background?" Yana was stunned by my question. "Yes... You're right. How did she know?" "I'm afraid that the news that I'm the daughter of a traitor has already spread all over the imperial palace. No matter how Rufus defends me, I'm just a humiliating accessory in the eyes of others. And when I am no longer useful to him, I will be thrown away." I smiled wryly as my heart had already sobered up. "What should we do then?" Yana asked anxiously.. "I don't want to go back to my old life, Yana. I want to survive here on my own." "Whatever your decision is, I will support you. But wait! You have been walking

for a while. Where are you going?" "I'm going to the banquet," I answered casually and lowered my head. "Dear, do you know how to get there?" "What?" Yana's question brought me back to my senses. It was only then that I realized that I had got lost. I was in the middle of nowhere, and there were no guards around. The sky was already slightly dark, and the wind was cold. The lights on both sides were dim, and the shadows of the trees under the eaves were swaying,

giving off a sense of gloom. My heart tightened, and I got goose bumps on my arms, so I walked back. But the identical arched doors made me feel like a fly that couldn't find its way. This place was too large.

"Sylvia!"

I heard Rufus' voice. I was so happy that I hurriedly ran in the direction where the voice came from.

"Rufus, I'm here!"

When I saw Rufus' tall figure, I instantly calmed down. "Where have you been?" Rufus asked. His brows were furrowed, and he pulled a long face. "I..." I stammered. I knew that I had caused him trouble again, so I lowered my head in embarrassment. "I got lost." At this moment, I heard a slight sigh above my head. I looked down at the hemline of my dress, not knowing what to say for a while. "Let's go." Rufus patted my head gently. I looked up at him in surprise. Wasn't he angry? "Why are you looking at me like that?" "Nothing..." I murmured. I really thought that he would be angry.

LOS Rufus pursed his lips and stretched out his hand "Let's go. Hold my hand, so you won't get lost this time." I stared blankly at the slender and beautiful hand in front of me, and finally pinched the corner of his sleeve. My face couldn't help burning. Rufus didn't say anything anymore. He just turned and led me out Following behind him, I got the chance to stare at his stalwart shoulders. My mind was in a mess. "I've already sent someone to investigate your mother's case and the witnesses who disappeared back then," Rufus suddenly said. My eyes widened in pleasant surprise. "Really?" I didn't hold out much hope that Rufus would really help me. In fact, I had already prepared myself mentally that I

would do the investigation on my own. I didn't expect him to act so fast. Rufus turned his head and looked at me. "But there's one thing I'm sorry about." "What is it?" I asked, looking into his deep eyes. "We need to keep our relationship under wraps for a while until we find out the truth," Rufus whispered in my ear. I was stunned for a moment. I felt like my heart was suddenly grabbed by a giant hand, and I couldn't breathe. But I quickly suppressed this emotion. I smiled and said, "I understand. I am staying with you because we need each other. It doesn't matter whether you make our relationship public or not. All you need is my blood, not me. So you can just disregard me. Besides, I don't want to delay you from looking for your next mate." Rufus didn't respond. He just continued to walk forward, but his pace became faster and faster. I had no choice but to trot with heavy chunky heels to keep up with him. "Rufus, wait... Please slow down. I can't keep up with you anymore," I couldn't help but plead. Finally, he slowed down. Then after a while, he said, "I don't know yet why your blood can soothe me when I go berserk. What if it's because we are mates? I still have to figure it out, then we'll talk about it." "Okay." I thought that what he said was reasonable, so I readily agreed. But the atmosphere around us inexplicably became a little suffocating. I vaguely felt that he was unhappy. But he was still expressing himself as usual, and his lips were tightly pursed, so I couldn't guess what he was really thinking. Maybe I was just overthinking. We walked down the golden staircase and arrived at the banquet hall. The dome was painted with colorful murals, and countless lights were hung high. The entire banquet hall looked more glorious. "Rufus! You're finally here." As soon as we entered the banquet hall, a beautiful woman dressed in gorgeous and extravagant clothes appeared and greeted Rufus. "Mother..." He greeted the beautiful she-wolf back. She was Queen Laura, and I had already heard about her. With her delicate features and thick hair, she looked very young. Only the fine lines at the corners of her eyes revealed her age. "You've been on a long journey. Now that you're back, you should take a good rest for a while," Laura said. She acted like a loving mother to Rufus. Standing at the side and watching them, I felt a little embarrassed. "Mother, let me introduce you to..." "By the way, I forgot to tell you," Laura interrupted Rufus before he could even finish his words. Then she turned around and pulled over a brunette with a good figure and beautiful features. This is Alina Quinn.

