

## Chapter 98 Conversation By The River

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Warren's POV:

I couldn't bear to see Sylvia's pallid face. However, my mind instantly flitted to Alina. Thinking how upset she would be to see Sylvia at the ball, I gritted my teeth and decided to continue speaking. I had to make her see the reality and ruin all her hopes. That was the only way I could stop her from attending the ball.

"You must have heard about Lucy, right?" I asked.

Everyone knew that Lucy had become Prince Richard's mate. Moreover, Sylvia had a well-informed talkative friend, Flora. So I knew the news was no surprise to her.

However, she didn't say anything but just looked at me and nodded. Her eyes lost their glow and suddenly looked dull.

I gazed at the reeds by the river and sighed. Sylvia's sadness bothered me. "I got the news that Prince Richard is going to take Lucy to the ball and announce their wedding date in public. Lucy has a noble background, but you are just a slave."

Sylvia's jaw tightened when she heard that. Tears welled up in her melancholic eyes. I held my head with my hand and slumped down. Perhaps someday in the future Alina would be with another man, someone came from a noble family as well. The thought of me not being the reason for her happiness broke my heart.

I had thought only parting with Alina would hurt me. However, Sylvia's teary eyes made me upset even more. I was depressed. I had a lot to say but didn't know where to begin.

I stood up awkwardly and pretended to be cold. "Anyway, you better not attend the ball. Not only Lucy, but Alina will also be there. She is the daughter of Alpha Leonard, who has noble lycan bloodline. They are powerful people. Only her status and wealth are comparable with Lucy's. Moreover, everyone loves Alina."

I cleared my throat and added, "I don't want her to be unhappy because of you."

Sylvia snapped her head up to look at me. Her eyes widened as if she had understood something. "Why were you beating around the bush for so long? Alina asked you to say all this to me, didn't she?"

"No. She didn't ask me to do anything," I faltered. Sylvia's question made me feel guilty and nervous. I didn't expect Sylvia to be smart enough to see through me.

"No?" Sylvia squealed.

"I'm sorry for being rude before. I sincerely apologize for my behavior. I have to admit that you have great potential." The guilt was eating me up. I wanted to apologize to her. But I didn't forget my goal. "But you, as a slave, can't get involved in the royal family's affairs."

I advised her not just for Alina but for her own sake as well. She was a promising she-wolf with great potential. I hoped she would stay away from the royal family and concentrate on training and becoming stronger. If she managed to join the Royal Army in the future, I could introduce her to Alpha Leonard and help her get rid of her identity as a slave completely.

But Sylvia didn't appreciate my kindness at all. She glared at me and said, "All right. Let's fight. We didn't finish it the last time. Let's fight properly now to see who is stronger."

'What the hell is going on? Has Sylvia lost her mind?' I frowned in confusion. "No. You are no match for me."

Sylvia sneered. "You coward! You can just say that you are scared instead of coming up with silly excuses."

"You..." My pupils suddenly dilated. No one had ever called me a coward before. Anger surged through my veins. I wanted to fight her.

"Okay!"

I growled. Perhaps Sylvia would listen to me after I defeat her.



## Chapter 99 Break

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Warren's POV:

As a well-educated werewolf, I accepted the challenge but didn't want to hurt a she-wolf in any way, so I restrained my strength in every move, thinking I would be able to subdue Sylvia in no time without using my full ability.

However, I was soon in a disadvantageous position. Therefore, I no longer hesitated to attack Sylvia.

Sylvia quickly dodged my attack and punched me again. Before I could react, her fist brushed past my nose as a rush of wind hit my face with full force.

I felt a surge of adrenaline. I felt thrilled to fight with such a strong opponent. It was surprising to see Sylvia fight with such ferocity. Her progress was beyond my imagination.

Who would have thought that my opponent, whom I had once defeated, would suppress me in just a few days?

Sylvia pinned me to the ground with a backhand attack and stopped all of a sudden. She stood tall and glared at me. Her aura frightened me; I shuddered as I had an inexplicable urge to surrender.

"What happened? Why did you stop?" I withdrew my hands awkwardly. Her sharp gaze disturbed me.

Her eyes looked inexplicably familiar to me. I have watched Alpha Leonard return with pride gleaming in his eyes every time he returned after a victory.

Alpha Leonard was an admirable leader. As a hero of his generation, his glories and achievements couldn't be erased from history. I have always admired his majestic demeanor and promised myself to become a brave werewolf like him one day. That was why I pledged to become a knight for his daughter, Alina.

However, seeing the same domineering aura in a slave surprised me. For a moment, I thought I had lost my mind.

