1013 SIDE STORY (REDMOND) HAPPINESS

Rye was nine years old when he shifted for the first time and Redmond was there to guide his son through the entire process. He was very patient and comforting when Rye was having a hard time in his transition.

"Mama, is Rye in pain?" Lucia asked, shelooked like she was about to cry, because she didn't want her sibling to be hurt.

"It's okay, your father will make sure he isfine."

Sofia and Lucia stood by the side, watching the two of them, while the little girl held her mother's hand tightly.

Lucia was not the child that Sofia gave birth to, but she was part of the family and Redmond was fine to have her as his daughter. He treated her as if she was his own.

However, Lucia was well aware that the two of them were not her biological parents. They would take her to visit her real parents in the beautiful part of Goffa Mountain every now and then.

"Oh, Rye shifted!" Lucia clapped her handswhen she saw Rye finally managed to shift swiftly. He has the same fur like their father, grey in color. "I want to touch him!"

Lucia let go of Sofia's hand and rushed toward her brother and father. She giggled when the little grey beast licked her finger and nudged her.

Meanwhile, the big one approached Sofia and nudged her hand."What? Do you want to be stroke also?" Sofia laughed when the big grey wolf licked her hand. "Don't act cute, you are not cute at all."

Sofia then shifted into her beast too, as the four of them spent their time in the hill behind the pack house, until evening came.

"There are children here," Sofia said, shepushed Redmond from her when his kiss started to be more intimate.

"They are sleeping."

"Redmond..."

Redmond groaned. He got off from Sofia's body and rolled to the side. His two children were tired after spending their time playing and now they were sleeping soundly and it left to them to carry them back to their home.

"Let's go back, it's getting cold here." Sofiastood up and wanted to carry Lucia, but Redmond stopped her.

"I will carry them both."

"Owh...!" Sofia teased him. "I can see howstrong you are."

Redmond rolled his eyes, he then carried his children in each arms, as they hugged him. He never imagined that he would have this little family. It felt very normal and comforting when every time he went away, there would be these people, who waited for him to come home.

His children would jump into his arms when they saw him, making him to feel welcomed and Sofia would greet him with a kiss. She made their house feel like home.

Once they arrived at their house and put the children on the bed, Redmond immediately bothered Sofia, kissing her and teasing her.

It was a beautiful night, a simple day and a meaningful one. He hoped, his every day would be like this and when Redmond thought back of what he had gone through, he was very grateful for today and all the day he spent with his little family.

He would be so greedy if he asked for more, but life gave him more than he asked for when they figured out Sofia was pregnant again.

Today was the day when Lucia shifted for the first time, she was so scared, but her father and brother were there to help her during her first transition. Her mother was there as well to encourage her. $\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{W}}\mathcal{W}$.n $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}}$ ɛlwôrm.Com

And finally, Lucia managed to shift into her honey brown beast. Her fur looked like gold under the light of the afternoon sun.

Lucia was eleven and she nipped on her brother's ear, as they playfully played together under Redmond's watch, while Sofia looked a little bit lethargic. She had been feeling unwell, since this morning.

"Mama, are you, okay?" Lucia asked whenthey walked back home. She looked at her mother with a furrow between her brows. Their little girl was very sensitive, especially when it came to her mother and Sofia was grateful to have her. A slap from Aliana was really worth it.

"I am okay, honey." Sofia smiled.

"You need to see Penny," Redmond said. "Iwill take you there." He looked worried too.

"It's okay, I will go there if tomorrow I amstill feeling unwell."

Unfortunately, the next day Sofia still felt under the water and she took her two children with her to see Penny, but the healer couldn't figure out why she felt unwell. It was not every day to find a shifter to fall sick.

However, by chance, Iris was also there, she smiled at Sofia and greeted Rye and Lucia.

"Good morning, my queen!" Lucia and Ryelooked happy to see the queen. They used to play with Zander, Zenith and Zaya.