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Chapter 23 Lost the daughter of the Alpha of Silver Moon Pack. You two are about the same age. Thanks to her company, my life has not been so boring recently. And she is very talented in the military stuff. I believe you must have a lot to talk about." Laura gently pushed Alina in front of Rufus and added, "Such an excellent girl is the fiancée I've found for you."

My heart inexplicably sank when I heard her words.

Chapter 24 The Queen

Laura's POV: "Mother, you are messing around," Rufus snapped coldly. He was instantly displeased with me. I knew that he would react this way. After all, he was my son, and I knew him. But not everything would be up to him.

"Your father and I have already discussed this. He is satisfied with Alina too." I put on a loving smile and deliberately mentioned Ethan's name to make Rufus accept the arrangement.

"I have never thought of finding a fiancée," Rufus said coldly. He didn't even spare a glance at Alina. "You are already twenty-eight years old. You can't delay getting married any longer. Besides, the ministers have been urging you," I continued to persuade him. But I also couldn't help feeling helpless. Rufus had been very assertive since he was a child. And convincing him to do something he didn't want was extremely difficult. "I am responsible for finding my own mate," Rufus insisted.

"No. When it comes to this matter, I have the final say," I said angrily. I was his mother, but he didn't respect me at all. When I noticed that everyone's eyes were on me, I softened my voice. "Alina is a good girl. She is gentle, considerate, and talented. I think you two are a perfect match. "Since you like her so much, why don't you introduce her to Richard?" Rufus' mouth curled into a sneer, his eyes full of sarcasm.

"Rufus!" I snapped in a low voice. Since there were so many people around, I didn't dare to go too far. I could only swallow my anger, which made my temples ache. He knew I didn't get along well with Richard, that illegitimate child of my husband's. But he still used Richard to provoke me. I also noticed that he looked nervously at the lowly slave beside him. It was as if he was afraid of angering her. Had he forgotten that he was a dignified prince? How could he be controlled by a she-wolf of low status? It would be such a shame if this news spread.

I clenched my fists so hard that my nails dug into the palms of my hands. I was getting more and more unhappy. How dare the daughter of a traitor enter this place aboveboard! Rufus must have been seduced by her. Alina held my hand and interrupted with a smile, "The queen is just joking. I'm just here as a guest. Prince Rufus, we can be friends first. So we can get to know each other. It's too early to talk about marriage yet." In the end, Alina seemed to be a little embarrassed. Her snow-white face flushed, and her beautiful jawline lowered like an elegant white swan. I patted her hand to comfort her, feeling more and more satisfied with her. Only such a sensible girl like her was qualified to be a member of the royal family. And the most important thing was tha

to her father was Alpha Leonard Quinn, the werewolf who used to be mighty and influential. He also had powerful lycan blood. With his support, Rufus would not have to be afraid of Richard anymore. I glanced at the slave in front of me indifferently. She was so timid that she didn't even greet me. While looking at her, my heart was filled with disgust. How could a daughter of a traitor like her have the audacity to approach Rufus? Did she really think that even a nobody like herself could marry into the royal family? She must be so shameless.

Chapter 24 The Queen But what pissed me off more was that I couldn't deal with her yet, because I couldn't afford to anger Rufus. Even Ethan couldn't do anything to quench Rufus' anger, let alone me. If I got rid of her, it would directly destroy my relationship with Rufus. And judging from his attitude towards her, I could guess that this she-wolf was not that simple. So the best way now was to ignore her, find an opportunity to secretly humiliate her, and force her retreat on her own.