"One more time." I brushed the thoughts away and challenged Sylvia again.

However, Sylvia shook her head, shrugging indifferently. "Boring."

I stood up sulkily, not knowing what to do.

I didn't know how to face Sylvia now. Perhaps it was because of the imposing manner that reminded me of Alpha Leonard. Besides my father, Alpha Leonard was the only one who had been extremely strict to me. Every time I made a mistake when I was a little boy, Alpha Leonard would always lash my buttocks with a bamboo whip.

The mere memory sent a shiver down my spine. My bum tightened on their own accord.

"I know you are Alina's knight."

I was surprised to hear that. 'She knew it?' But before I could ask, Sylvia continued, "I really appreciate your strength. I once thought you were a righteous werewolf, and I could be friends with you, but that seems unnecessary now. Warren, I don't want to meet you or talk to you ever again unless during competitions because that's unavoidable." I was embarrassed to hear Sylvia's ruthless words.

"Actually, I..." I wanted to explain, but what could I possibly tell her? Therefore, I stopped talking.

Sylvia lost her patience. "You're right. It's not appropriate for someone like me, with a humble identity, to take part in such grand occasions. Don't worry. I won't go to the ball."

With that, Sylvia turned around and stormed off. My heart sank as I watched her leave. Although I had

achieved my goal, it made me uncomfortable.

Sylvia didn't blame me even though I injured her leg on purpose last time. She even tried defending me so that people wouldn't blame me. The more I thought about it, the more ashamed I felt.

Judging from Sylvia's firm decision, I thought she loathed me now.

Anger and frustration resided in the pit of my stomach. I had only been annoyed and upset ever since I came to the capital.



## Chapter 100 Plan Succeed

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Alina's POV:

"Alina, what's wrong with you? I notice that you seem to be so distracted today," Laura, who sat at the head of the dining table, said.

When I came back to my senses, I saw the unhappy expression on her face.

I put down the knife and fork, pretended to pinch between my eyes, and said in an innocent and pitiful tone, "I'm sorry, Your Majesty. I caught a cold last night, and my head hurts a bit today."

Laura frowned, and her eyes became sharper when she looked at me. "The ball is coming. Nothing wrong can happen to you. I'll let the doctor check on you later."

"I understand," I replied in a low voice. Deep inside me, I suddenly felt tired. Laura was very observant, so every time I was with her, I had to be on tenterhooks all the time.

After dinner, Laura dismissed me at once.

I held my phone in my hand and went back to my bedroom with a long face. My heart was filled with anger.

I couldn't help cursing Warren in my heart. I had sent him so many messages, but I still didn't get any reply. I felt so upset. If it weren't for him, I wouldn't have made so many mistakes in front of Laura today.

I took the glass of red wine from Coco. And I only calmed down after taking a few sips. I opened the window and watched the servants and the guards passing by, all busily preparing for the ball. Time was running out, so I made up my mind. If Warren didn't want to do it, I had to do it myself.

At this moment, my phone on the table buzzed. I walked over and checked. It was a message from Warren.

"It's done. She won't go to the ball."

His message only implied that he had successfully broken Sylvia's leg. Joy filled my heart. I looked at the message again and even checked it twice to make sure that I read it correctly. Now that the biggest obstacle had been removed, I became more determined to get Rufus.

But along with my joy, I also felt the coldness in Warren's message. This had never happened before. In the past, once I sent him a message, he would reply with ten messages. It seemed that I had pushed him too hard this time. He was a righteous man and always abided by the rules. It must be very hard for him to do such a thing for me. But it didn't matter anymore. After all, I would do anything just to achieve my goal.

I sent Warren a thank you message, but he didn't reply.

My fingers slowly slid across the screen. I looked at the dialog box and couldn't help but sneer. I knew he was unhappy because of what I had asked him to do.

Although his aloofness was unacceptable to me, I sent him another message. "Warren, I know I made things difficult for you this time. I'm really sorry, and I hope you don't blame me. How about having dinner with me sometime?"

This time, I wanted my message to comfort him, giving him a little hope. I had always known that Warren liked me. So I knew that I could easily manipulate him as long as I showed him my soft side. He was a useful tool that I didn't want to give up just yet.

"Miss Quinn, congratulations." Seeing the smile on my face, Coco had a sneaky look.

I snorted coldly, not feeling very satisfied. I felt sorry for Sylvia's dress. No matter how beautiful it was, it was still a shame because it went to the wrong owner. It would be best if I could also get it from her.

Rufus now only cared about Sylvia and didn't treat me well. But I always believed that it was because he hadn't interacted with me yet. Once he got to know me, he would definitely fall in love with me. Rufus was a noble prince who was always surrounded by refined ladies. So I understood why he suddenly felt a lowly slave like Sylvia interesting. He would change his mind sooner or later.

