

Mated To The Lycan King By Jennifer Baker Chapter 31

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Everest hung up his phone as he looked around the cabin of the plane. We were all sitting on the edge of our seats as he tried to calm his Lycan within him. Something had happened with Ryder and I felt Charlotte stirring uncomfortably inside. She was feeding off his energy. It was an angry, almost deadly energy and I wouldn't want to be at the other end of that wrath.

He took a deep breath and spoke through gritted teeth, "He is gone. Not only is he gone but someone slipped him a weapon and he killed the guards who were working the cell last night." His hands went to his face, rubbing away the frustration.

"A weapon?" Jameson asked the question we were all wondering.

"A weapon, one that kills instantly when in the right area. A gun with a few silver bullets to go along with it." He looked up at me and I moved my hand to his. He took it into his and I felt his tension lessened

as the silent moment between everyone.

No one really knew what to say. We have a traitor in the walls of the castle. After a few moments of silence I spoke up "Has Ted told anyone?"

He looked up at me and shook his head. "No, he's investigating until we get home."

I thought for a moment. "You should have your mom come out for the celebration, keep her

safe."

He smiled and nodded his head "Excellent idea, thanks love."

He called his mother and I looked at Claire who seemed to now be a nervous ball of energy "You okay?"

"The Queen is coming to our ceremony." Her voice cracked.

"She's pretty awesome." I smiled. "She is going to love you." Amber told Claire.

I looked over at Cassie who was sound asleep and smiled to myself. Her tiny self made me think about my future with my mate. How some day, hopefully soon, we would have our own running around. I wondered though, how pregnancies worked for Lycans.

I know for wolves it was shorter than humans and wolf pregnancies lasted for maybe four to five months at the max. That's if you were able to carry full term. Maybe it was about the same, maybe shorter. I guess I'll learn more about that later.

I felt eyes on me and I looked around. My eyes landed on Everest and I smiled at him. He had a confused look on his face and I frowned slightly.

"Avalynn, did you not hear me?" He said. "Oh." My cheeks flushed. "No, I didn't. What did you say?"

"You should buckle up. We will be landing soon." He responded with a smile as he paused for a brief moment. "What were you thinking about?"

"Oh nothing, just wondering how long a Lycan stays pregnant for." I looked over at him and he smiled.

"Four months max. About a month or so sooner than wolves. Most Lycans carry to full term at 4 months." Amber answered me. I nodded my head as I clicked my seat belt together. "I was just wondering,

thank you." Everyone was looking at me then with big smiles. "No, no. I am not pregnant, yet. I was just looking at Cassie and was thinking about our future." I glanced over to my mate when our eyes locked I felt our shared bond blossom even more.

The way he looked at me was as if I was his most precious gift he has ever received from this Earth. As if my love was fragile and easily broken, to handle with such care. His eyes, when he looked into my soul he saw the real me and I saw the adoration they held for me. The love flowed between us, different bonds of brilliant colors wrapping around us, bringing our hearts closer together. When our hands touched it was like fireworks going off in celebration of us. When his lips and mine touched the warmth of the sun shone within, spreading like wildfire through our bodies bringing our love closer together.

I realized in that very moment that I loved him. I loved him more than the air I breathed that keeps me alive. I would do anything for him and our entire territory to keep everyone safe. I would give him the family and surround him with love. I would love him until my last dying breath.

"Avalynn..?" My eyes snapped up to him as he softly spoke my name.

I smiled "Just thinking about you." I replied and Jameson cut in. "Thinking about making some royal babies." Amber smacked his arm and scolded him.

“Would you stop teasing her. Maybe you should worry about your own baby making abilities.” She laughed.

“What?” He looked at her. “Are you pregnant?”

“No, not yet.” She smiled “We will be trying very soon babe.” She put her hand on his lap and Jameson had a big grin on his face.

“I hope they act like Amber and not you. Maybe have your strength yah big ol’ brute.” Everest told him in a laugh and Jameson resorted to mocking him which got a bigger laugh out Everest and myself.

Jameson has never been a graceful loser. He always seemed to have the smart jokes to tell people but never could take it like he could dish it.

I looked out the window as the plane began its descend to the ground. It was dark and the lights were beautiful from the air. A couple little bumps during the landing and we were on the way to the plane

reaching its destination. When it was stopped vehicles were parked outside and being loaded with what

little we carried.

Everest and myself were the last ones remaining on the plane. He pulled me into his lap and his eyes searched my face. They stopped on my lips for a moment before looking back at me. “You want

children?”

“I do. Don’t you?” I smiled. “I never did until you.” He smiled. His eyes drifting back to my mouth. My tongue darted out to my lips and wet them. “Until me?”

“Yes.” Was all he said before his lips crashed with mine. The kiss sent a thrill through me as my adrenaline pumped in my veins. Our mouths worked against one another as his hands gripped my bottom, pulling me even closer.

My mouth opened and he took that moment to seize the opportunity to invade mine with his tongue. A welcomed invasion as my tongue greeted his and they danced with one another-pushing and entwining against one another’s tongue.

His hands moved my hips to grind against his and I let out a soft moan. I could feel him pressed against my thin shorts. His hands pushed and pulled at my hips as I broke the kiss to tilt my head back feeling the ecstasy from the waves of pleasure. His mouth kissed down my throat, sucking and nipping softly.

He let out a grumble, his chest vibrating deep with a sexy sound. I looked back at him as he looked at me. I wanted him and I knew he could smell my scent dripping for him.

“Good thing what we are arriving in has a window that closes. We can take the long way to their pack?” He asked me as his lips went back to assaulting my neck and collar bone and his hips pushed up against me more.