Fated to the Cursed Lycan

Chapter 25 The Banquet

Sylvia's POV: The tit

for that conversation ceased because Ethan, the lycan king, arrived. I breathed a sigh of relief. I also realized that the queen, Laura, wasn't easy to get along with, and she didn't seem to like me either. But it didn't matter. Their opinions didn't mean anything to me. Once my mother's case was redressed and Rufus's curse was removed, I would leave here and find a comfortable place in the mountain, along the banks of the rivers to live. That was the only thing that seemed to comfort me. The bell chimed, and the banquet officially began. Rufus held my hand and led me to the main table along with the king and queen. The king sat at the head of the table wearing his traditional court dress. Rufus pulled out a chair like a gentleman and gestured for me to sit down.

I looked up at him and smiled gratefully. When I was about to sit down, Laura spoke, "Not everyone can sit at the main table. A slave belongs in the kitchen. Don't stain the good wine and dishes on the table." Laura raised her glass and took a sip, shooting a disdainful look at me. My body froze; I didn't know where to rest my hands and feet. My face flushed, and I couldn't contain my embarrassment. That was Laura's sly way of asking me to get out.

However, Rufus placed his hands on my shoulders and gently thrust me on the chair. I couldn't help but steal a glance at Laura. The anger and hate on her face seemed to embarrass me even more. I wished the ground would open and swallow me alive to save me from the humiliation. Laura snorted and opened her mouth to say something, but Ethan interrupted her.

"It's a family dinner today. We don't have to be too formal. Just sit down and wait for the dishes," Ethan said softly. His voice was hoarse, and he coughed from time to time. Perhaps the rumors were true —
it seemed like he was in poor health. Laura couldn't disobey the king's orders. Therefore, she drank the red wine as she continued to shoot daggers at me.

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We were the only ones sitting at the main table. I was sitting with Rufus; Laura and Alina sat opposite us. The two were chatting happily. I didn't bother uttering a word or showing my presence in any way after what just happened. "Where is Richard?" Rufus suddenly asked. The air grew thick with tension. I was confused because it looked like Laura and others didn't want to mention Prince Richard. "I was supposed to preside over the army running today." Ethan smiled awkwardly. "But I was not feeling well, so I asked your younger brother to do that. He hasn't come back yet." Laura
put her glass down, looking a little dissatisfied. "Rufus should be responsible for big events like these. You should just postpone the banquet and let Rufus go. How could you let Richard go instead?" "When will the dishes be served?" Rufus interrupted Laura. Sensing his annoyance, I subconsciously reached out to grab his hand under the table to comfort him. But soon, I realized it was inappropriate for me to do so. Therefore, I withdrew my hand. However, Rufus quickly grabbed my wrist.

Chapter 25 The Banquet He looked calm and composed; his vice-
like grip stopped me from withdrawing my hand. The warmth of his fingers seeped into my body. Just then, the main dish was served. I looked at the succulent piece of steak and gulped. My gaze involuntarily flitted to Alina. She exuded grace and poise. After cleaning her hands, she tucked the napkin and
gracefully picked the knife and fork. It was not until then that I realized I had no clue about dining etiquette.

Chapter 26 Embarrassment

Sylvia's POV: I bit my lower lip and looked at the steak. I had no clue what to do. It once again made me feel that I didn't belong with them. I stole a glance at Rufus, who was sitting beside me. He was cutting the steak and didn't seem to notice my embarrassment.

The royal family followed stringent table etiquettes. I had learned a bit about it before. But I was too young back then. I don't remember any of it now. I had become a slave after my mother died. Therefore, I never got to attend such occasions. I would have been a happy and elegant lady if my mother was still alive. I would give anything and everything just in exchange of my mother being with me. Thinking about my mother seemed to depress me even more. However, now wasn't the time to get immersed in sadness. I tried to ward off the negative emotions and carefully sliced the steak. Perhaps because I was too nervous and exerted more strength than necessary while cutting, the metal knife scraped against the plate, making a harsh noise. My face flushed with embarrassment, and I didn't dare to look up. "Do you need a maid to serve you?" Alina asked considerately. Her voice was soft and mellow, making it impossible to find fault in her. Knowing that everyone was staring at me, I buried my head lower.

Laura sneered at me. "You better call a maid over. Lowly slaves like her are just filthy," she ordered coldly.

Although she muttered the last sentence, it was still audible to everyone. "No, thanks," I hissed through my teeth. I endured the embarrassment and picked up the knife and fork to eat.