And besides, we had to wear masks at the ball and spray a special kind of perfume to conceal our scents before entering the venue to make sure that no one could recognize each other.

So as long as I wore Sylvia's dress and became Rufus' partner, I would definitely win his heart.

But the question was, who could steal the dress for me?

Warren couldn't possibly do it because it would be too eye-catching if he went to the she-wolves' dormitory building.

Who else could I use then? I rubbed my finger against the wine glass slowly, deep in thought.



## Chapter 101 Mysterious Message Sender

Cherry's POV:

The night sky was dark because the moon didn't come out tonight. Only the wind blew, making the trees sway.

I was only wearing a camisole and miniskirt, huddling in the grass in the back garden of the royal palace with my arms crossed. It was so fucking cold. But I didn't mind as long as I could meet Prince Richard.

At this moment, I heard voices from a distance, gradually approaching my spot. I shrank back to avoid being discovered. It took me a lot of effort to get a pass to the royal palace, so I should keep a low profile.

I hid in the dark and watched a group of beautiful ladies dressed in fancy clothes pass by. They were laughing, and their laughter was so pleasing to the ear. They were talking about the royal ball that Queen Laura would hold for Prince Rufus.

I couldn't help but envy them for being able to walk around the palace freely.

In the past few days, there had been a lot of luxury cars at the gate of the palace. All the dignified members of the noble families had come to attend the ball. Even those who were not from the capital had come all the way here. Presumably, this group of noble ladies was among them.

When the ladies were gone, the garden fell silent again.

The bell tower in the distance rang solemnly. It was about time for the roll call, so I had no choice but to come out and shake the grass off my body. It seemed that I still gained nothing tonight. I really wondered how Lucy could be so lucky to meet Prince Richard coincidentally.

I reluctantly put on the coat I had thrown aside and looked around the garden full of flowers. But Prince Richard's handsome figure still didn't appear.

If I couldn't meet him by chance, I had to go to the ball. However, I couldn't get an invitation no matter how hard I tried these days. My father was only a Gamma of a small pack, and being looked down upon, so I had no power at all.

Ever since the death of the former Alpha and Luna, and the execution of the Beta, our pack had been declining day by day. It didn't have much strength in the first place, and now it was being bullied and ridiculed by other packs. Shawn, the newly appointed Alpha was nothing but trash. All he did was indulge himself in sexual activities with different she-wolves all day long, leaving the pack in a mess. I always wondered if he even had a brain.

Now, I felt grateful that my father had forced me to enter the Royal Military School because the werewolves here were better than those in our pack.

So I had to seize every opportunity to seduce a powerful werewolf such as Prince Richard. And the coming ball was an opportunity for me because he would be there too.

I was still wondering how to get an invitation when I suddenly received a message from a blocked number, asking me to steal something from Sylvia. How ridiculous! How could I steal something from Sylvia when I always directly took anything I wanted from her?

How could I do such a lowly thing like stealing? Moreover, the message sender was so mysterious. I didn't even know his or her identity. Even a fool knew that there must be something fishy.

I just put down my phone when I received another message from the same person. I opened it impatiently. It was a picture of a white gift box. The message also said that there were a dress and

matching jewelry in the box. If I succeeded, I could get an invitation to the ball and another generous reward.

I deleted the messages with disdain. Scam messages were getting more and more specific these days. What good thing could a poor slave like Sylvia have that deserved to be stolen?

I just rolled my eyes and went back to the dormitory to take a shower. When I came out of the bathroom, I got another message and found that a large sum of money had been transferred to my bank account. It was only then that I decided to take it seriously. It seemed that the mysterious person was not simple. Since they had known my bank account so easily, they must have great power.

If I could get an invitation in exchange for stealing something from Sylvia, then it was a profitable deal for me.

I brushed my still wet hair and put on a confident smile. I was good at taking things from Sylvia.



## Chapter 102 Back Out At The Last Moment

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Sylvia's POV:

It was the first time I heard Warren say so much, and he looked serious. Every word he said made me angry but also sobered me up.

I had to admit that every word he said was right. I then realized I was being too selfish. It would be such a grand ball. Richard would attend it with Lucy, who was noble. If Rufus brought a slave with him, he would only be laughed at by everyone.

Maybe the aloof and arrogant Rufus didn't care about what other people thought. But I was different. I didn't want to become his weakness. I didn't want him to become a laughingstock because of me.

It was enough for me to bear such malicious gossip alone.

