

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 61

Chapter 61

Lucianne was shocked to hear that King Lucas's bonded mate took her life after being rejected. After taking in her stunt expression, Xandar said, "Now do you see why all of us keep telling you that you're stronger than you give yourself credit for? Mind you, she was a Lycan. So she was supposed to be biologically stronger than a werewolf to withstand the bond snaps."

Lucianne started chewing slowly again and shook her head sadly. "It's just...sad." She sipped her drink before she continued, "It's sad that she might have lacked the psychological and emotional support that I have. Without my friends and Juan's family, I don't know where I'd be."

"Hm... I guess I never thought of it that way." Xandar said.

"You should." Lucianne insisted, "The snap is painful unlike anything imaginable, especially the first snap because of the unfamiliarity with the pain. Before experiencing one, a mere thought of rejection would be painful but after feeling an actual snap, the pain from that thought becomes bearable. It gets worse when the rejection comes after one falls in love with the other person. Because it would feel like having two things broken and shattered into pieces at once, the mate bond and your heart."

Xandar completely agreed with what she said about the pain from merely thinking about rejection. The first night they met, there was an excruciating pain being channeled to his heart when Lucianne raised the matter of rejection. He was angry but he was also in great anguish.

And when he thought that she was going to reject him after he yelled at her at the Jewel Pack, it became insanely painful because he had already fallen in love with her by then.

By far, the worst pain came from the previous night, when he was left hanging on whether Lucianne knew that he loved her, only her. He knew that if she didn't believe him, she would drift away before ultimately rejecting him. Not that he would ever accept it. But the mere thought of the possibility that she would say those words to sever their bond could bring his entire being to his knees and cause him to tear-up.

"You okay?" Lucianne asked in concern after putting a piece of carrot into her mouth.

Xandar was brought out of his thoughts as he said, "Yeah, I just..." he looked at Lucianne in awe and disbelief when he explained, "It's amazing how you do it. Get through one rejection after another, I mean. I get that you had a whole army of friends and family supporting you but the fact that you chose to listen to them,

and let them help you move on and continue living is just..it takes so much will and strength on your own part as well.”

Lucianne smiled and said humbly, “It does.” She got lost in her own thoughts for a brief moment before saying, “I have a lot to live for. I’m glad I didn’t give up.”

He reached for her hand when she put down her fork to reach for her drink, and pecked a

sweet kiss on it before saying, “Me too. I love you.”

Her lips curled up and she said what Xandar was waiting to hear, “I know. Thank you.” His smile broadened at those words, and he let her take back her hand from him.

They continued eating until their plates were clean. Xandar refilled Lucianne’s glass and admired her profile in silence. When Lucianne was done, she told Xandar that she wanted to pay for their meal.

Xandar looked at her sternly and spoke firmly, “No. This is a date...”

Lucianne retorted instantly, “Xandar, it’s my date, too! You can’t just expect me to tag along like an accessory. I have the means...”

“Sweetheart, you’re not an accessory...”

“Then let me pay for one meal. You’re already paying for my books. You’ve paid for breakfast. I was hoping we could split the cost of our dinner later but knowing you, you’d refuse. Come on, Xandar. It’s just one bill. It’s just one meal.” Xandar looked at his mate who’s showing him those large doe eyes again as she waited for his response.

He groaned and said, “One meal. That’s it.”

Her eyes lit up as she said, “Great! Thank you. I wonder if I can work my way up to one and a half.”

He took her hand from the table and kissed it before he said, “Don’t push this, sweetheart.”

She narrowed her eyes, “I have the means to pay, Xandar. I’m not going to have you pay for everything for our date just because I’m a woman. That’s very old-fashioned.”

He played with her fingers on the table as he muttered, “I just want to spoil you for a bit. Why can’t you just let me?”

Without missing a beat, Lucianne said, “Xandar, you’re paying for my books. Do you have any idea how much you have to fork out already? And I’m not even done looking yet.”

Xandar immediately responded, "I take back what I said. I don't want to spoil you a bit. I want to spoil you a lot, to the extreme, if I were honest."

"Spoiling me means giving in to what I want. And I want to share the cost of our date. Since you're giving me what I ask for, you are spoiling me." Lucianne reasoned with her large doe eyes.

Xandar sighed in frustration before kissing the back of her hand again, "I have to find someone to teach me how to win an argument against you. Any recommendations? There must be someone among the wolves who can."

