

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free,Chapter 321: THE EXTEND OF CANE'S CRAFTINESS

THE EXTEND OF CANE'S CRAFTINESS

"I can come with you!" Laluna said immediately when she saw Iris stood up and was about to leave. She didn't even wait for her response when she said she would find Cane and deliver the message.

"My princess, it will be very inconvenience for you to come along with me, because my mate is in the strategy room and the place is a little bit faraway from here, more so, I am about to leave to see him." Iris smiled softly at the princess, looking so innocent and genuinely concerned about Laluna's condition right now. She was pregnant after all, thus it wouldn't be wise to ask her to go around delivering messages. "You don't need to worry, I will make sure my mate gets your message."

Laluna opened her mouth, but she closed it again, because if she said more than this, it would be seen as her, who was very adamant to meet with Cane, though there was some part of it, which was true, but she couldn't make it obvious in front of her ladies, especially for Iris to notice it.

In the end, she could only swallow down her protest and put on a gentle smile. "Thank you, luna Iris."

"You don't need to mention it, princess Laluna. I am sure, you are very worried about your mate." Iris felt bad to talk about prince Vemion to princess Laluna this way, since she knew the prince would never return again, at least not with his life...

"Yes, I am." Laluna's expression looked complicated, but Iris didn't want to bother.

"In that case, I will take my leave." Iris nodded politely at the princess and walked a little bit faster. She didn't want Laluna to change her mind and call her back to ride with her in the carriage.

At the same time, Iris was still unsure what was in Cane's mind not to reveal prince Vemion's body until now. The tension in the palace was so high and he was in difficult position because he appeared as if he didn't make any

progress, though he had the king's golden stamp and was appointed as the king's special envoy.

It didn't take long time when Iris arrived at the warrior building, where they needed to get a thorough check first before they could enter, because this majestic building was the concentrate of all the warrior's activity.

However, without permission from the people concerned, they were not allowed to get close to the strategy room. Iris didn't know about this, neither Hanna.

"Just, for a while miss, I will ask around," Hanna said, as she jumped out of the carriage, leaving Iris alone for almost half an hour before she returned with a smile on her face. "Don't worry, all we need is wait for the alpha."

Iris furrowed her brows slightly, she tilted her head to see her with questioning look. "What have you done?"

Hanna chuckled and her sad eyes turned mischievous. "I asked the guard to let the alpha knows that you are waiting here, once he got out of the strategy room."

"How can you believe the guard he will let Cane knows?"

Hanna shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly, as she grinned. "I bribed him with one gold."

"You bribed him?" Iris was shocked. "How can you get the money?"

"I got the money from the alpha and Ethan taught me how and what to say when I need a favor from those guards."

Apparently, Cane gave her enough money to do this dirty trick and of course, the alpha wouldn't waste his time to teach Hanna, thus the task was delegated to Will, but since Will was not here, it was Ethan, who helped her to get a better grasp of the political storm that was brewing inside the palace and how to be sneaky enough to gather information from the servants, since women tended to love gossiping.

Hearing all of that, Iris was even more shocked. She knew Cane used people around him, but he really didn't spare anyone... was this one of the reasons why he allowed Hanna to come along too? Not only to help Iris and

accompany her in this unfamiliar environment, but because he saw a use of Hanna.

With her personality and how well she blended with people around her, she would get a tidbit of information from those gossipy maidservants, something that the warrior wouldn't talk about, neither they would know.

Because the royal really looked down on lowborn people to the point, they didn't see their existence as a creature with intelligence, some time, they would reveal a secret or two in their presence without them noticing it and of course, such information would be a topic for gossip, such as; who had an affair with who to what dirty things those royals had done.

"So, you have been giving information to Cane?" Iris's jaw dropped. Hanna had never mentioned about this.

"No, I am just talking to Ethan about what I heard and the latest gossip among the servants," Hanna said cheekily and then grinned. "You know what? The gamma loves to hear gossip too, like girls."

At this point, Iris didn't know whether she had to laugh or cry, because how could Hanna didn't have any idea? The time when she thought she was gossiping with Ethan was the time, the gamma got the information from her to be delivered to Cane.

Iris didn't believe this, they even tricked Hanna smoothly, but there was some true in that, since Ethan indeed loved to gossip! He must enjoy this kind of task immensely.

And for Cane, Iris didn't know whether she had to be upset or admire him. She had known for quite a while by now that he wouldn't do something without ulterior motive, but to see what he had done to this extend was really an eye-opener of how cunning he was.

In this rate, Iris wondered how many things Cane had learned and known, she really wanted to know what kind of plan he had in his mind, but she didn't think he would explain everything to her.

It took them around two hours waiting for Cane to finally show up. At that time, Hanna had been very quiet, while Iris was reading some book. She had tried to ask her what happened when she met with Will, but Hanna would always

smile and say something along the lines; he will be fine, he needs time to be alone for a while.

"Ah, the alpha is here." Hanna raised her head and nudged Iris, after that she walked out of the carriage and not long after that, it was Cane, entering the carriage.

"Is there something you want to talk about?" Cane asked, he sat down across from Iris and noticed she read a book about Holy Kingdom. Iris didn't go to the library, because she liked to spend her time inside her bedroom or around the garden nearby, in case she encountered with the other royal family and asked Hanna to get the book she wanted instead.

"I want to start going to the orphanage regularly."

This came out as a surprise for Cane. "You know you can meet with Kellan there, right?"

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THE WHITE DAGGER

This came out as a surprise for Cane. "You know you can meet with Kellan there, right? You don't need to go if you don't want to."

After learning what had happened, Cane improvised his plan around Iris and how to get the public sympathy, thus for Iris to go to the orphanage regularly was not necessary.

"I know. I will go there if he is not there." Iris flinched when she heard his name was being mentioned and this subtle reaction didn't go unnoticed by Cane.

"He spent five to six days in the orphanage in a week, how can you plan a regular visit, while avoiding him."

Iris was surprised to read that revelation. She knew prince Kellan visited the orphanage often, but not that often... he practically lived there and this made Iris become even more uncomfortable. How many children did he...

