

Ascension of a Gamma

Chapter 25 Perfect

flettkon

I'm lying in bed, trying to get my mind off the flash of pain I saw in her eyes. I chided it, and not guilt was eating at my conscience. I had no choice but to hide the truth from her. I couldn't tell her, and her ignorance would protect her. As long as she didn't know more than what she needed to know, I could keep her with me.

Gale understood, and he would keep Lexy in check since she was easily carried away with her emotions and morality. I hoped to listen in on them, but Salina found me. After she screamed my name, anyone would

Fuck Cruel mate. She seriously kicked me down there, twice, in one day! I deserved it, but our future generations didn't.

A chuckle escaped me. My fiery Anna she was unlike any other woman I've met before. As an Alpha, I could get anything I wanted, including women and I bet she was the only woman in the world who had the guts to deal damage to my pride.

"I think about it," he said, "Then we can both call you creative names."

"Not happening You're not showing yourself in front of her again."

You're just jealous cause she ran her fingers through my fur," he said, Smirking.

I blocked him. They were all stressing me out and the day was far from over. The bathroom door opened, and the scent of lavender filled the room. I didn't have to look to know that Salina was standing by the doorway, with her white cotton bathrobe worn loosely on her tall and slender frame to show off her thighs and cleavage. After months of living with her, I'd already grown somewhat immune to her efforts to seduce me.

It was hardest during my heat cycle, "having a gorgeous woman sleeping

beside me at night was almost unbearable

to resist, but somehow, I manage. I had no interest in Salina, in any way, never did and never will. Lexy had ruined my thinking with her moral talks – I should value myself for my mate. Besides, I'd never stop so low as to fuck my first mate's sister, no matter how desperately

I needed relief.

My mate, Anna Bella Fiora, I now knew her name without having to ask her for it. Her name suited her just right – her parents must've thought long and hard on what to name her.

Hopefully, she wouldn't try to leave – she'd have no chance at succeeding. My Warriors would capture her and bring her back in less than three minutes. I didn't want it to have to be this way, but I had no choice.

"Put some clothes on, Salina. You're wasting your time standing there."

"Still won't look at me?" she asked.

I ignored her and thought of how to introduce my mate tonight. The pack would be glad that they'd have their Luna, and that she was my mate. I'd have

1.1. And that she was my Mate. The Talk to my Hemant the preparats – he also had to report to me the TUTTENS during my absence. Regular Alpha duties. Maybe when this was all over, I could take a break and go somewhere with my mate to unwind – just the two of us, no children to babysit, and by children, I can't Lexy and Gale. Sighing deeply, I sat up, flinging my legs to the side of the ba.

"What are you doing?" I asked in anger

Salina's naked body greets my lineal sight. I immediately looked away, dismissing the deeply hidden thoughts that made their way back into the surface of my mind.

"Seducing you," she said boldly. Her newly showered scent grew stronger as she came nearer. "Like what you saw? We're exactly the same, her and I"

"She's nothing like you, Salina," I spat. "Put some clothes on,"

"There's no need for it," she said sweetly. I felt her presence in front of me, "and her hands kneaded my thighs. I

grabbed her wrists to pull them away as

alle kuin

the floor and outdura

"Look, Lam," she said her hands moving

is there. I clenched my*, hard, as memories of her kept coming back. It would be disturbing that she was rising that voice on me – the same pelle voice that my male used to bring my walls down, every damn time, instead I found it comforting. It brought a pain in my chest that I could rid of, but one that I wouldn't dare furot.

A hand held the side of my face, startling me. I looked at her.

A gentle expression stared back at me, her lips in a put and eyes that sparkled with innocence. I gulped as my eyes swept over the tops of her breasts and thighs. Her hands crept up to my abdomen, slowly making their way to my chest, and she rose to her feet as she pushed me back down onto the mattress, her eyes never leaving mine.

