The Alpha King's Human Mate by HC Dolores

Chapter 103

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Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3) Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

"The free wash is the brainwash."

Sol Luckman

Aria and Liam fell into a blissful routine together.

She'd bring him his evening drink in his office, he'd fuck her over the desk. The moments that Aria cherished, however, happened after. They happened after he'd helped her clean up the mess they'd created together, when he pulled her into his lap and vented his frustrations to her. She'd listen and let him stroke her hair.

Still, she couldn't help but notice the parade of flushed, half-dressed girls that would leave his room in the morning. She knew he wasn't the only one he was having sex with.

But there was no way Liam was venting to those girls the same way he did to her. No way he was holding them close and stroking their hair. Aria didn't know, but she knew.

She was special.

She had to be.

Unfortunately, that blissful routine only lasted a handful of months. Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

Things changed when she came.

"She's my bargaining chip," Liam told her, his eyes lit up as he stroked her hair. His excitement was infectious. When Liam was happy, she was happy. She'd hardly noticed when he'd left claw marks on her hips this, time, she knew he hadn't meant to.

"With her in my possession, he'll do whatever I want," Liam continued, "I could make him a puppet king if I wanted."

"I thought you wanted to kill him," she said quietly.

Aria saw some of the light in his eyes dampen, and her stomach dropped. She'd said the wrong thing. She'd questioned him. She should've known better ~ a powerful Alpha like Liam didn't need her questioning his decisions.

"Lam going to kill him," Liam said, his voice tinged with annoyance as he took another sip of his drink. This was his third one in the span of an hour, but he was celebrating.

"I'm just considering the possibilities now that I've got a king in my pocket," he said, He paused and looked at her. "See? This is why 'm going to rule - I consider the possibilities, all of my options."

"You'll be a great ruler," Aria replied automatically.

"But I'll need to keep that girl under wraps," he said, and he was almost slurring his words. "She can't die ~ not yet. No major injuries, Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

she'll need at least one meal a day." His eyes found Aria's again. "You'll take care of her, won't you, sweetheart? You can do this favor for me?"

One of his hands squeezed her hip as he spoke, and Aria held back a

wince. She also didn't hesitate. "Of course, Alpha. Whatever you need."

He gave her a dry smile. "That's what | like about you, sweetheart. You're always so eager to please. Obedient. I know I can trust you to

keep an eye on her."

Liam's praise sent her heart pounding.

The girl had not been what Aria was expecting.

Well, Aria hadn't been sure what to expect of a human girl, but this wasn't it.

"You said you worked for 'the cause," the redhead said, sipping from a water bottle that Aria had brought. She looked dirty and worn down, and Aria wondered if the dirt from the cell kept that dress glued to her skin. She could imagine it was beautiful when it was new, but it was nothing but ruined now. She'd need to discard it — not that she'd ever get the chance to. "How did you get involved with Alpha Liam?"

Aria didn't like all the personal questions from this girl, but she was Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

convincing. It's not as if she could tell anyone, and Alpha Liam had said to take care of her.

She hadn't meant to let it slip that she shared Alpha Liam's bed. She especially didn't like the pity that flashed through the human girl's eyes — who was she to pity her? She wasn't the one sitting in a cell.

Maybe it was because of that pitiful look that she decided to tell Alpha Liam the girl had enough time to think.

He nodded thoughtfully when she told him that night in his office, perched in his lap like usual.

"Good," he said, "It's about time." "Do you think she'll choose to return to the human world?" Aria asked.

Alpha Liam let out a breathy chuckle. "Maybe, but it doesn't matter," he said, "I can respect a human that knows her place, but I'll never let her leave. She has too many connections to this world, even once I kill that boy. But it's easier to let her think she could get out of this alive,

prevents her from getting desperate."

Aria wasn't sure why, but something about that made her awfully sad. She wasn't sure why, but deep down, she wanted the human girl to live.

And then everything went to hell. Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

Griffin had seen through Alpha Liam's plans. He'd come to kill Liam directly, he hadn't been lured to Ezra's pack like he was supposed to.

They were under attack, and Aria felt frozen.

This wasn't supposed to happen ~ she wasn't supposed to fight. Alpha Liam, and the men who followed him, were supposed to protect her. When she saw one of the other girls get their throat torn out, she did the only thing she knew how to do: hide. (*

The closet was cramped and dark and she could still hear the bloodshed outside, but at least her throat was still intact.

When the closet door finally opened, she prepared for someone to slit her throat or attack her. She wasn't expecting to find the human girl, Clark, peering at her with wide eyes.

"Please," she whimpered, "Don't hurt me. Please. I don't want to die." She wasn't even sure what she was saying as the words spilled out of her, but she knew she was begging. She didn't want to die like this.

When Clark asked her to make a choice between her side and Liam's, that self-preservation won through. At that moment, she was only terrified, and Clark offered some semblance of protection.

That protection felt very fragile, especially when Liam killed the only other werewolf with them. Aria had burst out sobbing at the sight of him all bloody. He wouldn't kill her, right? Not after all those nights they'd spent together. He loved her. Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

"Well, look what I've stumbled upon," he said, and there was more rage

in his eyes than Aria had ever seen. "Bait."

His eyes found hers, and hope swelled in her chest for — "And a traitorous whore."

That hope vanished.

There was no love in Liam's eyes, no semblance of affection for any of the time they'd spent together.

A realization crashed over her. She wasn't special. This man didn't care. He didn't love her. He was going to kill her right then and there, and all she was ever going to be was just another one of his girls.

She didn't hear anything else Liam and Clark said to each other ~ there was a loud ringing in her ears. She was going to die.

Everything else happened so fast.

Griffin killing Liam. Griffin threatening to kill her, Clark standing up for her, Griffin killing the same men she'd spent the past several years around. She expected to feel some sort of deep sadness when she watched those men die, but it never came.

All she felt was numbness.

She couldn't even feel the cold or the blanket that the healer had wrapped around her when she'd said she was shaking. Bonus Chapter - Aria & Sebastian (3)

Aria was alive, and yet, her life was over.

She was useless now. Just another one of Liam's girls.

She glanced around the clearing, her eyes taking in the survivors. Or the victors, she should say. There were no survivors from Liam's side - except her. .')

And she didn't belong on Liam's side anymore. Or to Liam.

As she glanced at the crowd, her eyes landed on one particular man. He was tall and broad-shouldered with rich brown hair and blue eyes.

Her heart sped up.

She wasn't sure she'd ever seen such a handsome man in her life. She wondered what those strong arms would feel like wrapped around her.

Her wolf agreed, purring deep in her head. The man turned his head, and then, their eyes met.

Mate.