

Alpha's Second Choice

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Description: Today was meant to be special—Henry promised to mark me. I was ready, vulnerable, waiting. But a phone call changed everything. He rushed out, leaving me alone and humiliated.

Telling me Elena, his childhood friend, had a nightmare. She needs me. Let's mark another day," he said. It was the seventh delay. When I protested, he snapped, "Don't you have any humanity, Ivy?" Then he hung up.

As tears fell, my wolf asked, "Do you still want to be marked today?"

I wiped my face and replied, "Yes."

Then I called the alpha of the neighboring tribe.

Total Pages (Source): 15

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My father was the leader of the Silverlands tribe. He was old and had always hoped that I would agree to Mateo, the neighbouring tribe's alpha, request for a contract marriage and thus consolidate my power.

Today, I finally granted his wish with my own hands. Mateo arrived to greet me, and despite my grief, he drove me to the hotel.

Everyone's gaze was drawn to him as he pushed open the car door and walked out, admiring his powerful physique.

Mateo smiled as he opened the door for me. When we entered the room, I noticed he was much taller than me, and his eyes shone like a fire in them.

Mateo placed his arm around my shoulders, as if silently requesting permission for intimacy.

"Ivy, have you really agreed to a contract marriage with me to deal with the pressure from your family to get married?" He put his lips close to my ear and whispered, "Now is your last chance to regret it. After that, I will not let you go." I leaned into his arms and whispered, "Absolutely not."

The rush to mark is not only to relieve the pressure to get married, but also to make my dying grandmother feel better. My grandmother was a formidable warrior within the tribe. When she was younger, she fought in several major battles and sustained numerous injuries.

Six months ago, the residual wolf poison in her body flared up, and she began

collapsing quickly.

Since then, she has been hospitalised, and every time I visit her, she asks me the same question: when is the marking ceremony?

My grandmother's greatest wish was to see me in a wedding dress before she died.

She wanted to see me walk to her bed, holding my friend's hand, smiling and saying, 'I'm very happy.'

"Only when I make sure that someone will continue to pamper me in the future, she will close her eyes with peace of mind."

This was probably my grandmother's final wish. I swear in my heart to please her. As a result, I pleaded with Henry to marry me.

But seven times, he abandoned me just before marking.

Some people claimed that my glands were cursed, but I know they were not.

Elena became lost in the forest prior to the final marking, and Henry was tasked with finding her.

Elena had previously misplaced her house key and needed Henry's assistance to open the door.

Previously, Elena refused to eat, and Henry had to coax her. Seven failed markings, seven reasons to rush to Elena, and seven occasions to abandon me without hesitation.

I gave him seven chances, but he didn't have enough time to mark me.

My heart had grown accustomed to Henry's absence the last time. I wasn't as sad as the previous seven times.

Perhaps I had grown accustomed to being abandoned alone, or maybe I had long anticipated his departure.

My grandmother's words from the last time I saw her still rang in my ears: "I don't have much time left, and I may not be able to wait until the day of your real wedding; even if I die unexpectedly one day, you must live strong and never let yourself be wronged."

"Grandma, I promise to become as powerful a werewolf as you.

This time, I would never allow myself to be wronged again.

Seven chances were the last straw, and I was done.

"

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

Mateo and I gently caressed each other's bodies, making us horny and putting us in a markable state.

But as Mateo placed his head on my shoulder and prepared to kiss me, my phone vibrated.

This was Henry's message.

Are you angry, Ivy? I just can't ignore Elena. She only has me. Please forgive me; I brought your favourite puff pastry tart and waited for you to come over.

Mateo was very close to me, gripping my waist tightly with both hands.

He noticed the message, raised his brows, and asked me casually, "Do you want to continue tagging?"

"Of course!" I exclaimed as I firmly turned off my phone.

His teeth pierced in, first cold, like snow water pouring into the spinal cord, and then hot, as if someone poured molten Milky Way into the wound.

My scent exploded and mixed with his, creating a charming and fragrant mist in the air.