And in them, all I could see was her, and “the way she used to look at me with the same innocent expression on her

* Get off me.” Tordered but instead of aleyin. she placed soft ldeges on my uck while her slender fingers unbuttoned my shirt. Then she ground her lips on minr, awakening that which she shouldn’t. Exactly the same, Alpha,” she whispered in my ear, biting it

She used to do the same. She used to be 50 ... fucking gentle

My hands instinctively traced the perfect curves of her body, her smooth skin heavenly. Applying more pressure, my fingers dug into her soft flesh and wished to touch more of her. I could smell her arousal and the fragrance of lavender.” Outside... and inside, exactly like her.”

Smooth and soft, just like her.

Her breathing labored and a moan escaped her lips. “Alpha...

I squeezed her ass cheeks hard and massaged them, pressing her center into – my already hard dick.

She came my

1. E. “LATI... More

Hut it reminded me of her. Begging me Tarmore, just like her. Mmaning my name, just like her

I couldn’t take it anymore. Her volce, her skin, her much – everything was exactly like her

I grabb hold of her and flipped us, so 1 was on top. Now face to face with her, I didn’t see Salina. I saw my mate, looking at me – lust-filled emerald eyes and a beautifully sculpted face.

Just like her, my mate, my Sarina.

I bucked my hips and her mouth opened a s she gasped. Her hands pressed on my chest, then traveled down to my abs.

So soft..so good

"Sarina," I whispered, leaning forward to place we kisses on her jaw and neck Sarina."

Her legs wrapped around my hips and her

Mumuing braih me, completely under

Tunlooked her legs and holding them by the thighs, spread them wide. Her arms fell to her sides, clutching at the sheets

"I'm her, Alpha," she whispered.

The haze in my mind lifted in an instant. No one was like her. She wasn't her.

I pulled away from her and her brows litted

Alpha?"

What have I done?

This wasn't real, the memories were all that they were – just remnants of a past I would never relive. Apast that continued t o haunt me but I refused to forget for it was all that I had left of her. Sarina, my mate, my light – there was only ever one you and forever it'd stay that way.

"No," I said in between gritted teeth." You're not her."

Tood and hurriedly turned around, my heart hammering in my chest. I rerkedal her scent. Without bothering to button mi y shirt, I frantically took it off like it was a cursed item and threw it to the side. She called for me, but I kept walking out the door, out this mansion, and into the open fields. My pace picked up as I started to run to the back, into the woods, away from her, away from here.

As the trees came into view, I felt my bones dislocate and my senses heighten. I continued to run, faster, past the towering trees, avoiding low branches and arching roots, fallen dried leaves crunching under my feet. Then the sound of footsteps changed into something heavier and looking down I saw that my feet were now huge paws.

I ran and ran, pushing my lungs to the limits until they burned and ached for rest. But I didn't stop – I had to keep running. If I stopped, it would catch up to me – the memories of her. My mind remembered the way she used to smile at – me, how she laughed at the smallest

things, the cute little dimple on her right cheek that showed itself at every

THIETTI

| Provih. My hands

Erli, her with her moms. All of me

tiembre all of her like I just held her Yesterday, in my arms, on curd,

I had to run because if I stopped, it would be like I'd reached the end of this replay – when she laid Limp on my arms, EVITE Daarn. It'd be like the day after I buried her, whenilled on the same sheets that were cold without her, never to see her again, never to hear her again, Fever to feel her again.

So, I continued to run until my lungs gave up on me, forcing me to a sudden halt that I was thrown to the ground. I laid there, panting, then forced myself on my feet and took more steps forward.

I wanted to howl, long and loud until I ran out of air – to call for her, to let her know how much I missed her. But I held it back because no matter how loud I conveyed my longing, she would never hear me, and she would never return to me.

"A few more steps. I had to keep moving."

I must continue... because I refuse to accept that the memory ended there.

Chapter 26 Helpless Idiot

A week went by and I'd had SUCCESS

My pant – I'd been modeling Liam and his fiancée, Salima. Most of the time, I wiped up in my room, playing arcade games on my phone while waiting for Lexy to get off her shift at the pack clinic. When Gale had free time, he'd Coreover with Lexy and we'd spend our time chatting about anything or watching films. Other times, I'd take a stroll outside – I didn't dare visit the pack, so it was just within walking distance from the castle. Still, without anyone's lawless, I would sometimes sneak into the woods.

