

Chapter 161

“Molly,” Seth moans in my ear, a sound I never tire of.

He grips my hip tighter as he continues at a leisurely pace, taking his time, enjoying each second of our time together.

“Seth, I’m so close,” I tell him, not sure how much more I can handle. “I’m going to c*m again.”

I arch my back, pressing my chest into his as I tighten around him, feeling an intense, toe curling, release of pleasure. He slips an arm behind me, holding me close as he finds his release deep within me and kisses my neck.

Rolling off me, he reaches over and pulls me to him, placing his hand on my tiny baby bump. It’s shown up sooner than last time, so soon that I was afraid it was twins again. Thank the goddess, though, there’s only one this time.

“I’ll never be tired of you, Queen Molly,” he says to me, placing a passionate kiss on my lips.

I giggle against him, and place my hand over his. “We’re going to end up with a whole army of pups.”

We hadn’t planned this pup, or even hoped for it. He was a complete surprise when Seth first smelled him. The twins were just 5 months old then. If we’re being honest though, we’ve never done much to prevent more pups.

“Are you ready for tomorrow?” he asks and I nod, feeling anything but ready about it. “Dad said they would keep the ceremony as short as possible.”

I nod, knowing that Peter will be true to his word, though the coronation is in the hands of some man from the high council, so there’s still room for someone to drag it out.

My parents have been here for a week, and Benjamin and Lily arrived this morning. We have a big dinner planned for the evening that Oliver insisted on creating for us. Robbie and Stella should arrive this evening, but since she is so far along in her own pregnancy, they won’t be staying long.

“I need to tell you something,” I say to Seth cautiously, the guilt of having kept it secret eating me alive.

He looks at me curiously, no doubt feeling how nervous I am. “How bad can it be, Love?”

“So, since it’s a family dinner tonight, and your parents are also coming,” I lead, chewing on my lip nervously. “I may have also invited Lucas and Allison.”

He smiles at me and kisses my head. “I may have also invited Grandma Cora,” he tells me with a small chuckle. “She will be elated if they come tonight.”

I release the breath that I didn’t even realize I had been holding. I finally get to meet the wonderful woman who, unknowingly, has taught me so much. The more I read through her journals, especially once she was named Queen, the more I truly learned and started to understand the requirements of the job. It has truly given me the confidence to go forward, though I’ll apparently be doing so with a million kids in tow.

Our peaceful time together is interrupted by a squeal of delight coming across the baby monitor. There’s no doubt that it’s Cora announcing she’s awake from her nap. I smile and sigh, standing up and running to the restroom before tossing on pants and a shirt.

Seth had already gone to the nursery and I walk in to find him standing at the window shirtless, holding our baby girl. I’m not sure what, but he’s pointing out the window and speaking softly to her, teaching her anything that he can at that moment. I walk behind them and run my arm across his lower back, leaning my head on his arm as Cora turns to look at me.

“Mama!” she exclaims happily, making my heart melt as it does every time. She spoke first, though her first word was Dada, and truly, there’s no one she loves more than her father. Their bond is incredibly special and I’m thankful that he’s never taken issue that she was born before the heir to the throne.

I sit in the rocking chair and feed her as Seth lifts Andrew out of his bed. My sweet, quiet Andrew who is so much like my brother Andrew, or what I remember of him. He’s calm and quiet, rarely making noise when he wakes. He prefers to look around, observing everything and everyone, never missing anything. His favorite word was mama, and he still won’t say dada, much to Seth’s heartbreak. Every time he giggles at Seth and refuses, I think back to when I was scared and delivering them and Seth held me, telling me how much my sweet boy would love me. I think he may have underestimated just how much, though.

After feeding both babies we play in the floor with them for a while, watching as they lift their toys and chew on books.

“Book!” Andrew says, and Seth glances at him out of the side of his eye.

A few months ago, I realized that we could not care for them alone every hour of the day and successfully run a kingdom, so we hired a nanny who takes them for a few hours each day so I can go downstairs to the office. Lucy walks in and bows quickly before climbing onto the floor. She’s a sweet young girl who is adorable with her long, black hair. There is nothing the babies love more than seeing her and pulling on her hair.

Seth helps me up and leads me back to our bedroom. Since the coronation is tomorrow, we’ve decided to stay out of the office today. There will be enough time for business in a few days and they’re changing our offices over today, anyway.

“Which dress did you decide to wear tomorrow?” he asks me and I walk over to the closet, lifting the black velvet dress.