“Yes.” He brought my face back to him and he kissed my mouth hard.

“Hold that thought.” He winked and helped me up off his lap. I exited the plane first and he was right

behind me.

“Your scent is an intoxicating drug. I need more. I am going to pleasure you nearly the whole entire

way.” He linked me so only I would know.

It caught me by surprise and I stumbled as I walked to the large SUV styled limousine. The door was held open for me and I got inside. Everest was talking to the man and he nodded his head and bowed. I watched as Everest got inside and sat in front and diagonal to me, then the driver shut his door. The driver clicked a button and the privacy slide went up and I was sure headphones went on him as well. I only smiled.

“Take them off.” Everest said to me and I instantly complied.

I took off my shorts and then instinctively moved to the seat opposite of him. His eyes seemed darker with lust. I slid my panties off and scooted down in my seat. I placed my legs on either side of him and smiled. “Like this?”

He growled and moved over top of me, our lips finding one another. He pulled my low cut top further down along with my bra exposing my breast. His hands went to cupping them and his fingers toyed with my n****s causing soft moans to escape as our tongues wrapped around each other. He swallowed my

moans and kissed down my body. He licked, sucked, and nipped at my skin. He captured each breast and swirled his tongue along my n****s, one by one.

He didn't stop and moved his way down further. He kissed the inside of my thighs, sucking and biting gently. He moved more to my slit and moved a finger along it.

My hips instantly responding to his touch. I watched as he leaned forward and let his tongue trace my folds slowly. He moved a finger inside of me as I moaned, my hands grabbing the seat.

He buried his face in between my legs as his mouth and fingers worked their magic. My hands went to his hair, gripping it between my fingers. I pulled him into me as I began to reach my climax. His hand quickened as he added another finger. I was over the edge as I felt my body shudder under his touch. He never stopped or slowed and continued at his pace. I quickly reached my climax a second time as my hips bucked against his mouth.

He pulled away, pulling me over with him as he sat on the other seat. I straddled him and I realized he had nothing on. I hovered my body over him and teased him. I slid his c**k against my slit as I watched his head lean back.

The limo hitting a bump, in his advantage as I lost my balance allowing him entrance. I moved my hips up and down on him, his hands guiding me. My mouth seeking his mark and I sucked softly. His hands grinding my hips down against his and tightening as I moaned at feeling all of him deep inside me.

He reached his peak as I moved up and he slammed me down hard against him, causing me to climax with him. I felt him release in me as I kissed him. I stayed on his lap with my head on his shoulder, his arms tight around me.

“I will never get enough of you.” He whispered into my ear.

“I know the feeling.” I placed a kiss on his mark and smiled as he shuddered.

I moved off him and he helped with my clothes. He put his own back on as I tried to make myself look

presentable.

“Don’t worry. I have you a change of outfit waiting at the human hotel outside your old pack. We will shower and change that way we are presentable.” He smiled at me.

“Thank Goddess.” How inappropriate would it be for the future Queen to show up a mess and smelling of s*x?

Charolette hollered and laughed inside “Ahaha. Who cares what they think. A lot of them treated you like crap because you were different. Wait until they see how much you have changed! Bad ass Lycan Queen to be!” She laughed again.

I snickered and shrugged. In a way she was right. They did treat me like crap that they stepped in. Regardless though, I was in a higher position and will be in the highest position of our kind can be in, next to Everest that is. I would still treat them all with respect and treat them the way I want to be treated.

Charolette huffed in the background. I know she was a kick ass fighter and warrior and a revenge seeker but that's why we were paired together. We bring out the best in one another. She's my strength

when I am weak and I am her reasoning when she is spit fire angry.

We got out at the hotel and went in for showers. I had a change of brand new clothes and shoes waiting for me. I wore a swing tank that had a floral print with a three quarter length navy blazer, skinny navy pants with nude heels. I also had some makeup and hair care products waiting.

Everest had a navy suit with a soft peachy cream shirt under it and brown dress shoes. He looked absolutely delicious as I bit my lip watching him get ready in the mirror.

"Careful my love, we don't have any other clothes." He looked back at me with a smile.

We walked out once ready and got back into the limo. It was cleaned and smelled wonderful. They guy only smiled at us as he bowed his head and I nodded to him "Thank you." He looked at me and his smile widened. We drove to my old pack as it wasn't too long of a drive. We were there within fifteen minutes. Wolves surrounded the limo and escorted us to the pack house. When we arrived a crowd had already gathered, even with it being late. I looked outside the window and watched as many she wolves trying their hardest to look in our direction as we slowly approached the house. That was when I was suddenly bombarded with their thoughts.

"Oh he is here! I hope he is alone."

"I will be his."

"I hope he will take me with him."

"That wolfless b***h can't be his mate. She has nothing, she is nothing. It is all rumors. All

rumors."

"We would be so cute together."

"The King is so handsome."

I put my hand to my head as it broke through. The jealousy rage of Charlotte was pushing through and I couldn't wait to get out of the limo. To see the look on some of their faces.

Everests hand landed on mine and it was an instant calming effect "Everything okay, my love?"

The thoughts of those outside kept coming and I groaned as I instinctively pulled my hand away from Everest and raised them both I slung them away from me and the thoughts were gone. Everest looked at

me oddly.

“I can hear their thoughts. They were overwhelming.” I sighed as the limousine stopped and

parked.

“Make him get out first.” Charlotte wanted them to get their hopes up and honestly I did too.

“Hey babe, you should get out first.” He nodded his head.