Just then, the plate in front of me was suddenly taken away. I looked up, my eyes widening in surprise. Rufus placed his plate of steak he had cut in front of me and exchanged it with my steak. "Eat." Rufus patted my head. I looked up and saw the smile on Alina's face vanish right away. Her eyes were full of disbelief. "Rufus! What are you doing?! How could you cut steak for a lowly she-wolf?" Laura was seething with rage.

"Your Majesty, please calm down." Alina walked up to her and persuaded in a soft voice.

"Laura?" Ethan called, and everyone instantly fell silent. He took a sip of red wine and looked at her. "The steak is delicious. Don't you want to try more?" Although it was a simple statement, one couldn't miss the warning in his voice. It looked like he wanted to let this matter slide without embarrassing Laura.

Laura also sensed Ethan's dissatisfaction, so she didn't continue making a fuss. She nodded and sat down sullenly.

I felt the queen would never forget me after what happened today. I guessed I would have a hard time living in the palace.

Chapter 26 Embarrassment I stole a glance at Rufus; he was calmly cutting the steak as if nothing had happened.

"Don't bother about it. Just eat," he said calmly as if he had noticed my gaze.

His calmness

set my mind at ease. I picked up a piece of steak that Rufus had cut and slowly ate it. Rufus was right. I should stop worrying about things I couldn't control and start eating. I had lived a difficult life. Now that I had escaped the quagmire, it was time to really live for myself. The steak was delicious. It not only soothed my stomach but also uplifted my mood.

Chapter 27 Military School

Sylvia's POV:

Right after dinner, Rufus took me away, regardless of how others would react.

"Uh, is it really appropriate for us to be seen like this?" I whispered nervously as I followed him.

"Well, do you want to turn back now?" Rufus raised an eyebrow and looked at me. At this time, only a few lights illuminated the balcony area. Rufus stood with his back to the light, making it look like he had a halo of moonlight around his head. He pretended to walk back. "No! I don't." I hurriedly grabbed his wrist. "I was just asking." He stopped easily. Was he just kidding around? No. What was a lycan's business with making jokes?

I pushed aside such ridiculous thought. Rufus led me downstairs, and we met up with a gentle-faced she-wolf who was waiting in the hall. "Good evening, Prince Rufus. Good evening, Miss Todd." She bowed politely. "Sylvia, this is Maya. She is going to be your personal maid. When

I'm not around, she will be the one to help you with anything." Rufus looked at me seriously. I was speechless. I was technically still a slave. How could I have my own personal maid? I turned to Maya. She had a round face and her hair was tied neatly back into a simple ponytail. She smiled a lot, which I appreciated. Seeing that I was still at a loss with this new information, Maya took the initiative to start the conversation. It didn't take long for me to like her very much. With her by my side, I knew it would help make me feel safer in the imperial palace. "Prince Rufus, wait." A guard came rushing over. "The queen would like to see you." As usu

al, Rufus took his time and didn't reply immediately. Instead, he turned to me. There seemed to be worry in his eyes. When I realized he was worried about leaving me, I nudged him gently and said softly, "Go." Reluctantly, Rufus nodded and then looked at Maya. "Show Sylvia around the imperial palace." With that last command, Rufus left.

The whole way through, Maya talked. She took me out for a walk, showing me the different routes and important landmarks of the imperial palace. I nodded attentively and took mental notes, hoping I wouldn't get lost here again. A magnificent building not so far away then came into sight. It was brightly lit and bustling with people. It seemed that those who were gathering were a bunch of well-dressed young werewolves. Naturally, I was curious.

"What's going on over there?" I asked Maya.

"That's the Royal Military School. Today must be the start of a new term. That's why there are a lot of people there." Maya smiled and then tilted her head at me. "Do you want to go and have a look?" I nodded in a trance and walked with Maya.