This territory belonged to the Red Claw pack – surely, there would be no surprise attacks or rogue attacks with the Alpha here. It was peaceful in the woods, and I didn't bother worrying about getting lost. I could always find my way back.

It was already mid-afternoon, but I couldn't feel the sweltering heat of the "sun" as the trees pretty much provided

refuge. I took my sweet time, walking to

look my sweet time, walking a Wrio Brunins where, going left and right but heading forwards. Turning a look back, the castle could no longer be seen, and the lotti shouting of the warrior training could no longer be heard.

Finally, some me time. I was still thinking about this whole maternal thing with Liam. Did I make the right decision by coming here? Is this what I wanted to do?

Funny how someone like me was destined to two Alphas, I kept praying to the goddess for an answer – what my purpose was.

Growing up, I knew what it was. It was denied to me and now, the red string of destiny led me to him, my second mate. I understood that I was supposed to accept the will of the goddess, but... a part of me wasn't sure that this was what I wanted for myself.

To be a Luna was a high honor and I would do everything in my human-level power to serve them, but.

There was always a but!

In my frustration. I pulled down on my

TFT my frustration, I pulled down on TY hair: I let out and thirty

decisions and this had kept me uplar

Letting out a long sigh, I shook my head i

get these thoughts out of my head. By tonight, I had to come to a conclusion – Liam was waiting for my answer. That night, he barged into my room without so much as a knock, all sweaty and breathing heavily. Upon seeing me, he engulfed me in a tight hug like he never wanted to let me go

He seemed afraid of something like he was going to lose me if he didn't hold me as close as possible to him, our bodies pressing against each other, I didn't say a word; raised a hand and ran it down his sweat-soaked back to comfort him.

I didn't know how long it lasted, but that moment only made me more confused." Stay," he breathed, breaking the silence, and I didn't have the heart to tell him "n1 O". I did tell him I'd think about it – that he give me a week 3

Then he suddenly pulled away, turned on

Then he suddenly pulled away, turned on This heels, and was out the door, leaving m I standing alone in my room, feeling like a discarded idiot, and maybe I am one. Something was disturbing him but if he didn't want to speak about it, I'd pretend t O По Пattle,

For the next few days, I hadn't seen him. which was totally fine with me. Better yet, I avoided an awkward moment with Salina. My luck was working at an all time high this week!

Taking out my phone from the back pocket of my jeans – why are women's jean pockets so small – I tapped on the screen twice and input the password. The wallpaper was a picture of Carson and Flynn – with the former grinning widely

and Flynn looking too serious, his brows creased. It was the first photo on my gallery, to remember them by – like I'd ever forget their faces.

I tapped on the phone icon and went to my contacts which only had three numbers – Carson's, Lexy's, and Gale's. I put off calling Carson because I didn't know what to tell him and I wasn't in the mood

io – he would've had the sites in my VOICE pot wantinHe already . lat to do buck at the pack, I didn't want n

Forcing a smile on my face and a small joyous Laughter, I got into character. I tapped on the call icon and it rang for a few seconds before he picked up

He assaulted me with questions right away, his voice sounding anxious as if something bad happened to me. "Anna? Are you alright? What happened? Where are you?"

"Wow..." I said, mentally giving myself a high five for delaying this call. Calm down, Carson. I'm fine."

He sighed. "It's only been a week and you're already calling I thought something happened. Sorry."

I let out a small gasp. "Something did happen!" I said excitedly.

"Are you going to tell me or are you going to keep squealing on the phone?"

"I missed you..." I whined.

checking Thre, Hon w ifriend

alking to my

check in Trw have you been

*Same as always," he said. "So... how are you doing there? What's it like to be

I could tell he was smiling at the other end. "A lot of work like you wouldn't believe."