I stayed awake all night. The heavy thoughts made me toss and turn on the bed. As soon as the sun rose, I got up. I picked up the quilt that Flora had kicked on the floor, tucked her in, and walked out of the room quietly.

Yana yawned and complained, "I sang lullabies for you the whole night. Why couldn't you fall asleep?"

I held the horizontal bar for a while, couldn't bear to tell her the truth. Actually, since Yana was not really good at singing, I automatically blocked her voice as soon as she began to sing.

"You're not answering me," Yana said aggrievedly.

I coughed and pretended to be very distressed. "Maybe I can fall asleep next time if you try bel canto."

"Then I'll give you a bel canto right now."

On a whim, Yana cleared her throat and sang with great momentum. Her singing was so unpleasant to hear but she sang bravely nonetheless, and it made me feel inspired. Inexplicably, my passion was ignited. I got so excited that I did ten pull-ups in one breath.

Yana was so confident in showing herself. What on earth was I worried about? I should just be myself.

This passion supported me through the whole morning and helped me finish my classes well. It made Flora look at me with admiration.

But Harry had been competing with me all the time. So during the physical training, he carried more weights and ran twenty more laps.

As a result, he got so tired that he stuck out his tongue and panted like a dog for a long time.

"Why do you have to make things difficult for yourself?" Flora asked, covering her eyes with her hand like Harry was really an eyesore.

The one-sided competition caused Harry to strain his muscles. He was not able to attend our afternoon classes.

When we went to the males' dormitory building to see him, he was still lying on the bed, groaning. He didn't seem as fierce as usual. Flora brought him some food. But while eating, he kept on complaining that it was not delicious. Flora got so angry that she directly hit his head.

Flora was bickering with Harry during our entire visit. Then suddenly, she slapped her forehead and said, "The ball will already be this evening. You should skip our afternoon classes and get yourself ready, right? You should have asked for a leave."

I touched my clothes, smiled at her, and replied vaguely, "You can go to class first."

"Okay. Have a good time tonight then." Flora didn't notice that I was in a low mood. She blinked her eyes, gave me a bright smile, and left.

After she left, I slowly walked back to our room and took out the gift box from the bedside table.

I took out the dress from the box and touched the fine lines on the fabric, forcing myself to suppress the reluctance in my heart. Then I put the dress back, wrote a note of refusal using my leg injury as an excuse, and put it on the box.

If Rufus knew that I backed out at the last moment, he would be disappointed. Maybe he would never want to see me again.

A self-deprecating smile crept across my face. I took one last look at the neatly placed gift box and left the dormitory.



## Chapter 103 No-show

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Sylvia's POV:

My phone buzzed in my pocket as I walked to the classroom. I took it out and saw it was a call from Maya. I gritted my teeth and turned off my phone. The pain and dejection in my heart made me want to cry.

'Don't be willful, Sylvia,' I warned myself again.

I walked to my classroom, trying my best not to let the disappointment crush me. Rufus would soon find out that I wouldn't be attending the party.

Maya had brought me soup every day. I didn't want her to wait at the entrance and catch a cold, so with Flora's permission, I gave Maya a key to our dormitory. Since Maya couldn't get through to me now, I knew she would definitely go to my dormitory to find me. By then, she would see the dress and my message.

I walked to the classroom absentmindedly. When Blair saw me, he was a little surprised and stared at me in a daze.

"Sorry, sir. I'm late," I said indifferently. I tried acting normal even though I couldn't shake off the ball of disappointment that had settled in the pit of my stomach.

Blair clenched his fists and coughed. "Sylvia, I permit you to take the afternoon off."

His words attracted the attention of the other students. I forced a smile and said, "I want to attend the class, sir."

"Well, come on in then." Blair's body trembled as if he were surprised by my indifference.

I nodded and walked stiffly to my seat.

Flora rubbed her eyes and looked at me in shock. "Why are you here?"

"I'm not going to the party," I replied, staring into the distance. Rufus's angry face flashed in my mind. 'Damn it! Why do I like it even if he gets angry?'

In a fit of pique, I abruptly bent over the desk.

Flora was frightened. She pulled my sleeves and asked, "What happened? Did you guys fight?"

"No." I sat up straight again, pretending to be relaxed. "I just remembered that my morning workout wasn't perfect."

"Then, why didn't you go to the party?" Flora propped her chin in the palm of her hand and eyed me quizzically.

I opened the book and turned the pages, pretending to be unrestrained. "Prince Rufus has found another date. He doesn't need me anymore."

"What?" Flora shouted. She quickly clamped her mouth innocently and scooted closer to me. "What happened? Why did he change his mind all of a sudden? Everything was fine before I left."

