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The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 195 - 196

Chapter 195

Lucianne sat up and held her breath, as did everyone else. On the side, Greg seemed like he couldn't care less what happened to him but it did concern him that Lucianne looked worried. She shouldn't be under any stress given how hard the past few weeks had already been for her. He was only stealing momentary glances of her before but he was finding it difficult to look away now, until his cousin threw him a glare, 1

Greg rolled his eyes just to annoy his cousin one more time before reluctantly looking away. Lucianne felt Xandar's jealousy, so she pecked a quick kiss on his jawline to calm her beast. Xandar's face softened, and he closed his eyes to take a whiff of her hair, indulging in her scent.

Judge Cook cleared his throat and continued reading the judgment, "By law, the Duke's act of poisoning the Duchess to render her infertile justifies invoking the punishment of death or eternal torture. And conspiring against the King, which enabled the perpetrators to establish the very corporation to siphon money from the government and for countless rogue attacks to be launched against our cousin species should subject him to, at the very least, solitary confinement, electrocution, whipping, a hefty fine, and even the stripping of his dukedom with the monarchy's permission. However..."

His stem voice turned a little gentle when he continued, "This court acknowledges that as much as the Duke is culpable for the crimes perpetrated against the government, monarchy and werewolves, this court must also acknowledge the fact that the said Duke had been instrumental in the successful prosecution of corrupt ministers, the founders and accomplices of Wu Bi Corporation, and also those who sought to harm and murder the Queen. As much as he is to be blamed for the lives that were lost, he is also credited for the lives that were saved when he surrendered credible and reliable evidence and himself to the monarchy."

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Judge Cook was careful to not say that the evidence was surrendered to Lucianne in particular, being sensitive to the King's temperament. Greg rolled his eyes again at the old man's consideration for his cousin's feelings.

The judge continued, "The monarchy's recommendation for the said Duke is, in this court's very humble opinion, too punitive for an accused who has willingly offered more incriminating evidence than any accused person in history without asking for anything in return"

"The said Duke has also fully cooperated throughout the entire legal process, and had already returned the commissions received by him from Wu Bi Corporation, which he kept in a separate bank account under an alias, as verified. He has also offered to pay the fine with revenue generated from his long-established stationery export business which has been verified to be legitimate, the fine of which is double of the stolen value. Taken together, this bench of judges has unanimously agreed to mitigate the sentencing imposed by the law."

"Contrary to the monarchy's recommendation of imposing two whips per week for a period of fifty years imprisonment, this bench finds that it is fair to impose only ten whips. Not ten whips per week but only ten whips in total. His imprisonment term shall be thirty years. The Duke may be released earlier, or placed under house arrest for good behaviour if and when such a time comes."

Judge Cook placed the sheet of paper he held in his hand back on the bench table and said, "Crimes are taken seriously in the Court of Law. The violators shall be punished in order to protect the society at large. That being said, those who choose to come to the law by...admitting to their crimes shall be shown...an appropriate amount of mercy, depending on the severity of the crimes and the circumstances of each case. Our job as judges is to find the right balance, and after much deliberation, this is our decision."

Judge Cook stood, and the other judges followed suit, leaving the courtroom through the side door which they entered from.

Lucianne was relieved that they went easy on Greg. Annie was satisfied, too. Their mates, on the other hand, were still in the midst of adjusting that this wasn't one of Greg's tricks, and that he helped them, really helped them, with no strings attached this time,

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Xandar unceremoniously buried his face in Lucianne's neck, greedily taking in her scent as Greg stole one more glance of Lucianne when he was being escorted out by a policeman.

Disregarding all the growls being thrown her way, Kelissa was screaming like a madwoman on her way out, shouting about how everyone would regret taking those pictures of her and reporting on the case, that she would 'come back and make you all pay!'. She also kept repeating that when she returned as their Queen one day, they would regret prosecuting her.

When she was finally out of sight, Christian muttered, "Psychotic, delusional b*tch."