“I planned on it that way I can help you out myself.” He smiled at me and leaned in for a quick kiss and the door opened up.

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I watched as Everest exited the limo. The thoughts came flooding me instantly. “He’s alone!”

“She was nothing but a easy lay and a warm hole.” “Oh, I wish I was so lucky to be blessed by the Goddess as Avalynn was.”

The last comment made me smile. Someone in support of us, and not having something hateful to say. I waved my hands as I did earlier and it pushed the thoughts aside. He turned and his hand was in the door, waiting for me. I took it and let him help me out of the limousine. The eyes were on me and as I quickly glanced around. I could see shock and awe as everyone looked on. I kept my head high and put on a brave and tough face, not worrying about what they’re saying.

We were reunited with my brother and Claire as we walked to the Packhouse. Everyone seemed to move out of our way quickly and whispers were overheard as we past pack members. I let a small smile show as I remembered the last time I was here. I shifted and showed everyone our true self.

We went up to the conference room where Jameson and Amber joined us shortly after we got there. I tried to hide a yawn, it has been a very long day. Very long few weeks for that matter. Everest sat in front of

the previous Alpha, Michael.

“Let us just cut to the chase, Michael.” Everest began and I could tell he was holding back his anger, though you could see the storm brewing in his eyes. “Where is your son, Ryder?”

“What do you mean? He’s not here.. I don’t know where he is?” He seemed confused as I leaned closer, trying to open his mind and search his thoughts. I had no clue what I was doing. I assume by the way Amber was looking at me, I looked constipated. I picked at him until I felt a surge of energy push through a seemingly invisible barrier.

“What did Ryder do this time? Does the king think I helped my traitor of a son. I am innocent. I would never.. My son is.. well my son is a monster that i dont even recognize anymore. I can’t risk everything because he went down the wrong path. That look in the Kings eyes. Oh Goddess please, please let him believe me. I dont know anything.”

I sat forward more and placed a hand on my Mates arm. “Would you mind, Michael, if you could leave us for a moment?” I smiled at him.

“Of course, take all the time you need.” He bowed and practically ran from the room. “What the? Why? He was going to crack.” Jameson frowned.

“No, he was innocent.” I stated flatly.

“He is?” Everest looked at me with interest. “You heard him?”

“Not only that but I figured how to get inside his mind and maneuver through his thoughts. He didn’t help his son. He’s innocent and terrified you’re going to kill him anyway to get even.”

“Wow.” Claire smiled at me. “How did you do that?”

“I don’t know how I just did it and it was like an invisible wall collapsed and I felt everything he did

and could see, well hear his thoughts.” I shrugged.

“Well I thought you were going to throw up or something worse!” Amber let out a laugh and I laughed

with her.

“I was wondering why you were scooting away!” Jameson pouted. “Can’t even warn her mate of

something about to happen.”

“I was trying to hide behind you. You know, use you as a shield.” She grinned. “Hey! That’s not cool! Gross babe!” Jameson whined and laughed.

We all laughed together and I stood walking to the door and opened it to Michael who was leaning against the wall.

“Come on in Michael. Everything is going to be okay. You will be just fine.” I reassured him as he

followed behind me, moving to his seat.

He sat down and I walked over next to Everest and sat down next to him. I sighed and looked at my old Alpha. He was worried and I felt that his soul was breaking. “Michael.” I spoke his name softly and his

head lifted up to look at Everest and myself.

“Your son has shot the guards who were watching him, after a shift change, with a few silver bullets.

Someone slipped him a gun and we just needed to make sure that you were not involved in the matter. We

know that you aren’t and the obvious person who would help him would be Dexter and his men.” I gave

him a supportive smile and nodded in his direction.

He frowned and I could feel his roller coaster of emotion flowing through him. He was worried and scared for his son, rightfully so because when we find him he will have a quick trial and be sentenced to death, more than likely.

“H-how do you know I am innocent?” He looked around at everyone in the room.

“I can feel your emotions and read your thoughts. I can network through them and can tell if you’re lying or telling the truth.” My eyes were locked on him the entire time, never straying away from him. I gave him my full attention.

“You’re... you’re serious?” He stuttered through his words, obviously nervous.

"I am very serious." My head tilted aside and I grinned, getting his thoughts drifting through my mind. "Before you say anything, the number you're going to choose is twenty-three when you ask me what

number you're thinking of out of one through ten." I laughed some at his open mouthed shocked

expression.

"Wow. So you're gifted then?" He asked me.

"I suppose I am." I looked around the room. "Is that rare?" I asked whoever would answer me.

"Very rare. The Moon Goddess only bless pure hearts with gifts." Everest said.

"Oh. Well anyway, let us discuss the ceremony, and security issues."

Everest nodded "It needs to happen in two days. That way we have a full day to get it together and get

what we need and we can leave to go back home and handle business."

Josh nodded "I would like the entire pack to know why Ryder will not be Alpha." He looked at Michael and Everest. "I think it would be very beneficial for them to understand and that way no one will cater to him. Some still will, like his close friends, but it will be less if we let the pack understand."

"That's a good idea, I will tell them of the horrific crimes he has committed." Michael said and sighed. "It won't be easy to tell them but I will do it. It, I believe, would probably mean more coming from

me."

"Absolutely then I will go over approval of this Alpha ceremony and all of the crossing the Ts and

as

dotting of the Is." Everest said.

"Good that was easy and quick." I smiled at the three of them.

"Now about security, I believe we need to interrogate every warrior that is on duty the night Ryder escaped and murdered the guards. Let me be in the room when it happens. I won't say anything, just

sitting there going through their minds.”