He chuckled. "I take it Liam's treating you well?" he asked, and I bit on my lip.

Yes. It's... well, it needs getting used to," I said. "Still getting the hang of this mate thing

"You guys getting married yet?"

"We haven't talked about it yet." At least I had one truth to tell him today.

"You won't forget me, right?" he asked. * I must be there at all costs."

"Yes, Carson," I said, laughing "You'll be on the front row to watch it all happen... if it'll ever happen."

"* Ulim... I mean, he hasn't asked me yet...."

"IF! Anna, tell me honestly, is everything

A long pause "You know you can talk to me," he said. I'm here for you, Anna. I'll always be here for you. Say the word and I'll come to pick you up right now."

I let out a small laugh. "I'm fine, Carson." I said, a little exaggeratedly. I'm not as affected as the rest of you by the bond so... it's going to take some time for me to make this thing work. But I'm doing well, you don't have to worry SO much about me."

"Sorry," he said. "You're right. I was overthinking-things."

Someone yelled his name from the background, calling him.

"Sorry, Anna. Gotta go. I'll call you back later," he said then ended the call.

I stared at the screen which showed the

he Probably an emergency. I put the phone in my backpack and headed to head back

f

rather, I might reach the borders without me knowing – how fair was it anyway?

I lied to my best friend – I just placed myself in deeper waters. If Carson ever found out this mess I was in, he'd break down the gates if he had to just to get me out.

I'm ready. I'm going to talk to Liam

Once I get back, I was heading to Liam's office and we'd talk about this. The thought sent butterflies aflutter in my stomach = I'd have to face that jerk.

A branch snapped to my right, garnering my attention. A rustling came from my left; turning, there was no one there. My heart began to race in my chest, the castle was too far.

I picked up my pace, the rustling came again, this time from behind me. I turned to look but there was no one there, again.

* Please don't let it be a rogue.

My palms heated up and my throat dried.

Twitted to run. I didn't dance to my sides, focused on getting back as soon as possible. I reached for my phone, the rustling growing louder as whatever or whoever was out there chasing after me – this was an enemy. A friend would've let himself kan immediately.

I tapped the call button for Gale and his phone was ringing but he wasn't picking up – it was training hours! A growl came from behind me, deep and hungry.

It's a rogue!

The castle was so far away – I'd never make it in time. Sweat broke out in every pore of my body as my legs carried me as fast as they could – my heart pounding in my chest as my lungs expanded to take in as much oxygen as it could handle in every inhale.

I tapped on Gale's number again, but he wasn't picking up. The growl came again, louder this time. Tears welled up in my eyes at the thought of getting torn to pieces

Goddess. I don't want to die. I don't want

There was no Win lume in run awali UNT AITV Teens logh . In the whids, I w anhelpless prey. The rol was playing with me for now, enjoying the che, but it won't let me get to close to the pack that he'd be detected.

Itapped on Lexy's number. It was ringing but she wasn't picking up – she was on her shift!

Goddess, please...

One persuti came to mind and his number wasn't on my phone. I truly was an iol.

"LIAM!!!" I screamed at the top of my lungs. I was crying now, fear gripping my entire being, the adrenaline keeping me going. I didn't want to die... not yet. I still had too many things to do, too many questions to answer. I didn't want to die...

*LIAM!!!

Where are you? Why aren't you coming?

A browni wolf jumped in front of me and I suddenly stopped, visibly shaking. It sharled at me, thick drool dripping from

his mouth as he growled angrily at me. I fraze on the shit, my breathing coming i n short intakes.

His name left my mouth in a stutter. I couldn't scream...

Tears blurred my vision. The rogue snapped his jaws at me, and I flinched, taking a step back. He began to walls towards me, showing off his sharp teeth that in a few seconds would be digging deep into my flesh.

L-L-Liam... Li-Liam.... he-help me.”

Somebody... anybody... help me.