"Don't move." He panted, pressing his canine teeth deeper into the gland. After a long time, he reluctantly took it out.

Our faces were flushed, and I leaned weakly against his chest, thinking about something.

"Mateo, do you have time tomorrow? I want to go to see someone with you."

He helped me into the car and smiled, "Of course, I have time, call me anytime; in addition, my parents would like to see you."

He asked the driver to drive me home first. I sat in the luxury car, wanting to sigh at the capriciousness of fate.

Henry and I had been in love for five years. We had gone through all of the ups and downs of love together, but we still hadn't been able to have a happy ending.

Mateo and I had only met once, at a dinner party, but he had already made me his friend.

On my way back, I received another message from Henry.

Haven't you arrived yet? I set up a table full of delicious food. If you arrive late, it will be gone!

Henry did not lie.

When I returned home, I found only leftovers on the table. All of the good food was consumed.

Elena stood in front of me, wearing a nightgown and holding her slightly protruding belly.

"I'm sorry, I was so hungry that I couldn't wait for you to come back to eat together.

Ivy, you won't blame me, right?" she said, pretending to be pitiful.

Even though I was slow, I could hear malice in her words to me.

When I saw her pretentious appearance, my inner wolf growled in my chest, demanding that I punish her in an unforgettable way. I clenched my fists to control my impulse. This was not my purpose today.

Elena and her family adopted Henry, an orphan. They had been playing together since childhood and had formed a strong friendship.

Henry was accustomed to caring for Elena, and she was always his top priority.

At first, everything between Henry and me was lovely.

He had a good temper, and we never argued.

Even if there were conflicts and frictions, Henry would come first and coax me, regardless of who was to blame.

Everyone envied me for finding a great boyfriend like Henry. Even my best friend used to believe he treated me like a princess.

But half a year ago, all this envy vanished.

Because Elena returned to Henry, he directed all of his love and attention towards her.

"Ivy, why did you return so late? I reminded you that food is limited," Henry said, exiting the kitchen. His first reaction when he saw me was a frown rather than surprise.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

He expected me to rush back as soon as I received his message, as I had done in the past.

I replied calmly, as if speaking to a stranger. "I was busy with something, so I was a little late.

"What was so important that you preferred that over eating with me?"

There was Henry; you are no longer my top priority, I thought in my heart.

I didn't intend to tell Henry about my marking ceremony with Mateo because I had decided to cut off all communication with him.

I came here only to take away what was mine.

"That has nothing to do with you," I told you. "I am going to the next tribe to discuss the contract with my father, and now I am here to pack my luggage."

I didn't care about his reaction and went straight to my bedroom.

When I opened the bedroom door, there was a garbage dump waiting for me.

I stood at the door, surprised to see that someone had dragged the sheets and quilts and dumped them on the ground; the wardrobe was wide open, and the clothes inside were piled randomly and wrinkled like rags.

Then my gaze shifted to the bedside table, where my first trophy, given by my

grandmother, had been thrown to the ground, broken into two pieces and leaving a half footprint.

I couldn't help but yell. "Henry!" Who the hell messed up my room like this? Who threw my stuff?!"

This trophy bone, which my grandmother retrieved from the battlefield, represents glory and power.

Henry approached to check, frowned, then quickly loosened his brows and said to me in a casual tone, "It's just a toy. When the tribe makes another purchase, I'll find someone to buy you another one.

My heart froze inch by inch as Henry's demeanour implied that it was not the broken things that were unimportant, but me.

"It must be Elena who did it," my inner wolf said with gritted teeth. "Henry will only be concerned when he has to defend Elena!

I affirmed my wolf, raised my head, and said coldly, "I know Elena is the source of these problems."

This simple sentence immediately irritated Henry.

"Why do you say that? What evidence do you have? What if it fell by itself?"

"Ivy, even if you are the daughter of an alpha, you can't slander others without reason. If you continue accusing Elena without any proofs, I will tell the law enforcement team about your bad behaviour!"

I trembled with anger.

I only said one sentence, and Henry expected the law enforcement team to judge me.