Everest nodded “I definitely think that is a good idea. Jameson, will you be in the room as well? I think both of our presence in the room could help intimidate the weaker of our warriors. If they don't have anything to hide, it will be easy for Avalynn to figure out quickly who is deceitful and who is truthful.”

Jameson nodded his head “Of course.”

A knock sounded on the door and we all looked over to it. Everest called to whoever was on the other side “Come in.”

“King Everest, your mother has just crossed into the pack territory.” She was a thin young girl, maybe sixteen and in a uniform, a young omega. She curtsied and left the room.

We all stood and made our way outside to greet her. She arrived and she looked like she had been sick. Losing your mate does take a toll on your body, I remembered. On another note she smiled at us all.

She walked straight for me and opened her arms and embraced me. She had tears in her eyes as she

softly kissed my cheek.

“You are so strong. Always remember that. I am so happy you are alive and safe.” Her hands were on

my cheeks. I looked up at my mate's mother and I could see how tired and stressed she really was.

“You are here and are safe with us at your side.” I stated and she smiled at me. She let me go and moved to Everest and I turned to the omegas, “If you would, please take her things to her suite and run a

hot shower for her along with a few drinks brought up to her room.”

I looked over to April and she smiled at me and I returned the smile to her.

Everest spoke to her “Mother please relax and rest easy.” He kissed her cheek and she walked away

with Amber. We walked back to the conference room.

As we approached I smelled a foul stench and Everest's arm pulled up to stop me. We listened closely as shuffling of papers could be heard. I felt Everest's uneasy feeling and pushed past it.

"It's a Rouge, he is looking for information on what our plans are." I linked Everest.

He shifted quietly and his Lycan gazed at me. He stood tall and I smiled at him. I felt Charlotte push to look at her mate and I gave her control and let us shift. They nuzzled one another before busting into the room together. They were a force to be reckoned with as Charlotte blocked the exit and Connor dove across the table snapping his jaw on the Rouge.

He stilled and didn't move, knowing it would be death if he did. He only whimpered from the pain and shifted back to my human form. "When he let's go, shift into your human form." He was looking at me.

He closed his eyes and nodded his head. Everest let go and the wolf immediately shifted to his human form.

I frowned and looked at him, I knew him. He was from this pack and we were the same age. He was one of the men who tormented me I'm school and Ryders friend. It made sense he was working for him now.

"Avalynn?" He looked at me confused and my eyes narrowed as he continued to talk "You're a | lycan?"

"Yes, Alex I am. Why are you a rouge?" I questioned as Everest shifted back.

"You should ask Alpha Michael. He threw me out when he found out I helped Ryder after the attacks on the Kingdom. I didn't know he was involved. I was stupid in trusting in him." He looked at Everest and sighed "Stupidity clearly doesn't mean I am free to break the laws. I am very sorry." Everest walked over and linked me "Go find a guard to take him to the cells." I left and found a few guards and they took him. As they left I commanded "Make sure he is fed, has a bath and gets clean clothes."

They nodded and left with him. I turned to Everest and frowned "I am not sure how much information he has. I want to lend Jim a kind gesture and maybe he will tell us more."

"Smart. We will see if it works. How do you know him?" He asked.

"Well he bullied me in school, probably regrets that decision now. But we need to handle him first thing in the morning. But for now, let's clean this mess up and get some much deserved rest."

"Sounds good to me, love." He helped gather papers and handed them over to me. I straightened them and held them close to my body. We walked together to our room, hand in hand together. We kicked our shoes off and both collapsed on the bed. I laid there and sighed as my mind slowly drifted to sleep as Everest held me close to his chest.

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I dreamed of a fight that was to come, a path that could be the direct result of our actions we were having to take. Blood was absolutely everywhere and seemed to cling to everything. My Lycans fur was drenched in blood, but I was unharmed. I wasn't I'm any pai but I was alone. I looked around and bodies were ripped, shredded, and just laying all around me. Where was Everest?

I searched and walked through the gory field. The stench of death was already beginning to thicken as time seemed to tick away. I screamed his name and felt nothing, heard nothing in his response. Panic quickly rose in me as realization was setting in that something was seriously wrong.

"Avalynn." A voice sounded so distant but still very calming and soothing. The panic! felt seemed to be drifting away. I turned to look all around to see where the voice was coming from.

"Avalynn.." The deep voiced called me again and suddenly it felt as if I was being ripped from this world and my eyes fluttered open.

"Good morning, my love." He was looking at me a bit worried. "Are you okay? Did you have a bad dream?"

He was laying next to me, his face was so close, he was so close and I could feel his warmth from his body. His hand reached up and wiped a tear from my face. I frowned as realized I had been asleep, yet it felt so very real.

– My hand went up and I wiped another off my cheek. I pulled it away and looked at the moisture and back to Everest. "It was a bad dream, horrible really. I was at a battle ground where war had been shed. Blood, lots and lots of it, everywhere and on everything. I was drenched in it, as it coated every bit of my Lycan. So many lives lost, I couldn't find you anywhere." My eyes began watering again and he pulled me closer to him.

"Shhh. I will be by your side, always." He kissed the top of my head. "Why don't you take a hot shower and get ready. You might begin to feel better. When you finish getting ready, come on down and eat breakfast before you ladies leave for shopping." He placed kisses all over my face and I smiled. He got up and I noticed he was dressed already. I must have been exhausted to not of felt him get out of bed or heard him getting ready.

