

Chapter 33 Protocol

Hunter's P.O.V.

I take a shower as I contemplate on wearing the dress from last night again, just to annoy the hell out of Brent; he told me I looked older in it. That unmated Males would probably realize to late I wasn't of age yet and it might get me in to trouble I didn't want or need.

I believe he might be right, but I really like the dress and I link Mom to ask where we are going to have breakfast. When I tell her why I want to know she chuckles and tells me that there will be no outsiders during breakfast, that I can wear the dress without worrying.

I grab the black, sleeveless dress from my closet and place it on my bed with my high-heeled combat boots. I blow dry my hair before I pull it into a high ponytail and I put my mascara on.

Mom links me that everyone is already in the private dining-room and I hurry down the stairs, the bottom of my dress swaying around my thighs. I slow down as I reach the doorway and I walk in with my head held high, knowing that everyone can see the bruise on my cheek.

I see that my plate is already filled and Jason just filled my mug with coffee, putting in the right amount of sugar and creamer. I see a scowl on the faces of Jayce, Jax and Brent, but the look on Jayce's face switches to guilt the moment he sees the bruise on my face.

"Princess, I am so sorry.." but I don't give him the chance to say anything more, "PJ, do you apologize to everyone you give a bruise during training?" I ask and he shakes his head with a smile.

"Justice doesn't like the fact that she was unable to hand you your ass. So she decided to retreat to the back of my head and is not healing me the way she normally does. Don't feel bad, I have looked worse after training." I say and I hear my Brothers all growl.

I ignore them as I start eating and soon I have emptied my plate and are on my second coffee for today. My mind is going over the past few days, over and over again and I have a feeling as if I am missing something.

Justice is pacing in my head, but I am still shutting her out. I keep going over everything and I keep running in to the same wall again, I am missing something vital.

After breakfast Pops takes me on a tour of the Palace and shows me where he and Rain used to live. He tells me that no one has set foot in those Quarters after Rain died and he moved out.

He shows me the Royal Library and tells me that I will get my education here with a private tutor. I grimace at the thought of boring lessons and Pops just chuckles at the expression on my face, "Don't worry, Princess. You can talk to your tutor on what you want to learn and the two of you can work from there."

I look around the Library and see rows and rows of books and I know I will like going through the rows of books, trying to find books that can hold my interest, teach me or amaze me in any way. I will have to explore this room by myself and I plan on doing that today.

As we walk out of the Library Justice starts to growl in my head and I lower the walls I had put in place. "Hello, Dear. Mind if I join you and Benjamin?" I hear someone ask me and I turn to my right to see a female Lycan standing there.

Pops doesn't look happy as the female smile at him in a seductive way and I understand that this female wants what Pops represents, not who he is. "Sorry, but my Grandfather and I would like to spend sometime together." I link my arm through that of Pops and pull him with me.

I ask Justice why she had growled, she tells me that the female smells like Alfred and I ask Pops about it. He tells me that she is Alfred's younger Sister and has been after him since Rain died, she doesn't seem to understand that Pops is not interested.

After we finish our tour of the Palace we have lunch in the King's wing and I get confronted with Alfred once again. His Sister is constantly staring at Pops and both of them are getting on my nerves. They make Justice growl in my head, over and over again.

Mom and I talk about what Pops showed me and when I mention the Library she knows she will be able to find me there, when I am not training or studying. She doesn't say much about it, but I know by her eyes glazing over that she warned at least Dad.

Justin tells me that each of them had their lessons there and that Jayce and Jax were bored out of their minds. "Justin, you do know that that hurts them to much?" I ask him and when he shakes his head I say, "They can't stand papercuts." Earning me a smack on the head by Jayce, while Justin and Jason laugh their asses off.

I walk back to my room to change into a more comfortable outfit, if I am going to spend time in the Library I might as well do it while wearing some comfy clothes. I opt for my three pieced sweatsuit, a V-neck tank top with a long cardigan and wide legged pants in the color blue.

I put on my sand colored, low wedged sandals and open the door of my bedroom. I almost slam into Chris, but luckily he is fast enough to grab hold of me before I fall down and from my right I hear someone growl.

I look at Jax and ask if Chris should have let me fall flat on my delicate ass, making Chris burst out in laughter. Jax is looking angry at Chris, who is still holding on to me and Justice growls at Jax for his idiotic behavior.

I turn my back on Jax as I ask Chris if he was ordered to babysit me, he laughs even more at that and tells me that I don't need a babysitter. "I am here to make sure that everyone you encounter survives." We both laugh at his comment.

Chris sits down in an armchair near the door of the Library as I start walking around, looking at the titles of the books that have been standing there for ages. I see books on laws for Werewolves and Lycans, I see books on the hierarchy within Packs and on various other subjects.

In the back of the Library I find a whole section dedicated to the Royal Family and everything that comes with it, my eyes get drawn to a book titled "Protocol within the Royal Palace."

I walk over to an oversized swivel barrel chair placed in front of a window, I love the burgundy color and I know this will be my favorite spot here. I open the book and start reading, loosing track of time. Martha shows up with some snacks and a soda, but I barely register that she is there.

I am engrossed with a chapter dedicated to what the King, Queen or their Pups are allowed to do when confronted with females or males that don't act according to protocol. My eyes widen when I see the mention of inappropriate behavior to a member of the King's family.

"Who is in trouble, Your Highness?" I hear Chris ask and I just smile up at him. He tells me it is almost time for dinner and I need to change in to more formal wear as we will be having dinner in the dining-hall.

I quickly run back to my room and change into my burgundy halter jumpsuit and finish it of with the same sandals I wore to the Library, but this time they are black.

"Very pretty, Princess." I hear Pops say as I walk out of my bedroom and I curtsy in his direction. I link our arms as we turn towards the stairs and as we head to the dining-hall I ask him a few questions about the female we met that morning.

Dad hasn't taken the time to initiate me into the Pack and the mind-link, so I stop asking questions when we are about to descent the last staircase. Pops seems to understand I don't want anyone to hear my questions and he starts asking me random questions.

As I suspected Alfred and his younger Sister are present as well and I really hope they screw up. Mom asks me if I enjoyed my time in the Library and I hear Jayce mutter under his breath, "Why the hell would anyone do that voluntarily?"

"PJ, you might learn a thing or two if you were to read some of those books." I point out and he stares at me with his mouth wide open. "Maybe next time you need to remind yourself that there is nothing wrong with my hearing. I miss a filter according to Mom, we never said I was deaf."

Pops and Dad laugh as Martha quickly walks back to the kitchen and soon we hear laughter coming from there as well. Looks like Martha likes making fun of the boys too.

Alfred's Sister tries to grab Pops attention, but he just ignores her and she decides to become a little bit more obnoxious as she raises the volume of her voice. "Benjamin, would you mind telling that youngster she should watch how she talks to a Prince?"

Every head in the room snaps in her direction as she smile sweetly at Pops. Alfred nods his head at her words before he says, "Elly, you are so right. No one knows how to address a Royal any more in the proper way."