Xandar's lips trailed up Lucianne's side profile, and stopped at the top of her head, where he pecked a kiss and said, "The...podcasts in her confinement cell ought to help with the craziness."

Lucianne narrowed her eyes, and questioned, "That's your choice of word, Xandar? Podcasts? And what do you mean 'help with the craziness'? She's going to be driven more insane than she already is, darling."

Christian chuckled at her response to his cousin, and Xandar met his mate's annoyed gaze before he uttered, "Then the next step would be to transfer her to a mental asylum, sweetheart. I'd say we're right on track."

Lucianne shook her head and got up because it was time to leave the courtroom. She then muttered, "Indecent beast." Her body was immediately spun around, and before Xandar's lips crashed on hers, her fingers came between them and pressed on his lips as she whispered, "MY indecent beast." Xandar kissed her fingers and declared, "Always." A peck on her forehead, and he continued, "And forever."

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Chapter 196

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A week later, the wolves flew to Lycan territory again to attend Lucianne's coronation. Every living creature from Blue Crescent flew over, and they left the safety of their pack to the warriors from an ally pack.

Every Lycan and werewolf who wasn't at the ceremony turned on their televisions or went online to watch the live broadcast, even the prisoners. Greg sat in the cafeteria with a few new friends he made, beaming as Lucianne's face came on screen.

In a separate prison, the Aphaels and Tanners stared at the screen with zero enthusiasm. Livia was the only one with a scorn when Lucianne's face came into view.

In each of their solitary confinement units, the Kyltons were barking expletives when the police brought in high resolution televisions in compliance with the order of His Royal Highness. Their legs were tied to a chair, and their hands were tied together as two policemen held each of their chairs from behind. Although distasteful to their sights, none of the Kyltons thought to close their eyes to avoid having to watch the coronation.

Kelissa shouted and screamed as her tears of anger continued to stream down her very-flustered face. Her nostrils flared and beads of sweat appeared on her forehead from how much strength she exerted when she screamed like a mentally-unstable patient. When the policemen with her decided that they didn't want to go deaf, they got some duct tape and taped it over the heiress's mouth, appreciating the more tolerable muffles as they watched the coronation on the television with her.

At the ceremony, Lucianne walked down the red carpet in a lilac gown designed and made by Hale. Her half-tied hairstyle showed her full face. Many from the press took the liberty to point out that Lucianne disregarded royal tradition when she smiled and waved to attendees who were mostly her friends and allies instead of looking straight ahead and walking down the carpet with a poker face like past Queens. Her favorite nephew, Liam, suddenly had the physical strength to pull his tiny hand away from Hale, and he dashed towards Lucianne before his parents could stop him.

Instead of asking him to return to his seat, Lucianne held Liam's hand and continued walking down the carpet. Russell came shortly after, taking Lucianne's other hand. These two boys who succeeded in breaking away from their parents' hold seemed to have encouraged the other kids to do the same.

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Many more children left their parents' side, and dashed towards the Queen without knowing that it violated the formalities of the ceremony. The guards could only catch and stop a few of them but most of the children got through with their small size, and they crowded around Lucianne, walking with her with wide grins and cheeky smiles, disregarding their embarrassed parents who were hissing at them. Juan himself hid his face in his hands before Lucianne mind-linked him that it was okay.

Christian and many others in attendance were already laughing at how the guards were struggling to scoop up a few kids at once. Only when Lucianne told them that it was okay did the guards set the children back on the ground. The sight of a group of children around Lucianne was humorous for some like Christian and Toby: was heartwarming for those like Annie and Hale; and was beautiful and amazing for Xandar. 2

Before he met Lucianne, he had only ever scared kids away. This was a sight that he could never conjure up even if he stretched his imagination to its limit. "Thank you, Moon Goddess. You've given this Kingdom your most precious gift, and I swear that I will love and protect her for as long as I live", Xandar muttered in gratitude. The crown and cloak he wore were bothersome on a warm day but his mate seemed to have melted away any discomfort that he was feeling.