Iris gritted her teeth, as she clutched her dress tightly, her body tensed up.

Cane stared at his mate for a while, but when she didn't say anything, he pinched her chin and lifted her head, so she could see his question. "You have a plan in your mind?"

"It's not really a plan," Iris said in small voice. She couldn't help, but compared her measly plan with Cane's grand one and felt dejected.

"Let me hear it then."

Iris pursed her lips. "Don't laugh."

"Why would I?"

Iris couldn't answer that. The only thing she knew, she was embarrassed. "I want to teach the children how to read and write."

"Mm." Cane prodded further for her to talk, because he couldn't see the need for Iris to teach those children how to read and write, but he wasn't completely against it, he needed more context about what Iris was going to do.

"I want them to be able to exchange letter with me," Iris said. "We will not stay here forever, right? So, when we return to the Howling Wolf pack, I want to still be in contact with them."

This idea sounded very trivial, but in the future, it would help them tremendously, even Cane failed to see it, because right now, the alpha's main focus was to get the public sympathy and the sound of his mate teaching those children such precious thing would look good.

Lowborn people didn't get enough education, almost all of them illiterate because writing and reading were two things that exclusively reserved for the highborn only.

Since they needed to trade with other people, they could do calculation, but it was very limited, not a few people were deceived because they were not well educated.

Cane contemplated about this. "What about Kellan?" He intentionally mentioned his name, knowing how uncomfortable Iris was. If she couldn't handle the mention of his name, she shouldn't meet him in person.

Once again, Iris flinched. She fiddled with her fingers. "Can't you take him away?"

"Do you want me to kidnap him?" There was amusement in Cane's eyes when he heard that. He knew Iris was not serious with her request, it almost like a passing comment and she realized it was impossible.

Iris pursed her lips. "He is already crippled, it will not difficult for you to do so." There was a hint of hatefulness when she mentioned Kellan's disability. "You can take him down easily."

"He is already crippled, you will be able to take him down easily too." Cane fished out something from his cloak and put it in her hand. "From what I heard, he can't shift into his beast."

Iris lowered her head and saw the dagger. This was the same white dagger that Cane gave her the other night, when he told her to stab him if he did something that would hurt her.

However, she handed it over again to him, because she didn't want to do that and be blamed for hurting the alpha. His people would raise hell, if they learned Iris had hurt Cane.

Seeing the dagger, Iris was about to retract her hand, but Cane held it firmly.

"I don't know how to use it," Iris said honestly, she had never stabbed anyone, not even hurting a fly.

"For protection," Cane said curtly. When you were hard pressed and in precarious situation, your survival instinct would kick in and you would do anything to survive, thus it would be better to have something handy in your possession than nothing at all. "I will teach you how."

As a shifter, using dagger was not common, Cane was not great with weapon either, since they themselves was a weapon, but he knew a few tricks.

"Okay." Iris nodded. She trusted him.

"You have not yet answered my question, what will you do if he is around?"

"I... I will face him," Iris said hesitantly, without any confidence at all.

Cane caressed her cheek and rubbed her earlobe, which made her squirmed. She held his hand away from her ear to stop him.

"Going into a battle without two plans, it's the same as a suicide." Two plans. Cane was talking about a back up plan. "You must learn that."

Iris became anxious when she saw how serious Cane was, but she looked at him attentively.

"When the time comes and you have to stain your hands with blood to survive, do it. The survivors can invent stories of how they lived and the dead cannot refute that statement." What Cane wanted Iris to learn was; as long as you were alive, it didn't matter what the truth behind the dead, because stories could be fabricated. "Remember that."

Cane didn't want her to be so clueless and naïve, though he adored her kindness, but she needed to know what she must do and what she had to do to survive. Kindness was a good trait, but it was not necessary in his case, especially if it was more than needed.

You needed to be able to draw a clear line between being kind and being a fool.

"Understood?" Cane squeezed her hand that held his.

"Understood." Iris nodded, albeit she was still trying to grasp the meaning behind his words, but she scrapped the surface of what he wanted her to do. "Oh, right. Earlier, princess Laluna came and she said Sir Dwan wanted to see you."

A crafty look flitted in his dark eyes when he heard that. "Okay."

Cane was about to leave, but then Iris held his hand to stop him. "Will you comeback for dinner?" she used to have dinner with him, but recently, he had been very busy. She missed him, but she didn't want to appear too clingy with him.

"I don't think I will manage for dinner."

"Oh."

Cane saw how Iris looked disappointed, he hoped she didn't make it very clear for anyone else to see her emotions, but then, he liked this side of her. He didn't want to corrupt her, but then the way she took the world needed to change, as it didn't suit with what would come to them later.

"But, I will stay for breakfast tomorrow," Cane added, as he kissed her hand that held his. "I need to leave now." He had made a few people waited because he came here to see her first.

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DEPARTURE

The kiss on her hand made Iris blushed, she nodded absentmindedly. It was either because of the way he kissed her hand, or how happy she was to have a breakfast with him tomorrow. She would look forward to it.

After their brief conversation inside the carriage, Cane had to return for another meeting and met with Koda.

It was already late at night and they met at the East gate. This was the exit that Cane used to get out of the palace through secret door, since the guards there were his father's people in the past.

Koda was wearing thick black cloak and hoodie, which covered his entire face and hid his identity, but of course, Cane knew. Hiding his appearance, didn't hide his scent.

"When will it happen?" Koda asked him straight to the main topic, once he saw Cane approached him. He didn't waste his time and his voice filled with tension.

"This is a delicate plan, you can't be careless." Cane didn't even bother to hide himself, though he was in the king's turf. He knew his men and he knew what he needed to do.

"I need to make sure that bastard crown prince will pay for what he had done and my grandson will be crowned as the next king," Koda hissed. He looked around, just in case someone was listening.

It was unsure what Cane said to him when he handed princess Osana's ring to him, but Koda was under the idea the crown prince was part of the reason why prince Vemion was being taken away by the lycan. He was sure his grandson had died by now and he wanted his great grandson to be the next crown prince, though nobody knew what gender the baby that Laluna was carrying.