"Good morning, Lucia, Rye." Iris caressedtheir head and gave them a kiss on the cheek. She then walked over toward Sofia. "Don't worry, Sofia. It's normal for earlypregnancy."

The relationship between Sofia and Iris was not as stern as before, especially when she gave up her dream to be Cane's mate and now when she thought back about that, Sofia felt very ridiculous to have such thought to be with Cane.

Even she had to admit, no one was more suitable to be Cane's mate than Iris. The title of queen did suit her greatly.

Though the relationship between them was better than before, but it didn't mean they were close, no matter what, Iris was still the queen, while Sofia was her subject.

"What? What do you mean?" Sofia didn'tbelieve with what she heard."But Penny..."

"Your pregnancy is still very early, I am sureRedmond has not been able to pick up the change in your scent too." Iris smiled genuinely at her. "Congratulation."

"Thank you..." Sofia replied sheepishly. Shecaressed her flat stomach.

"We are going to have a baby?!" Luciajumped up and down and Rye hugged his mother.

"Did the baby hurt you? So, you are beingsick?" He looked at his mother, his eyes took after Redmond so much, Sofia felt it was him, who was staring at her. \mathcal{W} ww.novèl(w)orm. \mathcal{COm}

"Of course not," Iris said, explaining thesituation to Rye."Your mother's body is adjusting to your baby sibling, she will be fine in a few days."

Unfortunately, Sofia was a special case. Her condition didn't get better for the four months of her pregnancy.

Later that night, Redmond was frowning when he entered his home and found the additional decoration.

"Are we celebrating something?" Redmondasked. He carried his two children, who had been pestering him ever since the entrance door to come inside right away and meet their mother.

Sofia had cooked delicious food for them and from the look of it, they definitely were celebrating something.

"Did I miss something?" Redmond tried toremember, whether it was someone's birthday. But, there was no special event for today.

"Come here and sit down," Sofia said, shetugged Redmond to sit down and enjoy the food.

"What is it? I feel something is off here."Redmond looked at the mischievous smile on Rye and Lucia.

"You are thinking too much."

Redmond sat down in his chair, but then he noticed there was this little chair next to Lucia. The chair in the dining table matched the number of their family, thus additional chair would look suspicious, but somehow, Redmond got the clue pretty fast.

"Are you sure?" Redmond looked at Sofiaincredulously."You are pregnant again?"

"Are you... happy?"

"Why I wouldn't?!"

With that, Redmond danced with Rye and Lucia. celebrating new life. the new member of their little family.

Somehow, this sight made Sofia teared up. This was her dream when she was little. The dream that she almost forgot, because she didn't think she would be able to achieve it.

It was a simple dream, a simple pray...

Living as a mistress was not the life that she wanted for her and this simple life seemed so far away from her grasp.

But today, she had a mate, who loved her, two beautiful children, who would light up even her darkest day and one more light that would be part of this little family.

"Mama, why are you crying?" Rye came tohug his mother. "Did the baby hurt you again?"

"No, honey." Sofia didn't even realize thatshe was crying, which made Redmond came over with Lucia on his back. "I am happy. Really, really happy."

This was her family, the people that would go to the end of the world for her, so did she. The people, who truly care about her.

"If you are happy, why are you crying?"

"This is a happy tear, honey." Sofia kissed hischeek.

"I want to be kissed too!" Lucia said fromRedmond's back.

"I want to be kissed too, " Redmond saidplayfully, which made Sofia laughed.

"Fine, I will kiss all of you, but you need toclean up the dinner, okay?" Sofia said, as she kissed them all. Redmond got two kisses, which made the two of them complained.*ww*W.noVeLŴorm.cOm

After dinner, Redmond told Sofia to sit down and he and the children would clean up the table. They argued here and there, as Lucia complained that was not how Sofia cleaned the table and plates.

"She's like a mini version of you." Redmondsighed and Sofia laughed to hear that.Www.môvElwor@.côm

Just a little bit more pray, Sofia wished, there would only be happiness...