Lucianne smirked and said, "Like I would tell you."

After Lucianne settled the bill, she and Xandar left the floor. A bald man with reading glasses

a few tables away looked up from his book. Then, he clicked on his black pen and noted the time in an opened notebook on his table.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 62

Chapter 62

After Lucianne had gone through the sections of her own interest, they still had time so she went over to other sections to see if there were books that her friends back home liked. When she realized that there were, she also realized that she made a mistake negotiating with Xandar to only let her pay for lunch.

She gave her plan some thought before she turned to her mate and said, "Xandar, I've already got what I wanted. But I want to get a few titles for some friends back home." Xandar was absorbing her words as he tried to decipher why Lucianne looked so uncomfortable saying that. She bit her lower lip in uneasiness before asking, "Can you let me pay for the ones I want to get for them? They're technically not for me."

Now Xandar understood what she was up to. He firmly insisted, "No. Lucy, we had a deal. One meal. You've paid for it. I'm covering the ones you're getting for your friends as well. And didn't you just say that the wolves will eventually warm up to us. What better way to speed up that process than for a Lycan to get them gifts?"

Lucianne was thinking through what Xandar just said as she muttered, "Huh. When you put it that way..."

"Wow. It's comforting to know that I won't necessarily lose. I guess the trick is to use your own words against you. Maybe I don't need a teacher after all." Xandar thought aloud with a glint in his eye.

Lucianne smirked and pecked a kiss on his jawline before she said, "Don't push this, dearest." Her gaze then turned soft and sincere when she said, "And thank you. You really didn't have t

o..."

Xandar stopped her with a sudden kiss on her lips. When their lips parted, Xandar bore his eyes into Lucianne's and he uttered in a deep voice, "Don't tell me that I don't have to get gifts for the people you care about. Know this, my love: if it makes you happy, I'll do it."

She was looking at him with those bright doe eyes again as she uttered a shy but grateful thank you'. He kissed her on the forehead before letting her get on with looking at the titles, Her last stop was the section for children.

Xandar took a look and asked in a teasing manner, "Are you going to make me pay for a gift, for my 4-year-old competitor, sweetheart?"

Lucianne looked at him in confusion before she registered that Xandar was talking about Russell. She smiled and said, "Why, yes. If it makes me happy, you'll do it, won't you?"

He smirked before he squeezed the flesh on her waist and elicited her giggles. When she calmed down, she said more seriously, "I wasn't thinking about Russell. This is for Juan's 3 year-old son, Liam. The boy is very different from his older brother and sister. He loves books, especially if it's anything to do with stars and space. So I'm looking for something suitable

since I'm already here. I suppose this one will do." She held a colorful book with a cover filled with pictures of a rocket ship and planets against a backdrop full of stars.

Xandar kissed her temple at her thoughtfulness before he uttered sincerely, "It's okay if you want to get something for Russell too, Lucy. I was only joking earlier."

Lucianne simpered, "I know, Xandar. But Russell doesn't strike me as a book-lover. He likes building things and piece together something new from scratch. This place won't get his attention until he's old enough to learn from the experts."

'She's right, he thought to himself.

After Lucianne had gotten that last book, the bookstore staff got a moving cart to transport all of Lucianne's picks from the locker to the counter. The staff even helped transport the books into Xandar's car. After thanking them, they left La Librairie and headed to a restaurant for dinner.

In the car, Xandar thought about how good Lucianne was with children. She seemed close to many kids in her pack, and she even knew Juan's son well enough to know what he liked. She'd only met Russell twice and could already tell the child's preference. He wondered if she ever thought of being a mother herself, and Xandar was contemplating on how best to ask his question. "Lucy?"

I was

"Hm?"

He took a breath before he began, "What I'm going to ask is probably going to be." he sighed before he continued, "...too personal for this early stage. Just tell me it's personal if it is. I'll understand. Uh..." he ran his hand through his hair while the other remained on the steering wheel before he asked, "Do you imagine having your own kids someday?"

Lucianne snorted before she said, "Xandar, from how nervous and uncomfortable you look, I thought you were going to ask about the number of people I slept with in the past."