I got up and stretched my muscles, a few popping sounds could be heard as my joints and bones moved. I watched Everest walk into the connected bathroom. I walked over to the coffee bar and poured a cup of coffee, fixing it the way I loved it, a generous amount of cream and a heaping amount of sugar. I heard the water running and I smiled as I took a sip of the hot beverage, hee was so good to me. I watched steam roll out of the bathroom as Everest opened the door. I bit my bottom lip as it seemed to move in slow motion. He was dressed in black dress pants and a soft blue button down. It was a snug fit and he looked incredibly delicious. He caught me watching him and gave me a wink. I grinned and took

another sip of the coffee, sitting it on the table and walking across the room. He kissed my forehead, "Enjoy your hot shower. I will see you in a bit."

"See you in a bit." I turned and closed the bathroom door. I enjoyed the shower and washed every bit of my body clean. I got out and dried myself off. I fixed my hair and applied light makeup. I walked out in my towel and saw clothes neatly folded on the bed and smiled.

"Hey girl, here are a few outfits for you. I had someone go pick them up as soon as we got in yesterday. See you soon! -Claire."

I smiled and looked through the clothes.

I picked out a black skirt with a soft green shirt. I put on the stockings and my heels and walked out of the door.

When I opened the door a man and woman who were wolves were standing outside my door guarding it. I didn't even know they were there to be honest and they kind of startled me. They gave me their neck and I smiled at them "Good morning to you both."

"Good morning." They both responded in unison. They followed me down the stairs as I walked towards where everyone was, following the smell of breakfast. When I walked into the banquet hall i saw Everest talking to Josh, Michael, and Jameson. April was sitting and chatting with Clair and Amber. I approached and everyone smiled and I made myself a plate of food. We all ate and chatted about today's events. April decided to tag along and help Claire with her dress for the ceremony. I studied April, who seemed to make a pretty good bounce back. — She locked eyes with me and I heard her thoughts, "Everest told me what you can do. /

am fine, you can stop worrying. Last night was the first time I have really slept since you were gone. Thank you for making sure the room was comfortable and accommodating. Knowing you are both safe has eased my worries." She smiled at me and I smiled back and nodded to her.

Soon we were all off shopping the day away. We decided to pick out Claire's dress first and she settled with a beautiful tight black dress that had a sparkle nude swirl going

along her body. She went with red heels to go with it and she looked absolutely stunning. Next we all picked out our dress and I remembered Everest told me to pick something out that was sexy and elegant and fit for a Queen.

I looked at the dresses as I sat in the dressing room. I found an emerald green dress that hugged every curve of my body. It had a long slit that hit right below my hip and showed off my right leg. It had a deep plunge in the front that went down to just above my navel. The sheer material in between the fabric had crystals scattered along it. The back dipped midway just under my shoulder blades, exposing half of my back. I picked out matching heels that had crystals along the sides and down the entire heel of the shoe.

This dress made me feel beautiful, strong, elegant, and powerful. I knew it was the one and didn't need to try on any others. I sent it to be properly hung and steamed to knock out any wrinkles.

We all found the perfect dresses and paid for our items. We met the guys for a late lunch and discussed the details of the ceremony.

We went home and began setting up for the following night, giving direction to the staff on hand. When it was all said and done everything was perfect.

"Would you mind coming to the cells?" Everest's link cut through.

I agreed and walked down to the basement cells. I walked into a holding room and saw Jameson sitting across the table from Alex.

"What's going on?" I asked.

"He is spilling his guts. He was working with Dexter, but did not know he was dangerous. Ryder talked him into it, right after my father was killed. He helped him hideout but he never told him why. When Alex left to come back Michael could smell his son's scent on him and casted him out as a traitor and a rouge." He sighed and rubbed his face with his hands. "I can't tell if he is being truthful or lying. If he is telling the truth he should have some punishment but he shouldn't be casted out as a Rouge."

"No, I don't think he should be a Rouge if he is being truthful. He should, however, be made to do community service in the pack for a good amount of time." I agreed with him, if he was telling the truth, and he seemed to be doing so, he should do community service and his movements be watched for however long my brother and mate sees fit. I frowned and looked around "Where is my brother anyway?"

"Him and Michael are getting their speeches together. They should be here any moment though." He looked down at me. "How did today go? Did you find your perfect

dress for the event?" He took me by the hand and we walked out of the cells. — "I did. Would you like to see it?" I smiled.

"I am sure that it being on the hanger doesn't do it justice as to what it looks like on you. I can wait until tomorrow evening."

"Okay that is fine. Dinner should be ready soon." We were at the top of the steps as he kissed me. My brother approached and him and Everest went back down to the cells to finish handling their business. I thought he wanted my help, but maybe not? He just seemed to miss me and wanted to lay out what he thought the most suitable actions were.

I walked back out to join the girls in helping with decorations and they made a lot of progress. They set up the tables and chairs and were now putting the table cloths down, which only had a few more to go. The stage was set up and the only thing really missing was

flowers, plates, and silverware.

I walked and stood by Claire "Nervous?"

"I am. I don't know if I am more nervous to be their Luna or more nervous that people are going to be depending on me now." She slightly shrugged her shoulders.

"You're going to make a fantastic Luna. Just think all those times you helped me, protected me, and saved me from the tormentors and bullies. You were made for this position. Your love and your compassion is what sets you apart from everyone else." I told her.

"You really think so? I just don't want to mess everything up."

"Life is full of decisions and obstacles. We learn to do better and be better as we go along. You may make a few mistakes along the way but just know that those mistakes are how we grow and learn. If we didn't make them, we couldn't be better for the future." I gave her a small hug and looked at her. "You are going to be fair, respectable, and the most understanding. You don't have cruel intentions to be harmful or hurtful. That is why the Moon Goddess paired you with my brother. You helped him see his wrong and now look at you both."