Elena was not present, but Henry was careful not to tarnish her reputation.

Henry's attention had shifted from me to someone else. However, he was not like this half a year ago.

I fell deeply in love with him on the eve of a tribal war.

The enemy tribe sent people to sneak over, intending to kidnap me in order to threaten my father.

Henry offered to be on duty at night. He guarded the border of the territory closest to me, preventing danger from approaching.

This werewolf, who was always gentle, polite, and calm, decimated many enemies that night. At dawn, his face, hands, and body were covered in stinky blood, just so I could sleep soundly.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

I still remember how much Henry adored me at the time. How could he have forgotten it himself?

I didn't continue to bother her. Because I had no evidence, and Henry was determined to keep Elena safe.

I had no choice but to squat down and carefully pick up the broken bone.

"Henry, did you have a fight with Ivy?"

She purposefully made her voice sound innocent, as if she didn't want to see us argue.

"Don't argue, even if I didn't make a mistake; if Ivy wants to blame me, she can.

I know Ivy has always disliked me, and if this can change her opinion of me, I will be happy."

After saying that, she approached me as if she wanted to assist me in picking up the fragments, but instead she stepped on one of them and crushed it severely.

She smiled and whispered so Henry couldn't hear, "I did it, but what can you do to me?"

Anger simmered within me, and I couldn't help but push her aside.

But before I could touch Elena, she collapsed and her head struck the bedpost.

She covered her head and sobbed, "Ivy, I just wanted to help you, but you hit me so hard! You will become my nightmare!"

Before I could respond, Henry grabbed my hair. He looked down at me with unprecedented horror. It was as if I were not his five-year-old girlfriend, but his enemy, someone he wanted to t****e to death.

"Even if you don't like Elena, there is no need to bully her like this. She just had a nightmare! How can you make her pain worse?" He yanked my hair so hard that I had to look up.

The bitter taste spread to the tip of my tongue, and my stomach cramped. "She is pretending! I didn't touch her at all!"

Henry slapped me. "I was standing behind you and saw you push her down. How dare you lie? Who gave you the courage! Do you think I'm blind?"

"You first slandered Elena for destroying your toys, and then deliberately pushed her down and injured her. Ivy, I really misjudged you! It turns out you are such a vicious she-wolf!"

I slowly closed my mouth because I had nothing else to say.

Or, whatever I said, Henry would not believe me. So it is better not to say anything.

He saw my silence as proof of guilt. He let go of my hair and looked at my embarrassed expression with contempt.

"Finally, you can't find an excuse? Seriously, Ivy, you have changed!"

He looked disappointed as I continued to remain silent.

Unlike him, I felt relieved within my heart. When I entered, I had few expectations; now I have none, and I return calmly. There are no excuses, no anger, and no communication. He did not deserve my attention.

Henry picked up Elena, who clung to him before lip-syncing with me.

I understood what she wanted to say. "Are you worthy enough to compete with me for Henry?"

Looking at her smug expression, I smiled coldly at her.

Since you like it, I'll give it to you.

He transported her to the Wolf Hospital. I was the only one left in the room that once held memories of my love for Henry.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

Now was the time to leave. I took a deep breath and stood up from the mess on the floor, only to see my reflection in the mirror. The cheek with Henry's slap mark had healed, but the wound remained.

Because Henry was still wearing the engagement ring we made, we silver-plated it at my grandmother's suggestion to prevent devil wolves from taking it.

What I didn't expect was that the ring had left a wound on my face, rather than being lost.

I smiled bitterly and wiped away the blood oozing from the wound.

This wound will remind me that Henry and I had long since broken up, and I will no longer have any illusions about him.

I didn't forget that I had come back to leave forever.

I packed everything I had left here and took it away. I also threw things that I couldn't carry away into the trash can.

Before I left, I sold the right to live in the house to someone else.

This home was originally mine. It was the wedding home that my grandmother purchased for Henry and me.

Now there was no reason to keep it.

Dirty things, even if kept, would only add to the disgust.