Xandar thanked Goddess he stopped outside the restaurant already when she said that. The number of people she had slept with in the past? He was quite upset and even jealous that she had sexual relationships with someone else, probably before all the mate-bond rejections. Wolves only start feeling the pull of the mate-bond when they turn twenty. Many wouldn't wait to get into a relationship despite knowing that their partners may not turn out

o be their mate.

Xandar knew that making Lucianne feel bad about her past relationships would just be unfair to her. They hadn't even met that time. She was very attractive now in her late twenties, imagine what she was like in her teenage years. He himself might have drooled over her.

Lucianne took in his saddened look and said, "Xandar, just to be clear, I've never slept with anyone. And yes, I did imagine having my own kids one day but I..."

He smashed his lips on her even before she finished speaking. He deepened their kiss with each brush. Lucianne pulled his face away and asked in concern, "Xandar, you seem a little scared. What's wrong? What happened?"

He whispered breathlessly, "I love you."

"I know, Xandar. But what's wrong?" Lucianne asked. She was still not following.

Xandar still felt insecure so he took both her hands in his and pecked kisses on her fingers before he said, "It's just... For a moment, I thought you had a serious past relationship and I wasn't sure if I was able to compete with that. I just...don't want to be less than perfect for you." 1

Lucianne then muttered to herself, "Oh Goddess, that joke went too far." She then took her hands from Xandar and cupped his face as she apologized, "Xandar, darling, I am so sorry. I shouldn't have said that. How it came out was entirely wro-mmph"

Xandar's lips were back on hers. He didn't want her apology. He just wanted to be the one Lucianne would ultimately choose to be with, the mate she would ultimately choose to make her happy for the rest of her life. Xandar only let go of her lips when Lucianne needed air. He buried his face in her neck and sought comfort in her alluring scent.

After catching her breath, Lucianne asked in worry, "Xandar, you okay?"

"Mm." He responded as he continued inhaling the air from her neck.

"Are you sure?" Lucianne was still not convinced.

Xandar's nose nuzzled her neck as he whispered, "I felt a little of the insecurity you mentioned last night. It sucks. And I doubt what I felt was anywhere close to what you had to handle. I don't know how you do it, baby."

Lucianne was even more lost, "Xandar, why would you have to feel insecure? Being in your position, you'd never had anyone implicitly telling you or even suggesting that you're worthless. And I told you before that no one sees me the way you see me. There is zero need to be insecure."

He whimpered and buried himself deeper into her neck as his arms wrapped around her waist, "You're wrong, Lucy. Lots of people see you that way. You just don't see them. But I see you this way the most so you can't pick someone else, okay? Please don't pick someone else. It's not fair."

Lucianne groaned in annoyance, and her hands gently removed his head from her neck for her frustrated eyes to lock with his fearful ones. "Xandar, what are you talking about? You're my mate. Why would I be picking someone else? I'm with you. I've never been with anyone

intimately before Sebastian Cummings. And we both know how that one ended so..."

"Did you two kiss?" Xandar asked.

Lucianne shook her head, "We never got close enough for me to be comfortable to share that kind of thing with him. It was difficult to fully trust him and his family. And before you ask, n o. He didn't smell me like how you've just done either."

"Did he kiss you at all?"

"Xandar, this really isn't necessary, it's..."

"I want to know."

Lucianne sighed, "Just my hand. You know, like the usual gentlemanly kind of gesture. It really isn't anyth—" Lucianne gasped in utter shock at how Xandar was kissing her hands to the point of almost sucking them that she stopped mid-sentence. She had to snatch her hands away from his tight grip before she held his head up to face her.

When their eyes locked, she said in a low, firm tone, "Alexandar, I'm with you. There isn't anyone else for me. I don't see anyone else, okay? Calm down. There's no need to feel insecure. I'm with you, okay? I'm with you." 1

He smiled at her response. The fear in his eyes diminished. Xandar then tried to move up to her face to kiss her on her lips but she held his head in place as she said, "We should get inside before it gets too late for dinner, darling."

"But I want a kiss." He whined like a child. Lucianne smiled, and pecked a kiss on his lips before saying, "There. Now, let's go, my King."

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 63

Chapter 63

The waiter showed Xandar and Lucianne to the table that Xandar had specifically reserved earlier. It was a secluded corner booth. After placing their order, the waitress drew the see through curtains and left them alone.

Lucianne reached for Xandar's hands across the table as she asked in concern, "Are you okay?"