She nodded her head "You're right Avalynn. When did you get so wise and all knowing?" She laughed.

"I have no idea, honestly. I just see the world differently now that I have Everest in my life." I paused and smiled to myself. "After dinner though, you should get you some much needed rest. You and my brother. We can handle all of this." I waved to the entire area.

"Are you sure? You don't mind?" She looked around the room.

“I am one million percent certain.” I was now talking to everyone “Let us all take a break and prepare for dinner.”

We all left and got ready for dinner. We all met at a steakhouse in the pack territory. We ate and chatted throughout dinner sharing excitement about tomorrow’s event. When we came back Josh and Claire went off to bed while we helped finish setting everything up. I wanted to make sure that everything was absolutely perfect for my brother and Claire. They

deserved the best and I would see to it that they got the best.

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Today is the day that the pack learns my brother is the official Alpha of the pack and my bestfriend becomes their Luna. Two ceremonies in one afternoon.

Everything was ready and absolutely perfect. Not a single thing was out of place.

The evening went smoothly and the pack seemed to embrace their new Alpha and Luna. Whispers broke out when Michael told them of the activities Ryder was a part of. I smiled and made small talk among the pack members, many apologizing for any wrong doings or not stepping in. All was forgiven, even though I did believe in protecting the weak.

Claire was a prime example of that and I knew the pack would flourish under her command.

Everest walked to me and the evening was winding down. The wolves I happened to be chatting with bowed their head out of respect. His arm snaked around my waist and pulled me to him. “Would my beautiful mate care to dance?” .

I smiled up to him “I would love to. Excuse me everyone.”

He led me out to the dance floor and put his hand in mine and another around my waist. We slowly danced in the middle of the dance floor. Others who were dancing seemed to naturally move out of our way.

“We have decided to let Alex back in the pack, as long as he completes his year long probation of community service helping those who need it. Then once the year of community service is up the next two years he will be under the watchful eye of Josh

and whoever. Josh chooses as his Beta. He will be doing three training sessions daily and teaching the younger pups who are starting out.” His voice was lowered and with the sound of the music if anyone had heard him, it would of been difficult.

“Do basically he is going to be extremely busy.” I said.

“Absolutely, our hope is that he will enjoy training new pups and take that on for the rest of his career.” He leaned down and placed a soft kiss on my mouth and I smiled against his lips. “Thank you for helping me and your brother see a better solution. We will be leaving in the morning to go back home. We have so much work that needs to be done.” He sighed.

“Let us just enjoy this moment, this song, this dance together before tonight ends.” I told him and he pulled me closer to him. I laid my head on his chest as we slowly danced around the room together.

Back home

The plane touched down with a few bumps and went to the direction of our SUVs. Security was thicker than ever. His mother, April, went in her own Suv. She had other vehicles surrounding her and two in front then two behind. Ours followed the two behind her and we had four behind us. All of the SUVs matched in style and color. If anything was to happen it would be hard to tell who was in what.

When we arrived home, our door was opened up and people were all around. Security ushered us inside to where a letter was passed to us.

King Everest,

I write this to inform you that if you do not free my daughter Sarah from her prison cell, I will be pulling my men and women from your territory to merge with your enemy. You will then be holding her captive and we will act accordingly. For you to break a spoken bond with my daughter is distasteful and will be your absolute downfall. The w***e, that you claim to be your mate, should really be properly disposed of at once. You know deep down she is no Queen, no true Queen. My daughter should be and will be the Queen of her people. Dexter has written me offering Sarah just that.

So it is just the matter of who will be her King? Do not waste time in your decision as you don't have that much time left. If you choose wrong I will pray that the Moon Goddess have mercy on your soul.

-Sir Brennan”

I watched Everest hand clench the letter and a deadly growl rumbled deep inside him. He passed the note to me as I read it. When I finished it left a frown on my face “Is he

that stupid? Sarah was never promised to you?" I looked over to him and Everest hung his head. "Was she?"

"Well not really. We fooled around with one another and she went to functions with me. I never really truly loved her though. It was more lust than anything. We did have an agreement that if neither of us found our fated mate that we would consider the option of marriage. Many, many years from now of course." He shook his head "This is why she hated you and probably done what she did. She thought if she got rid of you I would just be with her. She thought Dexter wanted you dead, not have you as his mate."

I rolled my eyes and walked off to my study. I was angry, spitting fire angry. Everest was hot on my heels as I sat down, contemplating on writing him a letter in return. I glared at the sheet of paper in front of me and finally sighed. I laid the pen down and put the paper back up, refusing to stoop to his pathetic level, no matter how angry I was.

"I would hate to be on the other side of that letter. I imagine it would have been pretty nasty." He chuckled and had an amused look on his face.

"It so would have been the worst F-You note I would have ever written to anyone." I laughed with him "I just decided to be the bigger person and not stoop to his level." || sighed.

He sat across from me and crossed his arms "So babe, speaking of, what would you like to do with Sarah?" I honestly think she should die for her roll in the murdering of the King but she may just rot in her cell, never experience outside life again. I would strip her of her titles. Who knows what our people will decide what is fair, I hope they give her the justice she deserves." I looked across from him and leaned back in my chair.

"If they don't, I am king now and can over rule what they decide. Especially considering now her father is threatening people." The way he was looking at me made my head tilt slightly and smile.

"What is it?" I asked.