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"Is this school only for aristocrats?" I wanted to clarify. After all, the school had the word "Royal" in it, so

Chapter 27 Military School I assumed it was just for nobility. "Not exactly. This school was just established by the royal family to train young werewolves with military talent. Anyone with outstanding potential should be allowed admission..." "Hey, watch out!" A voice from afar shouted, interrupting Maya. I looked at the direction where the voice came from and saw a football flying fast right toward my head. Maya saw this and instinctively wanted to shield me from the ball. But I quickly pushed her away and flew into a spinning kick, sending the football in another direction. When I came back to my senses, I heard loud cheering. Several young men rushed over to me, panting. They apologized for the football and also praised me for that good kick. All the compliments made me shy, so I just smiled and said nothing. "Beautiful lady, may we know who you are?" One of them looked at me with bright eyes full of amazement. "Wait, let me guess. Are you a princess?" Just when I opened my mouth to reply, a high-pitched voice came from the crowd. "Don't bother asking. She's nothing but a slave!" A she-wolf walked out of the crowd.

What was she doing here?

Chapter 28 Public Humiliation

Cherry's POV:

When I noticed that a group of werewolves was praising Sylvia, I was so angry that my heart ached. "She's a slave, and she is definitely not worthy of your praises!" As I spoke, I walked towards them. When I got closer to them, my eyes widened in shock. Sylvia's beautiful clothes, delicate makeup, and noble temperament seemed to blend well with the magnificent palace. I couldn't believe my eyes. It had only been a few days. How could she change so much? She was just a mere ant under my feet. But now, she was being flattered and praised by everyone. Jealousy flooded in me like a stream.

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Seeing that Sylvia's face turned pale, I added fuel to the fire. "She is a slave from our pack. She is the daughter of a traitor. Perhaps because she is so good in bed that the lycan prince has brought her to the imperial city to serve him and satisfy his physical needs." She bit her lower lip and scowled at me. "It turns out she is a sex slave!" someone in the crowd shouted.

And his words were enough to make everyone start to scorn her. "How can the daughter of a traitor deserve to stand here with us?" "A slave will always be a slave. Even if she wears fancy clothes, she can't hide the stench in her body." "If you didn't tell us, we won't even notice it. Damn! What's that smell? It's so disgusting." "She's rotten on the inside, and her blood stinks. Nothing can ever take off that stench."

I crossed my arms over my chest and looked at Sylvia smugly. I saw that she clenched her fists tightly and lowered her head. She never said a word. It seemed that she was really good at enduring pain and humiliation.

At this time, several werewolves close to me surrounded Sylvia and began grabbing her clothes, and shoved her away. "Stop it!" The plump servant beside Sylvia reached out to stop them. However, one of the werewolves slapped her on the face and pushed her away. I watched the scene leisurely. My heart was so happy seeing Sylvia being humiliated. Well, a lowly slave like her only deserved this. While watching Sylvia being besieged, I suddenly heard Allen's voice.

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"Cherry, are you tired? You might be thirsty. Drink some water first." As he spoke, he took out a gold plated thermos flask from his bag and handed it to me.

I knew

that he was doing everything to please me, but I just felt annoyed. He liked me a lot, but I wasn't interested in him. He was just a son of a Beta from a remote pack. He didn't deserve me.

"That's enough!" I really lost my patience this time. His silly behavior irked me so much that I glared at him and threw the expensive thermos flask into the trash can. "If you keep talking, you will end up like that thermos flask. I will fucking throw you into the trash can!" He flinched back in fear and did not dare to say a word anymore. He looked at me from time to time. Fright was evident in his eyes. Then I turned my head and continued appreciating the catfight not far away.

Chapter 28 Public Humiliation I didn't want to come to this useless royal academy, but my father forced me. He never really cared about me. The only thing that mattered to him was his ambitions.

Actually, he ordered me to come here just to make sure that everyone in the imperial city knew that Sylvia was the daughter of a traitor, and they would chuck her out.

But it wasn't only that. What was even more ridiculous was that my father wanted me to destroy the relationship between Sylvia and Prince Rufus and seduce him, so he would abandon Sylvia and choose me. How could I waste my time doing stupid things like this? I didn't even care about Sylvia, who was a weakling and a crybaby. Besides, how could Prince Rufus like her? She was just a plaything to him. Perhaps he would only kill when he got bored of her. I had always been confident about my beauty. Seducing a werewolf was just a piece of cake. But Prince Rufus was not my type. His barbaric nature frightened me. Although he was the most handsome and charming lycan, his erratic mood swings were bothersome. What if I accidentally angered him? He might lose his mind for a second and kill me.