He smiled and kissed her hand, more normally this time, and said, "I am now."

Lucianne returned his smile and said, "So uh...your question on kids. I've always thought about having my own before the string of rejections. After the latest mate bond snap, I actually made peace with the fact that I may never have children of my own. The plan was to adopt a child when I was ready, like when there were fewer rogue attacks so that I'll have more time on my hands. But last year was clearly not the best time to take on that type of responsibility so I haven't committed myself to motherhood just yet."

Xandar then uttered sadly, "Aren't you at least reconsidering having your own kids now?" That question was more than what it seemed. He was asking whether Lucianne had considered having kids with him.

Lucianne immediately explained, "I was getting there, Xandar. Adoption was the plan until I saw that you're... different. I admit that I haven't given thought to the details on the subject just yet. But I can't deny that...it's a possibility now."

Xandar took hold of her hands and asked with a warm smile, "How many have you always

wanted?"

Lucianne was a bit surprised by the enthusiasm in his voice. "Uh... w-well, I don't really know. But definitely not too many. I can't handle that many kids, to be honest. I still want to be able to keep doing the things I do now so... I guess two? One is a little lonely. I was lucky to have Juan as a sibling-like figure to grow up with."

Xandar smiled wider and he said, "I'm with you there. Life would've been boring without Christian. I mean, I had Greg too. But I always wanted to toss him out, not that I could ever." Lucianne chuckled lightly.

He kissed her hands and said with starry eyes, "You're going to be a great mother, Lucy."

Lucianne was a little stunned by how fast Xandar was ready for something like this. They just met a week ago. She wasn't even ready to accept a marriage proposal from him if he made one, at least not yet. Now, he was already excited about her becoming a mother?

She then responded by saying, "I-I don't know about that, Xandar. I hope to be one, that's for sure."

"Baby," Xandar looked at her in disbelief with the wide smile still glued effortlessly on his

face, "Have you seen yourself around kids? You're a natural!"

Lucianne furrowed her eyebrows as she explained her point of view, "Xandar, speaking sweetly to them and having to do the midnight feeding, diaper-changing, laundry, and a whole list of other things are very different. Motherhood is a whole job on its own."

He squeezed her hands slightly as he assured her, "But you won't be doing it alone, Lucy. You'd have me."

Lucianne smiled, "I know." She stroked his hand once and uttered, "Thank you." Xandar pecked another kiss on her hand before uttering, "Anything for you, Lucy."

There was a short pause before Lucianne asked, "So, what about you? Have you ever thought about kids? Before we met, I mean."

He played with her fingers and said, "Before we met, I was always conflicted on that particular subject. I didn't know whether I wanted the responsibility of bringing up another being. I mean, I would've been proud to bring up a little

Christian but if I brought up a little Greg, I don't think I'd be doing the world any good."

Lucianne chuckled lightly at his line of reasoning before she asked, "What about bringing up a little you? You turned out alright."

Xandar kissed her fingers as he locked eyes with his mate and uttered, "Only if it's with you, Lucy. Though I must admit..." he leaned closer to her and said, "I prefer a little girl who'll grow up to be as beautiful as her mother."

Lucianne was already flustered but she tried to keep her voice steady as she said, "The gender shouldn't matter, Xandar, as long as it's healthy. Having a little boy who'll look as handsome as you would be a blessing too, don't you think?"

Completely disregarding the compliment Lucianne just threw his way, Xandar said, "That depends. If he's going to get your hugs and kisses without effort, then I might have a problem with him." His Lycan was nodding in agreement in his head. 2

Lucianne narrowed her eyes and asked sarcastically, "So, what would you do if you have a son? Send him to a daycare centre?"

Xandar pondered for a bit before saying, "Hm...It'll be cheaper if we got Christian and Annie to help bring him up."

"You better be joking, Xandar." Lucianne said sternly.

Xandar chuckled and stroked her hands lovingly as he said, "Of course I'm joking, sweetheart. A boy or a girl, as long as it's from you, it'll be a blessing." Lucianne's tension eased only for a second before Xandar added, "Still, a girl would be better."

A waiter came with their food. After the curtains were drawn back again, Xandar then asked casually, "Have you thought about baby names?"

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 64

Chapter 64

Lucianne choked on her drink, and Xandar shot up from his seat and rushed to her side to rub small comforting circles on her back. He passed her a glass of warm water that a waiter was kind enough to bring without being asked.