Vemion wouldn't have a chance, but his great grandson, would have the whole Red Claw pack to be his supporter and with the fact that would be unfolded later, it could be the leverage to press down the king.

"You will get what you want." Cane didn't talk much like usual.

Koda narrowed his eyes. "What do you get from this?" He took a step closer to look at the young alpha intensely. "You gain nothing from this."

Cane looked at the old man with the same intensity. "Revenge."

The word was simple, but it carried a lot of reason behind it and strong enough to make Koda believed him. After all, you would be so gullible if you thought, the king didn't have a roll in the fallen of the Howling Wolf pack a decade ago.

And for someone like them, the word revenge was way more believable than anything else.

They talked about a few more detail of what would happen and Cane gave him a cursory of what he needed to do and what to feed the alpha of the Red Claw pack. Albeit, Koda was no longer the beta of the pack, but he was a trusted and respected man for the current alpha.

"I will meet you again in a few days. Be prepared to be out of the city."

Cane left with that statement and went straight to his bedroom. It was only three hours before morning came, which meant, he only had that precious three hours to be with his mate.

Once he was inside the bedroom, he saw how Iris slept on the couch, seemingly trying to stay awake, so she could meet him before bed, but unfortunately, she slept like a baby when she was sleepy. She literally could sleep anywhere without problems.

Recently, her nightmare had reduced and she could sleep better.

Gently, Cane carried her onto the bed and tucked her in before he cleaned himself and ready for the bed. He pulled her closer and fell asleep almost immediately. Her body was so soft and she felt right in his arms. Her curls felt so soft, as Cane tangled them between his fingers. Feeling the softness of her hair.

The next day, Cane told Iris during their breakfast that he would go out for more than a week.

"Where?" Iris asked, she stopped eating when she read that.

"Ash city and Drein city." The two cities took two days to be reached. "The scouts said they got clue about the lycan's whereabouts."

Iris pursed her lips, while Cane simply pretending he didn't see that.

She didn't believe it. If she didn't know any better, she would believe what he said. What clue? That must be Leros, who had spread such rumor and misled those poor scouts, since those scouts were under Leon Dmitri's control, Nala's father, who would appear more believable in the eyes of the king.

"You will not take me with you, right?"

"I will not take you with me, yes."

Iris shouldn't be dejected when she read Cane's answer, because she realized she wouldn't be much of a help if she tagged along, more so, they would look Cane funny if he brought his mate with him in this mission.

"More than a week..." Iris mumbled, as she chewed her meal slowly. She lost her appetite.

She had gotten used with Cane to be around her and even when they only had less than an hour to meet or only saw each other in the morning, she knew he was nearby and she didn't realize how reassuring and comfortable it was until Cane told her he would be a few days away.

It would be the first time for them to be parted ways for such a long time ever since they arrived in the capital city.

"What about the new moon?" Iris just remembered this. Somehow, she felt thrilled to realize Cane needed her to be with him during the new moon.

"I will return before that."

"Okay."

New moon. The only time when Iris knew he would be with her.

And with that, the next day, the entourage had gathered. Cane would go to the nearby cities with a few royal warriors, Koda and a few warriors from the Red Claw pack, continuing his pretense to look for prince Vemion and gave assurance to the people that the lycan would be caught, without them knowing he was the lycan itself.

This morning, Iris and Hanna went to the main gates to accompany Cane and wish him a safe journey, since he would be away for long time. And for Hanna, once she knew Will would come to the palace for preparation, she came along with Iris, but it seemed, there was nothing she could get, aside from staring at him from afar.

"Be safe..." Iris said to Cane, she looked around and realized he only took Will and Aderan with him, while he left the rest in the palace or in the orphanage.

On the other hand, Hanna had been stealing a peek at Will, but the man didn't look at her way at all. Their last meeting didn't end well and she couldn't catch up with Will in his beast form. There was no way she could outrun a warrior like him.

Even from afar, Hanna could tell how gloomy he was, the aura around him was so dark, as if he would snap anytime.

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SHE MISSED HIM ALREADY

It Hanna to see how Will didn't want to look at her at all. She felt so hurt and really wanted to have a conversation with him, but she knew it wouldn't be a good idea.

Therefore, she chose not to approach him. Probably, he needed more time with himself to sort out whatever feeling he had. She had been asking about what happened to Will, but no one knew.

Iris even had tried to bring this topic with the alpha, but Cane shut down the question, leaving no room for discussion and only said; he will come around, just give him time.

With that, what Hanna could do was waiting for him.

"Stay in the orphanage." Cane kissed Iris's cheek when he said that. The onlookers would say it was a sweet gesture, but the alpha was actually telling her a few important things. "Keep it with you."

Iris nodded. She kept the dagger close to her and she would always bring it with her when Cane went to the other cities, which was a little bit far from the capital city, it would take him more than a week to return.

However, what made Iris dumbstruck was the fact Cane managed to drag prince Kellan along with him. She was not sure what Cane said to the prince, but when she saw him from afar, she could see how reluctant the prince to follow this small entourage, since this was not convenience for his condition to travel far and because of that as well, he couldn't bring the two girls with him, as they were left in his palace.

"What did you tell him?" Iris asked in small voice, Cane almost missed the question. They were still very close, her lips were literally in his ear.

Cane only straightened himself and brushed her bangs, as he kissed her cheek one more time before he mounted his horse, ready to leave when he spotted prince Kellan was about to walk toward them and greet his mate.

Seeing this, the prince signaled his warrior to carry him inside a spacious carriage and they were ready to depart.

Iris stood there for a long time, until she couldn't see the last warrior, so did Hanna, she waited for Will to at least turn around or glance her way, yet he

didn't do either of that. He looked like he was in deep thought and the look of his back was so lonely.

"Miss, let's go inside." Hanna nudged Iris, her heart constricted to see how Will ignored her.

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Time passed and it has been five days since Cane left and Iris had been staying in the orphanage, teaching the children above the age of seven how to read and write, so they could teach the other younger children when Iris was not there.