I stayed near Wolf Pack Hospital, wanting to accompany my grandmother on her final journey.

Mateo called me the next morning to see if I needed him to prepare anything for today.

I told him not to prepare anything and just come, but he brought many generous gifts.

I planned to take him to see my grandmother. So, before going to the hospital, Mateo and I agreed on how to deal with my grandmother.

Because I had previously brought Henry to see my grandmother, she knew he was my boyfriend.

Now, don't worry, my grandmother; I had to make up a sweet love story with Mateo.

But I didn't expect her to not ask why I changed my boyfriend.

She and Mateo got along well; from tribal history to inter-tribal trade, Mateo could pick up on any topic. Before leaving, my grandmother was even hesitant to let Mateo go.

She took my hand, looked at me with gentle and pleased eyes, and said, "He is good, much better than the previous one."

I was slightly embarrassed. I blushed and said, "I didn't want my grandmother to think I was someone who sacrificed marriage for tribal transactions."

"We fell in love at first sight, we both like each other's faces..."

"Only like the face? Don't joke, Ivy. Your grandmother is not so naive that she can't tell whether he loves your face or you as a person. It's clear that he loves you from how he looks at you. I just don't know if I can hold on until the day of your wedding."

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

How could Mateo love me? We are only in a contractual relationship.

I didn't take my grandmother's words seriously and quickly revealed the mark on my neck to her.

"Grandma, don't worry, he has marked me, and we will hold the wedding soon. He will announce in public that I am his mate, and you will definitely catch up."

Grandma gave a sly smile as she examined the mark on my neck.

"Well, your mate is very powerful, and the smell is a bit familiar. He is the eldest son of the alpha of the Icefen tribe next door, right? Don't try to hide it from me."

I covered my face shyly. How did I think my grandmother wouldn't recognise Mateo? She was once a formidable warrior, and no one smells like her!

My secret was exposed. I glared at my grandmother coquettishly before leaving the ward with her teasing expression.

Mateo was waiting for me outside, but he appeared to be in an argument with someone.

As I approached, I realised Mateo's argument was about Henry and Elena.

What happened? I frowned and wanted to ask, but I overheard Henry say something that broke my heart!

"If my girlfriend did something wrong, I apologise to you on her behalf. But you are such a powerful adult male wolf, can't you let her go? She will be scared of you!"

What exactly does this mean? In Henry's heart, Elena is his girlfriend?

Then what am I? A plaything to alleviate his loneliness when Elena is not present?

Mateo's voice rang out mercilessly. "If you do something wrong, you must admit your punishment. Does she have the right to do whatever bad things she does without taking responsibility? What is the meaning of tribal laws? What you said is too ridiculous."

Henry and Elena were left speechless.

They always asked me to give up my interests to care for Elena, but others would not spoil her.

Henry looked around, as if looking for a way to avoid Mateo.

He saw me right now. He gave me a guilty and uneasy look, as if he wasn't sure I heard what he was saying.

But Henry quickly suppressed his emotions and dashed over to grab me, as if nothing had occurred.

"Ivy, you came at the right time. Elena accidentally spilt the potion on this man's clothes just now, but he is saying that she destroyed the amulet on his clothes and is now asking us to pay hundreds of thousands! Isn't he blackmailing us?"

"Your father is an alpha, and the law enforcement team will definitely listen to your orders. Please help call the law enforcement team over and sentence this man to

extortion!"

Elena kept nodding beside her, not feeling any guilt.

"Just those few broken lines, and he dared to ask for hundreds of thousands? Not only should he be sued for extortion, but he should also be asked to compensate me for mental damages!"

Mateo did not appear to be in a hurry. He raised his brow and smiled as he asked:. "Are they your friends?"

Mateo's smile was fascinating, but I didn't have time to enjoy it. I immediately distanced myself from Henry. "No more.

"I see. If it were your friend, I would not pursue it. But since it isn't...

Henry's face was puzzled; he couldn't understand why I responded in this manner.