After a few minutes, Lucianne managed to calm down. Xandar still stood by her side as he caressed her shoulders in slow, soothing motions. She looked up at him in furrowed brows and the first words which came out of her mouth were, "Have you?!"

His concerned look was replaced with confusion. She then clarified, "Have you thought about baby names?"

He pecked a kiss on her forehead in hopes of easing her tension before he said, "Not yet. I was just curious about whether there were any particular names that you've decided to name our... I mean, your kids with one day."

Lucianne then said frantically, "No, Xandar. I didn't plan any names. I wasn't even sure how many I wanted until ten minutes ago. I'm not saying that I don't want them with you but I haven't given full thought about every single aspect of..."

He kissed her on her cheek before he said in assurance, "Baby, relax. We're taking this slow. We're not rushing into anything. I just really wanted to know what your dreams are when you think about children." He kissed her temple before adding, "Maybe that was a more appropriate question for a later date. I'm sorry, baby."

Lucianne calmed down as she shook her head and said, "No, don't be. It's really sweet of you to want to know what I want, Xandar. Thank you."

"Sweetheart, you really have to stop thanking me for things like this." He kissed her temple again before he said firmly, "I'm your mate and I love you. There is every need to know what you want." He squeezed her shoulders once before he retook his seat.

They ate in silence for the next few minutes. Xandar was glancing over at Lucianne every few seconds. He felt bad about asking her such an in-depth question on their first date. She was already understanding enough to give her thoughts about her general view of children and motherhood but asking about names probably went a bit too far.

They haven't even discussed cohabiting yet! And there was no doubt that an engagement and a wedding were also faraway topics. Not that Xandar wouldn't marry her the very next day if he could. But he wanted to give Lucianne time. He didn't want her to feel rushed or overwhelmed. He never thought he would want kids so badly until he met her. But he only wanted to have kids with her, not with just anyone."

The mere thought of having a baby girl with Lucianne made his own animal melt in tenderness. Imagining a little girl like that was what got him thinking about whether Lucianne already had a name in mind.

Lucianne swallowed the food in her mouth before asking, "Can you tell me about Uncle Conrad? What was he like? From the fact that you like him, I take it that he was different from the rest of the Claws?"

Xandar's worry eased a little before he said, "Oh, he was very different for a Claw. Uncle Conrad was friends with Granpa Brock. That was how my father met my mother, through Uncle Conrad. He was... soft-spoken and more forgiving. He loved to gossip so don't count on him to keep a secret."

Lucianne smiled, "Did he ever tell on you?"

Xandar then said, "Once. I told him that I planned to skip school and go over to Aunt Reida's place the next day because I didn't want to sit through a whole day of briefing on fire safety. The next morning, my parents waited for me in the kitchen. And I got a very stern warning so my plan was a bust." Lucianne chuckled at his tale, and her voice calmed his anxiety.

He continued, "I never told him anything I wanted kept a secret after that. Aunt Reida was better with secrets. Uncle Conrad didn't have any bad intentions but he really just couldn't keep things to himself. That was the only reason why I know more about my father's past than my father himself would like me to know. I'd stick to Uncle Conrad at family gatherings, mostly because I didn't feel comfortable with the rest of them."

Lucianne then asked, "So Uncle Conrad didn't have any children?"

Xandar's expression turned sad, "No. Unfortunately, the doctors couldn't find a solution for his infertility. His mate was upset at first but Aunt Charlotte never blamed him or made him feel bad about it as far as I know."

With bright, inquisitive eyes, Lucianne asked, "What was Aunt Charlotte like?" Xandar pondered before saying, "She was not really someone I liked to get close to. She smiled a lot but it felt inauthentic, like she was just putting on a show. As a boy, I hated it when she pinched my cheeks with those sharp fingernails of hers. When I got older, she'd ask these very inappropriate, uncomfortable questions." "Like what?" Lucianne cocked her head to one side as she questioned. Xandar moved uneasily in his seat before he looked at Lucianne and said, "Babe, before I tell you, I want you to know that these were just her questions. I have not done any of these things, okay?" "Okay." Lucianne responded meekly.

The 5-time Rejected Gamma & the Lycan King by Stina's Pen Chapter 65

Chapter 65

'How bad was it?' Lucianne wondered as she watched Xandar's handsome face show a visible streak of discomfort at the mention of Aunt Charlotte.