“I had wanted to wear an emerald green one, but decided that black would be the safer choice,” I tell him, holding the dress up against me. “Well, that and two of the options were really tight across my stomach.”

Seth laughs, placing a hand on my hip and leans down to kiss me. “You’ll look amazing, Love. Black tie for me, then.”

“What are you wearing tonight?” I ask him, looking through a rack of dresses that are nice, but not too formal.

“I don’t know, Molly,” he says, waving off my concern. “Just lay out whatever you want me to wear.”

I lift out a pale blue dress that I’ve loved, but haven’t had the occasion to wear it. With the cut, I think it should fit alright still. I walk across to Seth’s side and lift out a navy blue suit and white shirt and place it next to mine for the evening. I’ve been picking his clothes most of the time now so we complement each other and it’s become a nightly occurrence.

Thankfully, Lucy got the kids dressed for us and she meets us in the living room as everyone starts to arrive upstairs. She opens the door to leave and finds Benjamin and Lily walking up, and I can’t help but smile at the sight of them. Lily had been in rough shape magically after she held the spell so long to protect us. Thankfully, things started to change for her a few weeks ago and she’s been regaining her strength, finally.

Mom and Dad show up next, my mom slightly overdressed as she always is for most things. I don’t recall her looking happier than she does with one of the twins in her arms. The moment she walks in, she grabs both kids and lifts them to her hips, walking around with them. Dad walks in, still using his cane and smiles as my mom lifts the kids.

“You’ve made her so happy,” he tells me and I nod. She really, truly is.

Peter and Audrey arrive, Audrey apparently in a competition with my mom as to who could be more overdressed. She walks right in and goes to my mom, taking Andrew from her. Peter sits on the couch and he almost looks sad. I take a seat next to him, offering him a glass of his favorite bourbon.

“Are you alright?” I ask him as he takes the glass from my hand.

He nods slowly, taking a sip of the liquid before looking at me. “I am,” he tells me with a sad smile. “All things have to end, but I have to say that I am a bit sad about it. You and Seth will do amazing things, though.”

Robbie and a very large Stella arrive and as they walk in, Lucas, Allison and baby Liam are behind them. They all enter and Seth walks up, shaking his uncle’s hand and making introductions. I imagine that this is terribly hard for Lucas. It’s my understanding that he hasn’t been back to the palace since his father’s death except for our meeting, and now for our coronation.

“Thank you for coming,” I say brightly to Allison as she adjusts her son on her hip. The kid looks like he could be Seth’s twin and I can’t help but stare a little at him.

“Thank you for the invitation,” she says kindly with a smile, glancing at her husband who is talking to his brother. “I wasn’t sure he would agree to it, but I’m glad we’re here.”

“As am I,” I tell her honestly. I lead her over to all my moms who are around the chair that Lily had sat in, babies in hand.

“My goodness,” Audrey says as we walk up. “He looks just like Seth!”

I nod in agreement as Seth opens the door for an older woman that I have not yet met. She walks in and Seth leans down to hug her, a rarity for him, indeed. She reaches up and pats his cheek and he leads her in and over towards me.

“Finally,” she says, reaching her hand out to me. “It’s taken us much too long to meet.”

“I agree,” I tell her, shaking her hand. I turn back and take the babies, facing them out for their great-grandmother to see. “This is baby Andrew. And this... this is baby Cora.”

She smiles at them, but her smile is a hair bigger at the sight of her namesake. “I can’t believe Seth talked you into that name.”

“It was Molly’s idea,” he tells he takes baby Cora who is wiggling and reaching for him. “I love it, but it was all her.”

“Have you met Allison?” I ask and she shakes her head. “This is Lucas’ mate, and their son, Liam.”

Cora smiles and reaches her hand out to the baby who grabs her finger. “It’s not every day you come to dinner and meet all of your great-grandchildren.”

We stand around and talk for a bit before moving to the dining room where Oliver serves an exceptional meal as always. The room is filled with the sound of babies and chatting. There is laughter and the sound of happiness and family. I look down to the table that once seemed so large and empty that I had made jokes about having to have enough kids to fill and smile at the sight of it filled.

I had spent so much of my life thinking I was so unloved when, truly, that was never the case. My parents hadn’t abandoned me, they hid me. My adopted parents didn’t adopt me because of sympathy, they loved me. I found a mate, and his family, who embraced me. We’ve grown our own little family that won’t be so little in a few more months. Truly, I have had an exceptional life so far. It’s just a shame that it took me so long to learn that I was never, really a broken wolf.