However, Iris put special attention on Joyce, she wanted her to be able to read and write as soon as possible.

Actually, Iris wanted to take the children in the prince Kellan's palace, but without the prince was there, no one was allowed to enter his residence and she didn't want to make them suspicious of her, thus she let go and thought; since prince Kellan was not there, they would be fine too.

"Missy, look at this lizard, don't you think the color had turned so red?" Hanna caressed the little lizard's head that was not so little anymore.

"Hm?" Iris paid close attention to this little creature, which now the size of her palm. Cane had told her not to show it to anyone else, thus she didn't take it out of the room and now she spent most of her time in the orphanage, she brought this lizard with her as well.

Right now, the color of this lizard was almost the same like the color of the fire on the fireplace, if this creature stood next to the fire, it would take a second look for them to notice it.

The weather had become warm, but Iris still needed the fireplace to warm her more, because it was still too cold for her without it.

"There is silver strip on its front legs." Iris traced the silver strip on the lizard with her finger, while Hanna fed it.

In these five days, Iris had been very busy with teaching the children and from what she knew from Hanna, people started talking about her in a good light,

which made Iris was very happy, because she knew this was Cane's intention to win the people's heart, thus knowing she could help him, she felt elated.

Iris was happy with what she was doing and more so because people appreciated her effort, but no matter how busy she was, her mind would slip to him again and again. She missed him.

Some time, Iris would be in deep thought, thinking whether Cane felt the same like her or not. The mate bond between them completely threw her off guard, since Iris didn't think she could miss Cane this much.

And every night, she would have troubled to sleep. Her nightmares lurked from the corner of her mind and she would wake up in the middle of the night to find herself was alone.

"No, you read this as 'danger'," Iris said, correcting Joyce. The little girl was very enthusiastic to learn, she was a fast learner and after six days Iris was here, she was already able to write and read, though she would stumble when she found difficult words, but overall, she was a bright little girl. "Okay, I think it's enough for today."

Iris caressed Joyce's head and sent her off to play with the other children, after her private lesson with her. Iris's reason was; because Joyce would enter the palace and that place was so huge, thus they could exchange letter. It didn't make sense, but no one would question her.

"Do you want to learn how to read too?" Iris asked Trion, who had been paying attention to her and Joyce. Some time, she would catch him flipping through the book, trying to figure out what the words there.

"No. There is no need for me to learn," Trion said, the tip of his ears turned red when he was caught staring at the book.

"Why not?"

"I am not a spy, my position also not very important to learn how to read and write."

"I don't think so," Iris said, she wanted to help Cane in a way she could, and helping his men would help him too, right? "How many warriors are illiterate?"

Trion frowned, but he counted the people he knew the same lowborn like him. "Here, there are seven of them."

Because there were eight warriors that was placed in the orphanage, it meant only one of them, who could read and write.

"Avid can read, because his father was a personal guard for the alpha and he received a little bit education."

Iris remembered Avid. He was not around her so much, but she still remembered what happened to his family and how he apologized to her in the inn for how he treated her in the tent.

"Why don't you call them all here?"

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ENTHUSIASM IN THEIR EYES

There were seven warriors around Iris, including Trion, who listened to her attentively, as the luna taught them how to recognize the alphabet of the Ogregon language. They were already intelligent to begin with, thus it was not difficult to teach them, as they learned pretty fast.

Those seven warriors looked very enthusiastic to learn something that exclusively could only be learned by the highborn and those privilege families.

On the side, Avid watched his fellow warriors studied diligently. It had never crossed his mind the luna, the daughter of alpha Gerald, would do this for them. She went extra length to teach the children and lowborn warriors.

Someone with high position like her, shouldn't be bothered, but here she was, being very patient with the question the warriors asked.

Though the luna was not alone and Hanna helped her, still, it was her idea to get them a better education.

As for Avid, he didn't teach his fellow warrior because they had never asked, as they were under the idea it was not necessary for them to learn such thing, more so, they had more important thing to do and had no time for this.

As it turned out, they really liked learning new thing, especially now when they didn't have many things to do, since prince Kellan was not here and they didn't need to keep their eyes on his movements.

Avid felt bad for how he treated the luna the first time they met, it was that time when he was badly injured and she took the pain to take care of someone like him. He felt so bad how he had yelled at her, more so for what happened to her after that.

The luna had forgiven her, but the regret would be forever engraved in his heart. He chuckled when he saw Trion tried to read for the first time from a paragraph in the book Iris brought with her. Trion stumbled with words, but finished it nicely, there was a satisfied smile on the warrior's lips, as he looked so proud of himself and Iris clapped her hands to give him an appreciation.

The other six warriors became a little bit competitive, which looked so silly in Avid's eyes, since he used to see them brawling with each other as they competed on who would look better, but right now, they couldn't be aggressive in front of the luna.

However, when Avid was enjoying the sight, he suddenly sensed someone got closer, more so, he felt the monster nearby. It was not only him, because soon after, the seven warriors around Iris stood up and created a defense in front of their luna.

Iris looked confused with the sudden tension, she looked at Hanna, who was standing next to her.

"There is someone coming and a monster."

"A monster?" Iris furrowed her brows. She tiptoed to look at through the warriors' shoulders, as they were very tall and literally covered her existence completely.

But then, in the distance, she saw what kind of monster that made these warriors worked up. The monster in question waddled toward them lazily, as if it was already an effort for this creature to move its big butt. Its fur was as white as the snow and its tongue lured to the side of its muzzle.

Lil Thing walked toward the hostile warriors without any sense of danger at all, as the eight of them growled at this creature with warning, yet it looked dumb and had no sense of awareness of its surroundings whatsoever.

Trion and the other two warriors were ready to shift into their beast, as Lil Thing came closer, but Iris stopped them.

"It's okay, I know this creature," Iris said, as she tried to squeeze her body out of their protection.

"You shouldn't approach the creature, luna!" Avid said, as he stood between Iris and the white bear, which looked so excited to see its favorite human.