But I didn't care what he thought, and I didn't want to deal with the problems Elena was causing anymore.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

"The runes on Mateo's clothes are indeed worth millions," I informed Henry, my tone casual.

"They are defensive runes carved by the strongest wizard. Regarding your statement about hiring a law enforcement team. If you really want to hire a law enforcement team, the outcome will be worse than just paying the money. "I am serious."

Saying that I left the hospital and never allowed Henry to continue to use any of my resources.

My attitude was so clear that I assumed Mateo would have no mercy when asking for compensation.

Would they come up with the money? It was nothing to do with me.

Mateo had been busy planning our wedding in the days that followed, and all I wanted to do was go shopping and show my grandmother a wedding dress.

But Mateo insisted that his friend look his best, and that only the most lavish wedding would suffice.

I couldn't understand his insistence on being the alpha heir, so I had to cooperate with him. Henry, on the other hand, called me every day to see when I was going back.

Maybe he noticed that I had been contacting him less and less recently, and that I was making it difficult to talk to him. Oh, he started asking me about the marking and wanted to arrange the time himself, but I didn't need him anymore.

Every time he called, I said I was busy and hung up.

Busy times always flew by, and my wedding day to Mateo arrived in the blink of an eye.

I appeared at the wedding scene wearing a custom-made luxurious wedding gown, accompanied by the crowd's exclamations.

A familiar voice came from behind me, surprising and alarming me.

"Ivy, didn't you visit the next tribe to discuss the contract? Why are you here in a wedding dress?!"

Mateo approached me and enveloped me in his protective circle.

"Isn't he the male wolf who attempted to sue me for extortion that day?" He asked me with a half-smile, "He used this questioning tone towards you; is he really not a friend?"

I looked at Mateo helplessly, knowing he had figured out Henry's relationship with me.

Mateo stood out from Henry because he was extremely intelligent.

"If you need some entertainment, then look forward to his next funny performance," I said to Mateo.

Henry rushed over to me, pointing at me angrily and saying, "Ivy, don't pretend you don't know me! I wanted to ask you one last time!"

"Have you cheated? You clearly have me as your boyfriend, but do you dare to marry

someone else in front of me? Are you deliberately treating me like a spare tyre, and you don't want to marry me at all?"

I want to cry again; if exercising in a wedding gown wasn't inconvenient, I would have slapped him.

This was the man I once wanted to marry, the man who was maliciously speculating about me for no apparent reason.

My mind was extremely calm; unlike before, when I would throw myself into his arms whenever he lightly criticised me.

"Backup? Henry, are you ashamed to admit that I treat you as a backup?"

"I agreed seven times to mark myself. "If you hadn't abandoned me, you would be my groom now."

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

"Since your childhood sweetheart always calls you away before marking me, it means you do not want to mark me, so I will grant your wish. Without me as your girlfriend, you can spend all of your time together in the future."

"I'm not pretending not to know you, but I wish I hadn't met you from beginning to end!"

When Henry appeared before me, I couldn't help but remember the five years of betrayal.

After five years of companionship and dedication, he couldn't even get a few minutes to mark me.

Henry looked at me as if struck by lightning; he wanted to say something, but Mateo instructed the guards to drag him out.

While guards were dragging him out, he yelled, "Ivy, I'm ready to mark you, and I can be your groom."

Mateo snorted coldly beside me, whispering to himself. "That's a nice thought. You want to be Ivy's groom?! Have you asked me if I agree?"

Mateo appeared innocent when I asked him about what he had just said. He claimed he said nothing; I must have misunderstood. I was certain I had not misheard, but I understood that everyone had secrets and that one should not delve into the details.

Without the troublemakers, Mateo and I had a very smooth wedding.

My grandmother also arrived and witnessed Mateo and me complete the ceremony firsthand. Perhaps because I fulfilled her last wish, she lost her breath and collapsed with her hands on her chest immediately following my wedding.

Before I could take off my wedding dress, I received word that my grandmother had been returned to the Wolf Pack Hospital for rescue.