When Lucianne reached the raised platform where Xandar and the archbishop were, she told the kids to wait for her on the lower step, and they all nodded obediently. Liam let go of his aunt's hand, and Russell did the same when Xandar came to offer Lucianne his hand. As soon as she stepped on the elevated platform with his help, the audience went wild, cheering and clapping even though Lucianne wasn't technically crowned yet.

The archbishop had a microphone pinned to his robe, so he commented in amusement, "Looks like my services are not needed after all. How about we just skip to the buffet, everyone?"

The crowd burst out laughing, and the journalists took note that even the archbishop broke tradition when he joked like that. The archbishop then got Xandar and Lucianne to stand a meter apart facing each other. After requesting Xandar to thrust his right arm and holding it straight in Lucianne's direction, the archbishop asked Lucianne to do the same with her left arm. Their hands held the area below each other's wrists, and the archbishop opened his small notebook and began reciting from it.

Xandar's gaze of pride never left his mate's black and lilac orbs, which she held with honor. At the end of the archbishop's short recital, he got Lucianne to repeat after him. "I, Lucianne

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Freesia Paw, solemnly promise and swear to rule and govern the creatures of this Kingdom in accordance with its laws, alongside His Royal Highness, King Alexandar Thomas Claw.” 1

“I promise and swear to protect the Kingdom and the creatures herein, doing what is needed and required of me.”

The archbishop then said, “...as I have always done before this day.”

Lucianne blinked in surprise before she turned to the archbishop, a way of asking him whether he made an error on that part. That

wasn't in the rehearsal when they practised two days ago. He simply smiled and waited for her to repeat after him, and when Lucianne's sights returned to her mate, he was looking at her with a cheeky glint in his eye and a more visible upward curl of his lips. This was his doing.

She pressed back a smile and repeated, “As I have always done before this day.”

The archbishop beamed and continued another set of lines that were neither in the rehearsal nor were they in any oath taken by rulers before Lucianne. Christian's not-so-subtle chuckle in the background and Xandar's glowing smile showed that they planned this with the archbishop.

The archbishop came to the end, which was the cue for Lucianne to repeat everything he just said. She blushed, and couldn't press back her smile any longer as she repeated those words, the very same set of words she uttered in the dining hall after Xandar spoke about the Jewel Pack incident, “You can be assured that I will not stop until every last threat has been neutralized. I will not give up even when I'm weakened. I will fight alongside you, and together, we will win.”

A roar of enthusiastic and deafening applause and cheers followed, and the media was excitedly taking note of the modified oath. The oath was never altered in any way for centuries, so it was a surprise for it to be changed today.

The fifth tradition that was broken was the fact that Lucianne remained standing when Xandar began lowering the crown over her head Xandar explicitly told her and the archbishop that he will not have Lucianne kneel and bow to him like past Kings. If she did so, even by an inch, they would have to redo the entire ceremony.

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When the crown had been placed on his mate's head, the King planted a deep kiss on her forehead, which was the sixth tradition that was broken. The final one broken for the day was when Xandar held onto her small hand, and got down on one knee before tilting his head downwards. His voice rang through the microphone pinned to his robe and amplified through the speakers when he said in a firm, thunderous voice, "My Queen."

Everyone knelt and bowed to their Queen with nothing but eagerness, devotion and admiration. Lucianne bowed to the crowd in return, and everyone stood when she stood. As the King rose, the Queen pecked a kiss at the back of his hand, a gesture he returned by pecking a light kiss on her forehead.

When the ceremony was over, everyone adjourned to the dining hall for the buffet. Lucianne and Xandar took off their crowns and the King slid off the cloak before they joined the others. Xandar was speaking to Ken and many other retired pack leaders, whereas Lucianne was mingling with Yarrington and the wolves who were talking about education.

As Lucianne listened to Gamma Benedict, she noticed her vision blurring. Her legs got weaker before she heard Xandar yell her name from across the hall as she passed out.

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