Xandar took a breath before he said, "Whenever I visited, she would sit me down and ask how many girls I've slept with in the past week, or how many girls I've ever taken out on a date, how many drinks can I handle before I got drunk, who and how many have willingly stripped in front of me. Her face showed that it was fun for her to ask these things but to be on the receiving end of those questions was just..." Xandar shook his head in disapproval, annoyance and dismay before he said, (This novel will be daily updated at) "I am so glad I don't have to deal with her anymore. That was the one funeral I attended in pure happiness."

"Oh wow. That was bad." Lucianne muttered, and had to shake her head to bring herself out from what she had just heard. Something came to her mind, and she

cocked her head to one side as she asked, "Didn't your parents find such questions inappropriate? Didn't Uncle Conrad?"

Xandar sighed and responded in disappointment, "No. They kept insisting that Aunt Charlotte was only being friendly and was only teasing. But really, these are too inappropriate and uncivilized to be considered as jokes! Aunt Reida threw a fit when I told her. Granpa Brock tried to ask Uncle Conrad to persuade his mate to stop but that only made things worse. After that, Aunt Charlotte would just ask why I was being so secretive about the things she was asking." Xandar groaned in frustration and whisper-yelled, "It was not a goddess damn secret! It was a very crazy line of inappropriate questions that one shouldn't be asking anyone! Especially not one's own nephew!"

Lucianne shook her head in dismay as she absorbed Xandar's words, "What a creature." After a moment, Lucianne asked in curiosity, "What's Greg's parents like? Are they still alive or?"

Xandar shook his head, "His mother passed on from a blood disorder. His father died about a decade later in a car accident. Greg was already an independent adult by then so there wasn't an issue of custody and guardianship, thank Goddess. Otherwise, my father would've willingly taken him in and I'd have to live with him and that irritating mouth of his."

Lucianne nodded in response, "That was a very interesting conversation."

Xandar scoffed. He then fixed his soft gaze on Lucianne and said, "Now, babe, it's your turn."

"What?" Lucianne looked up from her plate in confusion.

Her mate was smirking, "I told you about my family. It's your turn to tell me about yours."

Lucianne put a small cube of steak into her mouth as she thought about where she should start, "Well, my parents were killed by hunters when I was six. So I didn't know them for very long. I've never met my paternal grandparents because they died when my father was a teenager. And my maternal grandparents did spoil me when they were alive but they lived in

another pack so I didn't see them very often."

She took a sip from her glass before she continued, "From my father's side, there was Uncle Peter. He was a warrior, and was killed in a rogue attack. From my mother's side, there's Aunt Greta and Aunt Portia. Aunt Greta never liked me, said I spoke too much for a girl. (This novel will be daily updated at) Aunt Portia always saw something wrong with my body and appearance. She'd tell me to try some skin products to brighten my face, consider plastic surgery to alter my body and a whole list of things like that. I haven't spoken to both of them in...eight years so I really don't know whether they're dead or alive. And I honestly couldn't care less."

Xandar swallowed the food that he was holding in his mouth from the shock at the mention of plastic surgery before he asked, "You didn't really go through with surgery to change your appearance or body, did you?"

Lucianne scoffed, "Like I would listen to those scatter-brains. Besides, Luna Janice wouldn't have allowed it."

Xandar sighed with relief, which made Lucianne tease, "For a second there you thought you fell in love with a fake face on a fake body, didn't you?" She chuckled before she said, "I was never pretty like some of the she-wolves but I never felt that my face was so disfigured that I needed surgery. It's a waste of money too, to be honest. Could very well buy more books with that cash."

Xandar reached for her hand and squeezed it gently as he uttered sincerely, "Lucy, baby." Their eyes locked as Xandar continued, "You are beautiful. Please, don't think you're anything less. You are the most beautiful creature I've laid my eyes on, I'm not just saying this because I'm your mate. You have no idea the amount of attention you get from the men in a room with your looks alone, even before they know you're Queen. If I were to kill everyone who looked at you in a year, half of the people in the dining hall would be dead by now. Please, baby. You may not think that you're pretty but you have to know that you're the most beautiful creature i

n any room we enter."