The rogue lunged for me, and I instinctively closed my eyes as my hand clutched at the empty vial on my neck. A shriek pierced through my throat, and the last thing in my mind's eye was Liam ... all sweaty and warm, hugging me tightly in his arms, his scent making my head spin. I'm sorry...

Chapter 27 Umarmored Knight

My back hit the ground, but that was all I felt – no sharp teeth an my skin, na thick slobber. Then I heard another growl, heard a heavy thud, followed by a whimper. I opened my eyes and to my left I sw that a new wolf had come from nowhere, baring his teeth at the rogue, who was lying to his side, bleeding from huis neck

I quickly got to my fert, preparing to sprint back, hoping the newcomer wouldn't notice. It was a wolf with brown and black fur and unlike the rogue whose wolf looked malnourished and savage, this one looked stronger and more composed.

The new wolf lunged for the rogue and I looked away. The image of the wolf ripping off the rogue's throat – I didn't want it ingrained in my memory. My legs scurried forward, and I rafi towards the castle. Whether it was a bad move or not “didn't matter. I just had to get back.

A growl came from behind. I heard it

Dailchimp to me. I didn't abik

It was suddenly in front of me, blockingm y path, its Wooly muzzle pointed at me. I t snarled as it walked towards me. This

he was marage but it killed its

human. Huit why?

Which pack was it from? Who sent him here?

It carried itself with a certain air of arrogance, deep green eyes cold and piercing, and it seemed to be smirking, knowing full well that it had already won. My breath hitched in my throat, my hands shaking, as my gaze met his.

.. my last days was... new friends... the call... Liam...

Was this what it was like when one was about to die – regrets, wishing I could've done better. Even this last week was full of pain and anger. But it wouldn't be so bad – I missed him.

I smiled at the wolf. "Don't make it hurt," I said before closing my eyes and welcoming death.

He yawned and his long eyelids fluttered as if he was yawning in Lily. Did it interrupt your sleep

He replied with a low growl which made me laugh. Shifting to his side, I hooked my arm around his neck and gave him a kiss. Then I nudged his head to my chest.

Thank you," I said,

He pulled away from me and I let go. He stood and went behind the trees, hidden from sight. "What's wrong?" I asked. Did I do something wrong?

"Would you prefer me clothed or naked?" he replied, in a deep manly voice that could make a woman fall in love. My cheeks heated up – at his voice or his question – I didn't know. He had that one in a million kind of voice that almost seemed inhuman due to its rarity.

Goddess, if this was his voice..

A hand came into view, holding a basketball short. "Well?" he asked, "I don't have all day, Anna."

TITLY M

.

"Which one would you prefer?" I asked, playing his game. His laughter sounded better, and I was totally boy crazy right now. If he emerged from there looking

My eyes widened as he showed himself, leaning on the tree with his arms folded across his chest and a smirk on his handsome face. He was too good looking, and he knew it, and he was flaunting it at me. Every muscle in his body was well-defined and well proportioned, giving him a neat sexy look. And his abs were hot – I counted eight – my eyes following the deep V line that led to...

I looked away.

He chuckled, knowing I just eye raped him. He was arrogant, but he had a reason to be "Like what you see?"

"I've seen better," I replied. When the warriors back at the pack were training, the Omegas would spy at them from the mansion's windows, giggling to themselves as they picked out their

PHOTOS – I wasn't Carson, it was the nerdiest one. None of them really. Niech testy ITH, pl Carson but ta' was more because of the curse, so this man standing in front of me was literally having a dream come true. Straight up the TTL of my dreams

"Who are you?" I asked, finding my tongue. He knickered, then was suddenly in my face

"Your hero," he said, minutely breath blowing on my face

"Uh... I guess," I said, distancing myself from him. What was he doing in the forest, naked of all things! "I meant to ask your name."

Rigel," he replied, "Rigel Johnson, Head Gamma of the Red Claw Pack and your knight without an armor, Lima."

He's perfect.

#Anna Bella Fiora. And I'm not your

I turned to head back to the castle, my eyes satisfied. "You weren't in training?" I asked, making small talk

"#Skipped it today. Probably the most important decision in my life," he said, smiling down at me,

I thought I was a poner."