"You just look perfect sitting behind that desk and making decisions." He grinned.

"Absolutely beautiful, too." He sat up and moved closer to my desk before standing.

"Anyway want to go visit Sarah? Show her the letter daddy dearest sent?" He grinned.

"Absolutely, I do." I stood and walked to the door. As I walked past the desk and Everest pulled me to his chest, my back was to him.

He pushed my hair to the side and kissed his mark on my neck and I shivered. Sparks were shooting through me as his hands rested on my hips. He kissed along my collarbone softly and I closed my eyes, leaning my head back, giving him more access to my neck.

"You best stop before we can't quit." I turned in his arms and my arms wrapped around him, smiling as he gazed down to me.

"I love you." He spoke softly and leaned his head down and kissed my forehead softly. He wrapped his arms tighter to me.

"I- I love you." I stuttered out. I meant each small word and I inhaled his scent.

"Let us go see Sarah." He let me go but quickly took my hand in his. He guided us out of the room and to the cells.

When we walked to the door that would let us in, a heavy security presence was there. I could smell the stench from here. Cells were no joke there wasn't showers given everyday here. Hell, you would be lucky to get one every few weeks. It was barbaric really when you thought about it.

We were nothing like the humans who made sure that our criminals had three meals a day, access to activities, and amenities. You had to do something terrible to be here and you would be treated terrible if you were here.

"It is easier if you breathe through your mouth." Everest looked down at me and I nodded my head a little in understanding.

"I am sure you get used to it after a while." I looked at some of the guards and they shrugged.

"It gets easier with time, that's for sure." He bowed his head as we walked by, walking behind us for any extra protection.

We walked deep into the cell and the only lights were the small lights in between the cell walls. It was dark and damp feeling as I shuddered a little. We finally reached her cell and when I looked at her, I felt sorry for her. Going from a high ranking position to the lowest of lows has to be rough on her. She had lost weight and her clothes were dirty. I let Everest approach her and I stayed back with the guard.

"Everest? You're here." I heard hope in her voice as she spoke. "Please let me out." She begged.

Everest didn't speak as he watched her. She was on the floor and moved to standing. Her legs were covered in dirt.

"What is that..?" She pointed to his neck and I saw him smirk at her and I wanted to rub it in her face. Instead I tried to kill her with kindness.

"Your father has written you a note." I interrupted, stepping forward from the shadows. I held the letter that was given to us in my hand. Everest smiled as I handed it to him.

“Well he wrote to us, to give us a warning message and an ultimatum.” I looked at her as I could see the anger rise in her face.

I turned to the guard “Will you please get a change of clothes, warm soapy water, a sandwich and a bottle of water for her?”

“Yes ma’am” He turned to pass along the message and one of the other guards took off quickly.

“Well, what did my father have to say?” She crossed her arms as she watched us both.

“Either I let you go to be a mate with Dexter who I will kill. Or I give up my fated mate and have you as mine.” He stated flatly and then laughed. “Like either of those options are viable options for you. After everything you have said, done, planned, and tried getting away with? Over my dead body.” He growled at her and she took a step back from the silver bars.

“I will, however, lessen whatever your sentence is and show some mercy if you give up some information on what happened in here a few days ago. I know that Ryder was in the cell across the way.”

She looked at the cell across the way and she looked back to the floor. “Yes, I know what happened. No, I don’t think I will tell you anything yet. Until I have it in writing what my stipulations are and I request to see my father.”

“Or I can just skip your trial find you guilty of being an accomplice to murder of the king and kidnapping of the future queen and drag you through the courtyard. Naked I might add, while our people throw whatever at you and tie you up in the middle of the beheading yard for a week before you are put the death.” He shrugged. “It is of course your choice.”

My eyes widened and I looked over at Sarah after hearing my mate. I didn’t think the woman could pale anymore but whatever color was in her face left her completely. I knew she didn’t have any options left.

“Please Sarah, make the right choice here. You’ve made your mistakes but let’s try to right them while we can.” I offered her and she looked at me. I could see the hatred living in her eyes.

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I watched as Sarah struggled with her slim choices. It was either one or the other. It would be a choice of life or a choice of death. There was absolutely no way I would allow her to live if she chose the path to death. I would end her life before her father stepped a toe into this kingdom.

That was something else I would want to handle immediately. He will not get away with that one. If I had it my way, I would strip him of everything and put him in the cell next

to her. I felt my anger rising inside but outside I appeared to be calm and collective. I saw Everest glance at me and shift his weight. I knew he could feel my anger starting to build through our connection. Sarah was quiet for too long and I was growing tired and annoyed.

“You have about two seconds to answer before you seal your own fate!” My voice sounded cold, harsh. “Please do not interrupt my kindness extended to you previously as a weakness. I know someone of your stature is not used to living in such poor and uncomfortable conditions. Make no mistake that I won’t walk out of this cell with my mate and never look back. So, will you give us the information we are looking for or will you sign your own death?” I glared through her as if she was the gum on the bottom of my shoe. As I spoke to her my words became a jagged edged sword. I got more angry with every word that left my mouth my voice showed exactly how annoyed I was. Sarah began to shrink back into her cell, stumbling over the uneven floor as she backed up.

“Yes.” She said. “Yes?” Everest asked her.

“I will give you the information that I have or what I saw.” She had her head down, looking at her feet.

“Clean yourself up, eat, drink. We will move you to a more comfortable cell. I will supply you with a pen and paper and you will write to your father telling him to stand down, you’re fine, and in this letter you will confess your crimes. I will take a photo of this letter to keep for my own records. I will also read the letter to make sure you’re not saying anything

else other than that and pleasantries. If you attempt to double cross me, it will be your death.” He looked at her, rage and hate laced his words. Sarah looked at him with tears in her eyes, holding them back the best she could.