"It's okay, I have already met this creature a few times," Iris told Avid to back away.

Hanna came to Iris's side, as she asked her missy after nudging her to get her attention. "Is that Lil Thing that you have talked about?" she saw the creature the first time when Lou brought it to the orphanage not so long ago.

"Yes." Iris nodded and walked closer to the white bear, but Avid still stayed close to her, ready to take an action if this monster turned violence.

"There is nothing little about this creature." Hanna frowned, this beast was easily twice her height when it stood on its hind legs, the size alone was thrice if it was not four times her size.

Iris chuckled and walked closer to Lil Thing and extended her hand, but Avid immediately held her back. "What are you doing? It is a monster! I know this monster belongs to that merchant, but it is still a monster."

Avid and Trion went with them to the black market, but they stayed in the town nearby and didn't come to the black market itself, thus they didn't really know about Lil Thing and this was the first time for them to see the creature, since they were not here when Lou came with Lil Thing the last time.

"It's okay. Its size is a little bit intimidating, but Lil Thing is as good as a puppy." Iris smiled and put away his hand, as she came closer to Lil Thing, which it lowered its head and let her to caress its muzzle.

All of them dumbstruck to see how easy their Luna was around this monster.

"I think we will continue our lesson tomorrow," Iris said, as she turned around to see the warriors behind her, who still looked so concerned with the proximity between her and this huge furball. "I will see you again tomorrow, okay? You can leave now."

Reluctantly, they went back to their own post, but Avid and Trion stayed with their luna and Hanna, since this creature was still nearby and they saw it as a threat.

"Why is this creature here?" Hanna asked, she caressed its soft fur and it showed its belly. Iris was right, this creature acted like a puppy. "If this creature is here, the merchant must be around too, right?"

As if answering Hanna's question, Lou appeared not so long after. He looked worried, but then sighed in relief when he saw Lil Thing.

"I have looked for you everywhere!" he cried, as he approached his pet. "Where have you been? Why are you wandering off on your own?"

Seeing this bad acting that the merchant displayed to them, Trion and Avid scoffed, but it was actually Hanna, who spoke.

"What do you mean you have been looking for this white bear? You have been standing there, since the beginning," Hanna said fiercely, as she pointed the spot, where Lou had been hiding, waiting for a good time to appear, so it would look like he entered the orphanage not because of his own will.

Lou cleared his throat, he thought he had stood far enough for them not to smell his scent. "How are you, Iris? It has been a long time!" He smiled brilliantly.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free, Chapter 326: THE LUNA WANTS TO SEE YOU

THE LUNA WANTS TO SEE YOU

Iris looked at Lou, but she only smiled politely at him, as she fished out a magic stone from her pocket. Cane gave her some before he went. She then gave the magic stone to Lil Thing, in which munched on it happily, like a puppy got a treat.

"I don't think you are allowed here, sir," Avid said, he stepped forward and stood in front of Iris.

"Of course, I allow to be here. I am under the command of the king. My project to create a magical device involved this orphanage as well. If you have any objection, you can complaint to the king," Lou said smugly. Not all what he said was a lie, but that was not a fully truth either.

"You create a magic device to prevent a monster to come closer, but why are you walking around with one?" Trion pointed the white bear.

"Lil Thing is not a monster, Lil Thing is my pet," Lou said, looking offended on behalf of his cute pet.

Trion scoffed disdainfully to see the merchant's antics. "This is not the place where you can bring a monster as you like. There are a lot of children here. It's not safe for them."

"Oh, please," Lou sighed dramatically. "Can't you see how adorable my pet is? Lil Thing has a soft spot for children and children love it." Lou grinned. He pointed his finger at the children, who had been following him and the white bear, waiting for him to give them permission to touch Lil Thing again like the last time.

Knowing this white bear wouldn't hurt the children, Iris took the initiative to call them over, in which they rushed toward them, chirping happily to touch Lil Thing that currently enjoyed the magic stone and let them climbed on top of its body without so much of retaliation at all.

Seeing this, Avid and Trion's lips twitched. What kind of creature was this white bear? It was too friendly to be called as a monster.

Meanwhile, Iris and Hanna immediately left when the children made a fuss to climb on top of Lil Thing and nuzzled its thick fur.

Above them the sun was almost set and the sky was the color of red, though the weather was slightly warmer and the wind was not so cold, Iris would prefer to sit near the fireplace to warm her body.

"Hey, where are you going? We have not had any conversation yet!" Lou said loudly, as he was trying to go after Iris, but Avid and Trion immediately barred him from coming closer to their luna.

"Sir, our luna is very tired, you need to leave her alone, she needs to rest," Avid said sternly, while Trion looked at the merchant unhappily. It was clear to see this man came here with the intention to get close to their luna and from what he heard, this man had tried this kind of trick a few times. He would make sure all the warriors knew about this, so they could take precaution against this merchant.

"I am sure, she will be able to handle a few minutes conversation with me," Lou was adamant, seeing how Iris walked further with her maid. He really wanted to knock off these warriors, but he couldn't afford to make a scene here.

"Leave our luna alone, sir, she needs to rest, her physic is not so strong," Trion said and this made Lou clicked his tongue.

Why they used almost the same excuse like their alpha? Didn't they overuse it?

Meanwhile, Iris was unable to hear the commotion behind her, neither she turned around to find out what was happening, Trion and Avid would be more than enough to handle Lou, and Hanna didn't even bother to tell her missy.

A week passed uneventfully and Iris had been waiting for Cane to return, but it seemed, he needed more time to be away, while the new moon would be in five days from now. Iris was worried, he wouldn't make it back in time before it happened, she dreaded the possibility if the lycan ran rampant because Cane couldn't control the cursed beast. It was also still a mystery about how Iris could appease the lycan.

"Still there is no news?" Iris asked Trion in the end session of their study. All the warrior had a book in their hand that they would need to read in order for them to practice, because Iris would ask them question, not only that, she also gave them homework, so they could self- practice in their spare time.