You accepted it so easily."

"There was no way for me to fight you."

"You have your arms and legs, don't you?" he asked, "You have your nails and teeth, don't you?"

My brows furrowed, "Where.. are you going with this?"

"I'm saying you don't need a weapon. You don't need a wolf. When the rogue was chasing you, you wanted to live, didn't you?"

Y-Yes?" I did, which was why I was trying so hard to run and call

You have the will to live and the fearlessness to accept death. If you come across a life and death situation next time, choose your will. Then the fearlessness will follow”

“I don’t think I understand you,” I mumbled while looking down. “Wait,

“We don’t get to decide that, nicw do we?”

I bit my lip. No, we didn’t. We had no way of knowing what might happen tomorrow, just as I didn’t know I was going to get attacked today, just as I didn’t know I was going to get saved. We didn’t know what tomorrow might bring. so... might as well take risks and live with no regrets.

“nothing,” I said, smiling. His arrogance would bloat if I told him. Next time, I’ll be saving you

“Nothing?” he asked, stretching his arms over his head

How did a rogue get into the territory?” I asked, “I mean..this belongs to the Red Claw Pack!”

“I’ll look into it,” he said, yawning.” Don’t think too much about it.”

Don’t think – I almost died! Stopping on my tracks, I looked up at his flawlessly handsome face and tried my best to stare at him. In a way, he reminded me of Carson his competition by far. They’d probably get along just fine.

He raised a brow at me and bent down so his face was close to mine. “I want you to remember that when you called for the Alpha, it was I who saved you... and I’ll save you again as many times as I have to. I’m your knight now, Anna. Get used to

He stood and continued walking Besides, I don’t want you losing a limb or breaking a nail or losing a tooth. It’ll lessen your appeal, and frankly, you don’t have much.” Scratch that – he’d be more annoying to Carson than I ever was – I had to up my game. Catching up to him, I linked my arm with his, the feel of his hard biceps simply amazing i

What are you doing?”

“Clinging to my knight,” I replied nonchalantly

“Harder.”

He held my hand and slid it into his upper arm, my palm digging into his flesh Goddess, help me, I didn’t know what came over me my hand squeezed and... his laughter rang in my ears. Heat crept up to my face; what was I doing!

“If only Liam could see you now!” | slapped his arm at the comment. Liam didn’t have to know about this – about the rogue, yes, but not...

"Oh, I can," said a voice from our left. Liam stood there, his hands shifting back into their human form. His eyes cold and locked on where I was clinging to Rigel. A rumble came from his chest.

Trolled my eyes at him – whatever. I wasn't the one keeping both a fiance and a mate under the same roof. Rigel was unaffected by his Alpha's warning. He smiled like Liam didn't look like he was about to beat him up. "A bit late, don't you think?" he said, raising his chin slightly. "If I wasn't here, you'd be Seeing her in an entirely different scene right now."

Mam's mosiris flareil, hit he didn't attack him like he did to Flynn. "Mave.

"Gladly," he replied, tugging me with him as he turned liis back on Lian and

He stopped. I glanced at Liam, at Rigel, then back at Liam.

"Let her go. Now."

Rigel stood silent, his smirk gone, replaced with a tight line. "What do you say, Anna?" he asked in a bored tone. He looked down at me, fluttered his long eyelashes as his lips pursed into a pout. "Do you want me to let you go?"

Amuffled snicker came from me he was childishly cute. "Do you want met o?" I asked playfully and he shook his head. I leaned into him and we continued walking "Then I won't... my knight."

I turned my head and saw him stomping over to us. "I'll see you at your office

o," I said, and he froze, eyebrows furrowing. "Alone... my Alpha." I voiced the last two words as softly as I could, trying my hardest not to smile as his eyes widened in shock. Oh, look at that – he calmed down.

"That's a cool trick," Rigel whispered.

"It is, isn't it." Seriously, everyone around here behaved like children.