Every word that came out of his mouth pulled her heartstrings. The desperation in his eyes for her to believe him made her heart melt. But deep inside, she knew that what he said wasn't true. She had seen so many more beautiful she-wolves who all normally have males and other she-wolves crowd around them. (This novel will be daily updated at)Lucianne herself had never garnered that sort of attention. At least, she didn't know that she did.

Logic told her that Xandar only saw her the way he did because of the mate-bond. But Lucianne didn't want to start a debate on something as petty as her looks. So, she glanced at their hands, and gave Xandar's hand a gentle squeeze before she whispered "Thank you, Xandar."

Xandar sighed before kissing her hand and letting it go for Lucianne to continue eating. He then added, "You might not believe me today. But I'm going to keep telling you that you're beautiful. And I won't stop even after you believe me."

Her knife and fork stopped moving in her hands when he said those words. She felt the familiar warmth creeping up her cheeks before she threw Xandar a shy smile. Xandar returned her smile and got on with their earlier conversation about her family, "So, uh... Uncle Peter, what was he like? You two must have been close with him being a warrior. Was he a Gamma by the way?"

Lucianne shook her head, "No. He was one of Blue Crescent's best but not the best. I would say we were quite close. I'd tag along when he goes for warrior training, and I'd sit on the sidelines as I watched them train."

Lucianne then chuckled, "The first time I followed, I didn't know what I was walking into. And when the warriors started sparring, I screamed and burst into tears. I actually thought that they were going to kill each other. It took Uncle Peter and another warrior a whole hour to calm me down. Uncle Peter never took me along after that time. So I snuck in there by myself."

Xandar's eyes twinkled in mischief as he pictured Lucianne doing what she just said she did," Seriously?"

Lucianne shrugged, "Yeah. They don't lock the doors when warriors are training so getting in was never the problem. Staying hidden was more challenging. I would hide behind the rolled up sparring mats they'd put at the corner. And I'd move a few just a little to make a gap between them, just enough for me to see what they were doing. But I was caught after doing it five times. Should've changed a hiding spot every once in a while."

"They kicked you out?" Xandar asked in despair.

A smile graced Lucianne's features, "The Gamma wanted to. But I promised them that I wouldn't cry or make a sound. I'd just watch. Many of them insisted that I left because of what happened the first time. But Juan's father, Alpha Ken, said I could stay. Alpha Ken and Uncle Peter would even sit with me sometimes if it wasn't their turn to train. They'd explain what the warriors were doing and why they were doing it. After a few months, Alpha Ken and I even bet on who would win a spar. We would select a pair at random, and we'd place our bet and watch them in silence until a winner emerged."

Lucianne chuckled again, "Now that was fun. If I won, I'd get to play with Juan for the whole day on a Saturday when I was normally allowed only half. If he won, I'd have to share my treats with him."

Xandar's smile grew wider as Lucianne chuckled again at her memory. 'Beautiful, he thought to himself. (This novel will be daily updaed at)He then asked, "Juan never joined you to watch the warriors?"

Lucianne shook her adorable head, "No, he was more of a video game type at that age. I'm okay with video games but I've always preferred entertaining myself with books, tv and well, watching the warriors train. And also betting with Alpha Ken."

Xandar chuckled this time. He then said gently, "You must miss Uncle Peter. You both do

have something in common."

Lucianne offered a small smile, "I do. He watched over me like a daughter when my parents weren't there. And he wanted to take me in after my parents died but he already had three pups of his own. So Alpha Ken and Luna Janice reasoned with him that it was best if they both took me in instead since they only had Juan. I'd go visit Uncle Peter in the evenings sometimes, like after watching them train. But I wouldn't stay long. His mate and my cousin don't like me very much. Aunt

Penny would say that my interest in something as barbaric as training would be a bad influence on her daughter, whom she was grooming to be a 'well mannered, presentable lady'." Lucianne rolled her eyes.

Xandar smiled and shook his head at the absurdity, "Didn't we leave the Renaissance and Victorian eras ages ago?"

Lucianne chimed in, "Well, Xandar, as King, you must understand that some of your subjects require more time than others to evolve." Xandar burst into laughter. Even his animal was chuckling. When he could finally stop, he took her hand and pecked a kiss before declaring in all carefreeness, "Oh, I love you."

She shook her head gently at his reaction to what she said before she uttered a shy, (This novel will be daily updaed at)"I know. Thank you."