Her voice trembled as she knew it was over with him “I won’t double cross you. I swear it.” She looked over to me “I am very sorry.”

I didn’t say anything to her, just looked at her. Moments later the guard arrived with the items I requested. I swore I heard her stomach growl as she looked at the large sandwich on the plate.

"We will leave you for now. You will be moved in a few hours to a more comfortable cell. Tomorrow we will discuss your terms and our conditions." I told her as Everest reached for my hand. I took his hand and let him lead me out of the cells.

When we reached the main security office I requested a tour of the better cells. I wanted to make sure there was a silver barred window for her to look out of, a accessible toilet area and a bed. It didn't have to be cozy and comfortable, just livable. She would be escorted twice daily for a walk and would be expected to help cleaning hospital rooms. She would never have less than three security team members while she was out. This would be a slow process and not everything would be immediate. One slip up and it all gets taken away.

I thought about this the entire way up and when we walked into his office I sat down. I looked over at him and he was flustered. "I don't know, what to do."

"Well, what about we move her and allow her to write the letter to her father first?" I sat back in the chair.

"Okay. Yeah, I mean after that." He sighed.

"I feel like we need to wait until we get his response before we move forward with whatever plans we come up with. Then we might be able to give her supervised walks, maybe cleaning hospital rooms. All of these, of course, will be heavily security detailed." I watched his facial expressions as he contemplated my ideas.

"Hmm, those are some good points and ideas. I will take them into consideration." He wrote them down on a post it note.

"This may take weeks or months to implement. She is definitely going to have to prove herself and her worth." I leaned my head back and looked at the ceiling. I heard Everest move in his chair and yawn. "We need to discuss when we will have our ceremonies as well."

groaned "When all this ends."

"Agreed. I am just catching heat from the council about you not being crowned and not being one with our territory even if you are marked. You have no direct line of communication with anyone except me. Well, you can tap into their thoughts but they can't hear you." His chair squeaked and I looked over to him.

"Maybe we should have the ceremony tomorrow. It can be small intimate with just us who is here." I suggested.

“I’ll arrange it then.” He picked up his phone, dialing a number, and told whoever was on the otherside the plan. I needed to find a suitable dress, nothing fancy but work casual at the least.

I stood and walked over to Everest, leaning down and kissing him on the mouth.” need to pick out an outfit for tomorrow. Want to help?” I smiled and he nodded his head. “I have a bunch of work attire dresses I just don’t know which to pick.”

We walked up to our room together and went straight to the closet. He threw himself across the bed and got comfortable. When I walked into the closet I picked out seven of my favorites, bringing them outside to show him. I looked over at him and his head was resting on his arm that was propping him up.

I started showing them and he narrowed it down to three. I went to put the others up and tried on the rest. After much deliberating we chose a soft yellow dress with a black blazer. The dress was knee length and had a flattering fit. I felt sophisticated in it. I paired it with small silver earrings, black heels, and a slim silver bracelet. I walked out and looked at Everest and his smile widened.

“You look absolutely breath taking. Definitely look like you’re going to conquer anything that comes your way.” He grinned as he sat up in the bed.

I smiled over to him as I turned around to show off the dress more. I walked away to the closet and removed the clothes, hanging them back up. I put on my other clothes as I heard someone knocking frantically on the door.

“What is it?” Everest asked as a warrior was breathing frantically at our door.

“I am sorry sir but I ran here to tell you there has been an attack on one of the smaller packs. We believe it to be Dexter. He is trying to conquer our territory and gain numbers. His movements look to be heading in the direction toward the Eastern territory along the coast.”

I walked out frowning “You are certain it is Dexter?” I asked.

“Yes ma’am. Spotters have confirmed it to be him and his army of Lycans and Wolves.” He had a nervousness in his voice and my heart ached for our people who were suffering.

“Thank you, call a meeting with the top warriors and set up a video conference with King Brent this evening. We need to try to get any information we can.” The warrior bowed and left immediately to do as he was instructed.

– “Everest, I wonder if Miranda is okay? We need to make sure to ask while we are talking with him. I am sure she is missing Cassie terribly.” He nodded his head.

"I need to adjust your ceremony into the pack to tomorrow morning, we may have to leave in the afternoon." He rubbed his face.

I wanted to rip off Dexters head and separate it from his body entirely. He is absolutely insane and not thinking clearly. Which, from what I can tell, he hasn't thought clearly ever in his life. Jealousy is not a good look on him, or anyone for that matter.

I pulled out an older, and I am sure an out dated map of our territory. I really wasn't up to speed and wanted to be able to visualize where he was going or headed. I didn't hear him come up behind me but I could feel his body heat radiating off of him.

"What are you doing, love?" He asked, peering over my shoulder.

"I am trying to see where we can go to cut him off? Or just where we need to go in general." I searched the map and sighed.

"I see. Well, I don't want you going. It is too dangerous."

I turned and looked at him. Was he seriously not going to let me help my people? No.

"Oh, I am going. I am going to help our people and do what I can to save them from this mad man." I challenged him and he frowned.

"I just can't risk losing you again." His head hung then.

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"Then stay by my side and I'll stick to yours but I am going." I felt Charlotte's courage and her cheering me on.

"Fine, but stay close to me when we are out there." He had an unhappy look on his face.

"I will? trust me." I wrapped my arms around him in a hug. "Thank you."