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I preferred Prince Richard. I heard that he was a real gentleman. It would be nice if I could get a chance to meet him.

Although I didn't want to come here at first, I still felt that my trip was worthwhile if I saw Sylvia via being despised by everyone.

Chapter 29 Confrontation

Rufus's POV:

The queen's hall was brightly lit. The servants were on their knees, fearing that they would be implicated.

I casually walked in. Just then, a teacup shattered at my feet. "What's making you angry, mother?" I smiled at her. "How dare you question me?" My mother dramatically slumped on the sofa with a grumpy look on her face.

I walked over and sat beside her, ignoring her tone.

Like my father, my mother, too, liked smashing things when she got angry. "You can leave now." I waved my hand, gesturing for the servants to leave. My mother glanced at me and waved the fan in her hand to get some air. "Get rid of that she-wolf." "She has a name. It's Sylvia." I stretched back and cracked my knuckles without taking her words seriously. "I don't care what her name is. She is a slave, after all." My mother snorted and threw her fan aside. "You are a prince of the royal family. Protecting a lowly she-wolf like this will only ruin the dignity and reputation of our family." "Sylvia is my mate. I've accepted her," I said frankly.

My mother's face darkened even more.

I arched an eyebrow and examined her face. She was seething with rage. I poured her a cup of warm tea and slid it toward her. "Mother, I hope you understand." Laura threw the cup on to the floor. "Ridiculous!"

She sprang to her feet and scowled at me. The corner of her mouth sank, revealing the wrinkles. "I will never allow a she-wolf of humble status to be your mate. My daughter-in-law must be a she-wolf from a noble bloodline."

I sneered at her. I had never expected my parents to accept Sylvia like I do. After all, bloodline and status were more important to them than anything else. But it didn't matter because I didn't need their approval. "You are the heir to the lycan king. Do you want such a she-wolf to lead all the werewolves with you in the future? Everyone will laugh at you!" My mother

er's chest was heaving with rage. She took deep breaths and turned to look at me. "Richard has become more arrogant and aggressive off late. He has even begun to interfere in political affairs. If you don't marry a mate from a powerful background, he will trample you!" My heart sank at her words. I felt sorry for my mother because she didn't know the truth. She didn't know that I was cursed, nor did she know that my father had decided to give up on me and let Richard inherit the throne. But I didn't intend to explain anything to my mother because it would only make things worse.

"Alina is a good choice. I want you to marry her. Her father is an Alpha and belongs to the lycan bloodline as well. Only such a she-wolf deserves you," my mother tried persuading me to marry Alina yet again. "Mother, stop it! Don't try persuading me. I only want Sylvia in my life," I said, staring into my mother's

Chapter 29 Confrontation eyes. When I said that, my thoughts instantly wandered to Sylvia. If she heard what I said, she would panic like a little rabbit.

"But don't worry. I've promised father that I won't make our mate bond public until we prove that Sylvia's mother is innocent," I continued, ignoring my mother's reaction. "You've already made up your mind, haven't you?" Her face turned livid, and her lips trembled. I could tell that she was trying her best to control her emotions. "Yes. So please quit persuading me and send Alina back." "You!" My mother shook her head fiercely. "Prince Rufus!" Just then, a piercing scream from the hallway caught our attention. Maya ran in breathlessly. "What happened? Why are you in such a hurry?" I asked, frowning. "Please save Miss Todd. A group of werewolves at the Royal Military School have besieged her. I... I couldn't stop them. They were all bullying Miss Todd.." Maya cried anxiously. My heart leaped to my throat. Before Maya finished her words, I immediately stood up and rushed to the Royal Military School.