"They still can't find any clue of the lycan and people from Red Claw pack adamant for them to stay for another days, so they can look the area more thoroughly," Trion let Iris knew, while Ethan pretended didn't hear that.

Trion didn't know about the fact their alpha was the lycan itself, thus it sounded a little bit silly for him to hold this information and see how distressful the other warriors on behalf of their alpha. The beta actually felt bad for them to have such unnecessary concern.

"Oh, okay..." Iris was looking for the news about Cane's return, but it seemed, it wouldn't happen soon. She had been very quiet when she was not teaching them or playing with the children.

And for Lou, after what happened the other day, the warriors would be around their luna, keeping the merchant away from her every time he came to visit again, as they told him the luna was teaching the children, or the luna was surrounded with them when she taught the warriors, which left Lou with no room to talk with her.

He only complained about why she wasted her time to teach lowborn people like the warriors how to read and write, all the warriors like them only needed to know how to fight well in battle, in which made all of them growled and glared at the merchant dangerously.

Knowing he wouldn't have a chance to have a private conversation with Iris even when Cane was not around, Lou gave up and stopped coming to the orphanage.

With that, two days passed, it was only three days before the new moon and Iris had been worried because Cane had not yet returned, while Ethan was trying to find more information about what delayed them.

Only on the next day, they heard about the fact the alpha, Koda and a few warriors from the Red Claw pack were actually already in the capital city and they went straight to the palace, because the king demanded their presence.

"I think, our line of communication has been intercepted," Ethan said with a trace of annoyance in his voice. "This must be the king, who had done this," he grumbled.

"I want to go back to the palace," Iris said. She had left the palace ever since Cane's departure.

However, inside the palace, even before Iris arrived, Cane got news his mate had been waiting for him in their chamber.

"The luna wants to see you, alpha Cane," one of the guards approached Cane, once he walked out of the king's study room.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free,Chapter 327: SOMETHING WAS NOT RIGHT

SOMETHING WAS NOT RIGHT

It was so hectic in the past three days, since the scouts found more and more false clues about the lycan's whereabouts, even some of those clues were not the one Cane had prepared for them. It seemed those scouts were desperate to find anything that could lead them to the lycan, thus they tossed everything that they thought could be a clue to find the creature, in which led them astray from their main purpose.

Not to mention prince Kellan basked himself with the attention from the city and town nearby, as his name spread wide and far, as a kind and wise prince, especially after he took five orphans with him, so they could be taken care of better in his orphanage. People sang his name and praised him to the moon on how generous and pure his heart to help those poor children.

The five new orphans that he took were around the age of four to nine years old, three girls and two boys, who looked at the prince with some sort of admiration, which made Cane sick to his stomach.

But, with so many people around him, he wouldn't be able to do anything outrageous. At least, not yet...

Therefore, when he returned to the capital city with Koda and the warriors from the Red Claw pack, he left half of the royal warrior behind with pretext, they could help prince Kellan, since it was him, who had asked the prince to come along with them. On the surface, the alpha looked like he felt responsible for that.

Once they entered the palace, they were immediately ushered to the king's study room by the guard and spent hours there to talk about a few things, especially about where the Red Claw pack, as the king demanded them to continue to deliver the magic stone, but Koda kept saying the current alpha of the Red Claw pack was the one, who had the last say in this matter.

And when the meeting finally ended without any decision being made, Cane was about to go to the orphanage, since the last report he received was; Iris stayed in the orphanage ever since he left the capital city.

However, the guard approached him to tell him that his mate had been waiting for him in their chamber.

It was weird, since the guard was not part of his pack and it was not usual for Iris to call for him by sending the royal guard instead.

Anyhow, Cane went to their chamber and found the red hair woman sitting on the bed, reading a book on her laps.

"Iris?" Cane called her, but she didn't turn around. Of course, wasn't she not able to hear him?

The alpha then approached Iris and looked at the book she was holding. It was a book about all the packs in this kingdom. Cane remembered the latest topic Iris had been reading was about Holy Kingdom.

There was something wrong with the whole situation.

"Cane!" Iris startled when she saw Cane was standing next to her, only now she noticed someone was near her, because she was lost in thought in what she was reading. Her smile looked brilliant and her blue eyes lit up to see her mate.

For a second, Cane felt he was being a little bit paranoid. Iris was here. His mate was smiling at him, but here he was, doubting her.

"How was your journey? Are you okay?"

The sound of her voice was the same. Cane leaned over and kissed her forehead like usual. Her scent was the same too. It was her, but his instinct said otherwise.

Cane had been on high alert ever since he left the palace. He was worried the dark wisp would appear all of sudden and his night had been so hard. He used to fall asleep almost immediately whenever Iris was with him, but during the time he was away, he got a headache and had trouble to fall asleep. He was exhausted and wary.

The first thing he wanted was to have a good rest with his mate in his arms. He had gotten used with her presence and without her, it felt something really important was missing.

And yet, somehow, to see his mate was standing right in front of him, where he could reach her, it didn't make him feel relief at all. She was there, but the comfort of her presence didn't exist.

"What happened?" Iris furrowed her brows, looked so concerned because he didn't say anything.

"Nothing." Cane shook his head. He took a step back. "Walk with me?"

"Okay," Iris said in a sweet tone, as she grabbed his hand and together, they walked toward the garden. "I am sure you need fresh air. It is no longer cold now."

Cane said nothing and only stared at their intertwined fingers together. She had never reached out to him first, it would always be him, who would take her hand.

"I am so happy to see you again, what happened? You took so long to return." Iris started to ask a question.

On the other hand, Cane was thinking he was going crazy to say it was not her. It was not his mate. It was not Iris, who was with him. The way she talked, the way she took his hand and the way she looked at him in the eyes, had set him off in his head.

Something was completely wrong with this whole situation, as an observer, it was easy for Cane to pick up a few things that Iris was not usually doing. However, it was her. Her appearance, her scent, her voice... it was her.

"Cane, do you think Prince Vemion had died?" Iris stopped walking, she asked the question in a low voice, as if she was afraid someone might walk over and hear their conversation. "What if the war happened between the royal family and the Red Claw pack, which side will you choose?"