"I don't know how to behave or dance like a lady. Now that there is a more suitable she-wolf to accompany Prince Rufus to the party, I feel more relaxed. You should be happy for me, Flora," I explained, forcing a smile.

Flora nodded in a daze as if she were still analyzing my words. "It's still a pity. You looked amazing in those beautiful clothes and jewelry."

I lowered my head and didn't respond. It felt as if a cloud of misfortune was following me everywhere.

"But it's a good thing you didn't go. I heard Cherry will also be there at the party. She might make trouble

for you again." Flora patted my shoulder comfortingly.

"Cherry will go to the party?" I looked at her in surprise. I hadn't heard Cherry's name of late and almost forgot her existence.

Flora snorted with disdain. "She asked for leave in the afternoon and was flaunting the invitation to everyone. I didn't know how she got it. Is there any blind royal member who likes her?"

I also found it equally surprising. Cherry was an arrogant she-wolf. She wouldn't care about ordinary royal members. Everyone knew that she was interested in Prince Richard. She wandered around the royal palace every day after class and tried every means to get close to him. Unfortunately, Lucy intercepted the prince.

I thought Cherry would stop chasing after Richard since he had found his mate. However, it looked like she had planned something big.

Soon, the class began, and I forgot everything about Cherry.



## Chapter 104 The Anxious Maya

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Maya's POV:

I kept calling Sylvia in the car, but she never picked up her phone.

She was always punctual, and she wouldn't miss my phone calls for no reason. Later her phone was even turned off. The more I thought about it, the more worried I became. Prince Rufus had already asked for leave for her in the afternoon. She should have come to meet me by now.

I looked at the time. If Sylvia didn't appear right now, she would be late for the ball. I couldn't wait any longer.

"I'm going to find Miss Todd. Pull up at the side of the road and wait for me. Just don't block the gate," I said to the driver, got out of the car, and walked towards the academy.

The training ground and the dormitory building were in opposite directions. It was class time now, so I was not sure where to find Sylvia.

At this moment, I saw a werewolf with colorful dyed hair walking in my direction. I remembered that he was Miss Todd's classmate, whose name seemed to be Harry. I looked at him in confusion because he was limping. As far as I could remember, he was a strong werewolf. Why did he look very weak now?

He seemed to have felt my gaze because he turned his head and looked at me. His terrifying eyes swept over me.

My heart tightened, and I quickened my pace.

"Stop!"

A soft and feeble male voice rang out behind me. Then he hissed as if his was in pain.

"Are you okay?" I asked as I approached him cautiously.

Harry waved his hand weakly and the two swelling bumps on his forehead became brighter under the sunlight.

"Aren't you the she-wolf with Sylvia? Why are you in such a hurry? Are you looking for her?"

I nodded and said, "Yes. My name is Maya. It's an urgent matter, so I have to immediately find her. Do you have any idea where she is right now?"

Harry shook his head and stretched his arms, revealing his strong muscles. "I heard that she asked for leave in the afternoon. You can go to her room to find her."

I was a little confused by his behavior. I didn't know why he had to show his muscles while talking. But I didn't have time to care too much about it. All I wanted was to find Sylvia as soon as possible.

"Okay, I'll go to the girls' dormitory to find her. Goodbye."

After saying this, I ran towards the dormitory building. Harry was still shouting behind me, asking who was stronger between him and Sylvia. What a strange man!

I had never run this fast in my life. I reached the door of Sylvia's room as fast as I could. I knocked for a long time, but no one answered. I opened the door without hesitation. At a glance, I saw the gift box on the table with a note on it.

I picked up the note and realized that something was wrong. Sylvia actually backed out from tonight's ball.

I knew how much Prince Rufus was looking forward to the ball. In the past, he always turned a blind eye

to such activities. But this year, everything was different because of Sylvia's existence. I could imagine how disappointed he would be if he found out that Sylvia wouldn't be coming anymore.

But I believed that Sylvia was definitely not someone who would do this for no reason. There must be some misunderstanding.

I immediately took out my phone to call Prince Rufus, hoping he could persuade her to change her mind. However, he was not answering either. He must be busy with his work at the moment.

I was so anxious that I picked up the gift box and left the room, planning to personally report to him.

But as soon as I reached a corner at the entrance of the dormitory, someone covered my mouth and nose with a cloth. The pungent smell of chemicals penetrated my nostrils. I immediately held my breath and struggled hard, but I still couldn't resist the effect of the drug. My consciousness gradually became fuzzy.

Before I completely lost consciousness, I saw that the hand that covered my mouth and nose had a flamboyant diamond-studded manicure.