Chapter 30 Counterattack

Sylvia's POV: I was surrounded by all sorts of noise. Although they were dressed in gorgeous clothes, their mouths spouted the most vicious of words. Their eyes were full of hatred, as if they were nailing me to the cross in their minds. Several she-wolves pulled on my dress. The accessories keeping my hair up had already fallen out. I crossed my arms over my chest, trying not to let my dress fall. I tried pushing them away and escaping from this siege, but more and more werewolves just kept appearing. They all had ferocious smiles on their faces, like famished predators finally seeing prey again after a long time. My body had frozen up. With my fists clenched, I was preparing to fight back, but I stumbled on my high heels and fell to the ground. My dress was an absolute mess and my

hair had just fallen loosely down my shoulders. I looked completely miserable and disheveled, like a helpless, broken boat being tossed around by the ocean's violent waves. Maya had disappeared to somewhere. It was good she was not here. It was better that I suffer this humiliation alone. "Are you always horny whenever you see a man, bitch? Well, you deserve to get played by men anyway!" "You think you look so good in that dress? Do you really think it makes you a lady? Take it off! You don't deserve to wear that!" "I mean, just look at her face. She's practically born to be a tramp!" The she-wolves took turns insulting me with so much gusto. It was as if I had dug up the graves of their families with how much anger they were venting at me. The male werewolves stood on the side to watch the show, some even whistling obnoxiously. Holding back my tears, I tried to get up but Cherry quickly pulled my hair and grabbed my face forcefully. There was bitterness written all over Cherry's face. Her thick black eyeliner made her expression look all the more upset, and it didn't help that her voice was so unpleasant and high-pitched. "Listen here, you little bitch. Don't even think for a second that you will live a better life here at the imperial palace. You are going to stay a slave. You're nothing but a slut, just like your mother. Look, your mother never even knew who your father was because she slept with random men. Who knows? Maybe you'll be an even greater slut than your mother." When I heard Cherry's words, my mind went blank. My vision turned red and I found the

strength to shove Cherry to the ground. "Do not talk about my mother that way!" Without thinking twice, I slapped her hard across

the face. I thought I could endure this beating tonight, but I was not going to tolerate any slander about my mother. Cherry had crossed the line. "Bitch, let go of me!" Cherry shrieked. She tried to grab my hair again to push me away, but she couldn't I glared at Cherry and slapped her with my hand a few more times. "Did your mother never teach you manners? I think it's time you've learned your lesson!" "This she-wolf! She's crazy! Damn it, hurry up and get her off of me!" Cherry cried out to the others. My body felt like an overbearing force was just flowing uncontrollably out of it. I had lost all reason and the only thing on my mind was to beat Cherry up. I was determined to make those who insulted my mother pay the rightful price. Some of the other she-wolves grabbed my shoulders and tried to pull me away. "Fuck off!" I turned to them with wild eyes. "Don't touch me unless you want to die like her!" They were frightened and stopped in their tracks, looking at each other. For a moment, no one dared to stop me. I pulled Cherry up from the ground by her hair. Her face had gotten swollen and red from all the slapping, but she still didn't seem to run out of curses. In my anger, I slapped her once more. I didn't care about anythin

g anymore. Since I was at a low point in my life, I didn't care what I did with it. If I had to die today, at least I died overcoming my enemies. "You bitch, I'm going to kill you!" At this time, a male werewolf in gold uniform was rushing up to me. He waved a golden flask in his hand, his weapon of choice to smack my head with. "How dare you beat up the goddess of my heart? You're going to die tonight!" I simply turned my head and pushed him away. He fell to the ground and looked at me in disbelief. "What? How did you do that?" Murmurs filled the air. I heard mocking voices from the crowd, but they were directed at the male werewolf on the ground who couldn't even get close to the slave girl. I sneered and chuckled, finally calming down. At this, the werewolf's face darkened as he glared at me. "I will kill you today!" He stood up and roared, running toward me again. I shoved Cherry to the ground and turned to him, ready to fight. Just as he was close enough, I was going to take the opportunity to kick him in the groin, but the hem of my dress had gotten caught. I had lost my balance and stumbled to the ground. The werewolf grabbed my hair with his fist and pinned me to the ground. "Maybe if you kneel and call me master, I can let you go," he snorted. He pulled on my hair so hard that I thought it was all going to come off. I gritted my teeth painfully. "Since when did a dog like you learn to speak like that?" "You bitch!" The werewolf's eyes widened with anger and I saw him look at the tear on my dress. I could tell he was up to no good.

to counterattack I struggled against his grip in desperation, but he had gotten too firm of a hold on me. Just when I was about to transform into a wolf, a man with golden hair and dressed in military uniform appeared, stopping the farce with his men.