Cane still didn't say anything, he stared into those beautiful blue eyes. "Which side do you think I will choose?" he asked casually.

Iris pursed her lips. "We don't need to side with the Red Claw pack. Of course, having the royal family as support will give way more benefit to our pack."

'we' and 'our', two words that Iris had never preferred to use whenever she mentioned the Howling Wolf pack and Blue Moon pack. Cane knew how Iris

felt to a certain level about the two packs and surely, she wouldn't use those two words because she had never felt she belonged to either pack.

"After all, having the king's support it's a great thing, rather than the whole Red Claw pack." Iris shook her head. "It's a lost battle if we fought against the royal."

"Hm. Do you think so?" Cane raised his hand and caressed her cheek, as he tucked strands of her hair behind her ear.

"Yes." Iris nodded, as she leaned her head against his touched when Cane caressed her earlobe. She smiled sweetly at the alpha, but his heart skipped a beat when she saw a killing intent flitted cross his dark eyes. "Cane?" She blinked her eyes and shuddered involuntarily.

The Alpha: Claiming His Enemy's Daughter Novel Online Free,Chapter 328: YOU ARE NOT HER

YOU ARE NOT HER

Cane could see fear and confusion flickered in her blue eyes and this set alarm off in his mind, especially when Iris didn't react the same way like she used to when he touched her earlobe.

"Cane?" Iris asked him. "What happened? Are you okay?"

Cane growled dangerously when he saw Iris raised her hand to touch his face. He took a step back and let her go, as he glared at her.

"Who are you?" Cane narrowed his eyes.

Iris gasped, she furrowed her brows. "What do you mean? This is me. Did you forget your own mate?" Iris walked closer toward Cane, but he swatted his hand when she tried to reach out to him. "Cane? Why are you reacting strangely? This is me, Iris."

Cane stood in his place. His dark eyes turned slightly darker, as he stared intensely at the woman before his eyes. Did he make a mistake? Was she really her? Probably he was too tired, that's why he became a little bit irrational?

"Cane, why are you doing this to me?"

It was her voice...

"I gave you a ring before I left. Where is it?"

Iris blinked her eyes innocently. "I put it inside the room. I don't want to lose it, because it was very precious to me." She took a step closer and this time Cane didn't avoid her. "You must be very tired, let's go back for now, shall we?"

Iris caressed his cheek and her fingers brushed his neck lightly, but a second later, Cane had his hand wrapped around her neck and pressed her airway with his thumb.

"Tell me, who are you?" Cane's voice was so cold, it carried a killing intent. He was very serious now, he was going to kill her. After the last answer, there was no doubt in his mind. She was not his mate.

Cane didn't know who had done it, neither he knew how they could pull such trick, but he knew for sure, this woman was not Iris.

"C- Cane... you are hurting me," Iris was choked, she tried to breath and claw on Cane's hand, but the alpha's grip was so strong, it was impossible for her to break free from it. "What... a- are you doing? L- Let me go..."

However, instead of letting her go, Cane pressed harder on her airway, suffocated her further, if this kept going on, she would die for sure.

Probably she could sense the determination in Cane's eyes, yet the question was something she couldn't answer, thus as the last resolve, Iris flicked her hand and there was something appeared between her fingers. It was a needle!

And before Cane could react, she had stabbed his arm, which caused the alpha to press her neck a little bit tighter and broke it.

Two things happened at the same time when the woman that looked like Iris fell to the ground with broken neck, she was dead and her face changed into her original self.

Cane recognized this woman, she was the witch, who had been seen to be with Nala when she was in the orphanage in the other day.

But, Cane couldn't think further about the motive of this witch and what she had stabbed him with, because right now, at the same time the witch revealed her true self, the black wisp burst out of his body. It was even more magnificent than the last time. It covered a large area and spread like smoke around his surroundings.

There was no way no one wouldn't notice about this soon.

Cane felt he was going to shift into his lycan form. He felt so fatigue and couldn't control himself, as he trembled and knelt to the ground.

His mind wandered to her...

He needed her.

Iris.

=====

Iris went to the palace right away once she heard the news about Cane's arrival. She went with Ethan and Hanna, while Trion and Redmond would come later, since they had something to be done first.

Yet, before they arrived at the palace, they could see Will was approaching them in the horseback, his expression looked so stern, as he stopped the carriage with Ethan on the coachman seat.

"Luna, come with me!" Will said urgently.

"What happened?" Ethan asked, he furrowed his brows, as he could sense trouble emanated from Will's cold demeanor.

A second later, Iris poked her head through the window, Hanna must have told her about Will, as she sat next to her.

"What is it?" Iris asked, concern in her voice. "We are going to the palace now."

"There is no time, ride with me!" Will was agitated, he was being very impatient right now and this made Iris realized something must have gone wrong.

Therefore, without a second thought, she jumped out of the carriage and went to Will. The warrior immediately caught her body and secured her to sit behind him, once she did, he immediately rode the horse back to the palace, leaving dust in its wake.

"We need to go as well!" Hanna urged Ethan, who was still confused with what just happened.

But, the gamma immediately snapped back to reality and drive the carriage straight to the palace as fast as he could.

Something must have gone wrong with the alpha, or else, Will wouldn't look like that.

Ethan's heart beat so fast in his ears. He gritted his teeth.

The palace... it was a dangerous place to make a wrong move...

On the other hand, because Iris was sitting behind Will on the horseback, there was no way for her to be able to learn the situation, even if Will explained it to her now.

Therefore, she could only hope it was something that they could handle.

However, once they entered the king palace ground, her heart skipped a beat, she knew what was going on, because she could see it from here.

It was the dark wisp!

It was akin to a black smoke that soared so high in the air. From the look of it and the large area this dark wisp could cover, this one was even bigger than the last time she saw it.

Iris found herself trembling in fear, not because she dreaded the dark wisp, but she was afraid what would happen to Cane. There was no way no one saw this. Many people must have seen this. What about the king? What now? Would Cane's plan fail just like this? Would he be punished?

The king would happily have his head on the spike for whatever atrocious accusation that he could think of. And what then? He would get his hands on the two packs again!

People would suffer, people would die...

Cane would die!

Iris felt her heart constricted with the possibility, chill ran down her spine when she thought of the possibility. No. It was not even a possibility. The king would definitely not let go of this golden opportunity to bring Cane down.

And as if the situation couldn't be even worse, Iris saw the king and the queen, along with countless royal guards and royal magic users watched Cane, who was kneeling down in the middle of the garden, as the dark wisp emanated from his body.

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NO WAY OUT SITUATION

The most dreadful things that could happen to them was actually playing before their eyes, under the watch of the king and the other people with higher status in this kingdom. They stared at Cane, jaws dropped, but they couldn't utter a single word.

The royal guards and warriors surrounded Cane, creating a barrier around him, as if this could help them to stop the dark wisp.

Meanwhile, the royal magic users started to cast their spell against the dark wisp with no avail, while the king, his righthand men and the other important people watched in horror on the side line, they stood so far, in safe distance away from Cane and the dark wisp.

Aderan approached Will and immediately helped Iris to get down from the horse, they didn't know why the alpha was asking for his mate when they thought, it should be Haco that he needed, since the sorcerer knew about magic, yet they could only oblige to their alpha's command.

"What is happening? How can this happen?" Iris was panic, she looked around her and could see they wanted to kill Cane, thinking he was inflicted with something horrendous that could harm them.

Aderan shook his head. "When we got here, the alpha has been like that..."

"The alpha wanted you," Will added.

Reading that, without a second thought, Iris immediately went toward the line of warriors that surrounded Cane. She tried to push them out of her way.

"You can't be here, luna Iris, please go back!"

"Move away from here, luna, you will get yourself hurt!"

"Stop her!"

They tried to stop Iris, but Aderan and Will frantically fought them back. They didn't know why the alpha needed her, but because that was his request, thus they would carry it until the end.

The two of them shifted into their beasts, which was a sign of rebellion, following that action four of the warriors shifted into their beasts as well and they started to fight this unfair battle.

Right at that time, Ethan and Hanna arrived as well and seeing this, they didn't even give a second thought before they shifted into their beasts and helped Aderan and Will to fight, while Iris was trapped in the middle of this vicious fight.

More royal warriors shifted into their beasts as well, which their number overwhelmed the four of them. Hanna was an easy target, since she was not a fighter, it was clear to see how her small wolf was overwhelmed by the attack from the royal warrior beast, if it was not because of Will's protection, one of the warriors would have had her neck.

"ENOUGH!" The king roared to see the fight broke out in this situation. "What the hell are you doing in front of me?!"

King Aeon didn't know what happened to Cane and what this dark wisp was about, but he knew better that this was not a good sign and he wanted this situation to be deescalated before it made to the public.

A lycan, a curse, monster attack and now this! All of these problems had driven him insane! He wanted this to be resolved, thus to see they started a fight, enraged him.

Hearing the sound of the king's wrath, the royal beasts retreated, while the four beasts circled around Iris, as she stood in the center.

"What are you going to do?!" King Aeon directed his question to Iris. His eyes were ablaze with anger, while beside him, the crown prince cowered with the sight of Cane. The alpha looked so feral with the dark wisp surrounded him, which looked so lethal, as if you could die if you breathed in.

"M- my king..." Iris's voice was trembling, she gripped her dress tightly to steady herself, because she felt her legs were about to give away. "I- I need to reach for my mate."

"What a runt like you can do?!" King Aeon barked with hostility. "Back down if you don't want to die!"

Iris opened her mouth, but she was not sure what to say to the king, as she glanced at Cane, who still kneeling on the ground, his body was trembling, as if he was holding something back, but when he slightly lifted his head, Iris could see how red his eyes were.

The lycan.

He was about to shift into the lycan. They would be doomed and there wouldn't be any plot or trick that would work to save their head from this predicament.

Cane was going to be killed in an instant he shifted into his lycan and they would meet their end, as well the member of the two packs.

Therefore, instead of wasting her breath on king Aeon, Iris rushed toward Cane instead, as she went through the dark wisp that surrounded him.

Everyone gasped to see her reckless action, they expected to see Iris collapsed to the ground because she breathed in the dark wisp, but she managed to reach out to Cane and immediately threw herself toward him.

Iris knelt down, ignoring the fact the ground was still so cold for her. She cradled Cane's head and whispered to him. "Close your eyes, don't see anything. Just close your eyes."

The color of Cane's eyes was black and it would turn into golden color when he shifted into his beast, the undeniable proof that he was part of the royal family, but his eyes would turn red when it was the lycan that would resurface.

She hoped no one noticed this.

The new moon would happen in two days, but why the lycan resurfaced now? Something must have happened to Cane before this.

"Close your eyes, it's okay, just close your eyes," Iris cooed, as she caressed his back soothingly and kissed the top of his head.

Cane let out a guttural growl, but he did what she said. He closed his eyes and rested his head against her chest, he let her to hold him, as he breathed in her scent. How much he missed this scent...

Seeing Cane was a little bit relax now, Iris watched the dark wisp gradually disappeared. It didn't happen immediately, but one could see how it slowly vanished, as the air was cleared and from the east the sky became a little bit brighter.

It was morning already when the dark wisp was completely evaporated, leaving no trace of it.

Because of the dark wisp as well, the body of the witch that Cane had killed was being unnoticed by those people, yet once it disappeared, they started to notice the dead body on the ground.

"He killed a person!" a warrior cried. His voice rang through this quiet morning, as he pointed out the body of the dead witch on the ground.

"Alpha Cane killed someone!"

"The alpha from Howling Wolf pack is using dark magic!"

This accusation put Cane in dire situation and in this seem- no way out situation, the alpha was seemingly unconscious in his mate's arms.

"Capture the alpha from the Howling Wolf pack and arrest all the member of the Howling Wolf pack!" Alan barked an order, as he was hiding behind his father, standing far back from them.