I ran with red eyes, eager to get to the hospital to see how my grandmother was doing, but I didn't expect to be stopped by Henry, who had been lurking on the road.

He grabbed my arm and said to me, "Ivy, you can't marry that man, he won't treat you well!"

"We have been together for so many years, don't you know whether I really love you?"

I couldn't hear anything; all I wanted was to make sure my grandmother was safe. I yelled at Henry: "Let me go! I don't have time to deal with you!"

I shook his hand off, and he drew my veil again. When I lifted the veil, he squatted down and hugged my legs again.

Oh, my God, he resembles a disgusting dog skin plaster!

Fortunately, Mateo arrived and took Henry away, allowing me to escape.

I dashed to the Wolf Pack Hospital as quickly as I could. Many passers-by were taken aback by the wedding gown I was wearing, but all I could hear was my heart racing.

I was fast enough, but I was still a step behind.

When I arrived at the hospital, my grandmother's breathing had stopped.

You're late, Ivy. However, your grandmother was very happy before her death. She died smiling. "I believe she has no regrets," the doctor told me in a sad tone.

I felt as if I were falling into an ice cave, and I realised I had missed my last meeting with my grandmother.

I fell weakly beside the bed and gently placed my grandmother's hand on my cheek, as she had done before.

But my grandmother's hand had gone cold, and she had abandoned me completely.

"Ivy, don't be so sad. You've fulfilled Grandma's final wish. My father comforted me in a gentle tone.

I couldn't stop crying after seeing my grandmother's smile.

"Yes, grandma must be very happy..."

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

It was rainy and cloudy on the day of my grandmother's burial, as if the entire world was stained with sadness.

Mateo accompanied me to my grandmother's funeral; he knew I wasn't in the mood to take care of myself, so he held the umbrella for me and got wet.

"Ivy, don't be so sad. "I think your grandmother does not want to see you so sad," my father said, his voice filled with concern.

"Only if you live happily can you comfort her spirit in heaven."

I replied: "Yes, dad, I will continue to live by grandmother's expectations."

She had no regrets about leaving and was even very pleased with the temporary companion I found.

Thinking about this, I turned my head to see Mateo, who was holding an umbrella for me.

It was impossible not to be moved by him; he had already been of great assistance to me.

"Thank you, Mateo, for assisting me in carrying out my grandmother's final wish. If you want to cancel your mate bond with me, I can do so at any time."

Mateo shook his head and shook a few raindrops from his hair, pretending to be relaxed.

"Do not be concerned; your problems have been resolved, but I do not have any. In a few days, I'll also need your assistance."

He said and walked away, his back tense with fear.

I was a little perplexed, so I asked my father if he knew anything. His eyes were evasive, as if he were concealing a secret, and he quickly changed the subject. "Mateo is also being urged to marry by his parents, so you may need to accompany him to meet the alpha and luna of the Icefen tribe."

I sensed something was wrong, but I couldn't figure out what.

Anyway, Mateo assisted me, and I had to repay him.

When I returned from the cemetery, I ran into Henry, who was waiting for me again.

He was holding flowers for the memorial ceremony, and his hair was unkempt and appeared to have been neglected for quite some time.

"Ivy, I should also go to worship your grandmother, please, take me with you."

I didn't want to talk to him because I still remembered how he had ruined my last chance to meet my grandmother.

But, since it was about my grandmother, I could only politely decline.

"I appreciate your kindness, but it is not necessary. You and my grandmother do not have a worshipful relationship.

My indifference hurt Henry and brought him to tears. He cried and apologised to me, his voice filled with guilt.

"I didn't know, I didn't know your grandmother's physical condition that day...
Otherwise, I would have never stopped you!"

"I just love you too much, I just want to save you at all costs."

"Ivy, please forgive me, you reject that man and marry me. Have you forgotten that you took me to meet your grandmother, and she liked me very much. Now since she is gone, it's my responsibility to protect you!"

Ewwww... When did he develop such thick skin?

Henry could not be considered noble, but he was not as shameless as he was now.

I was disgusted by the look on his face.

A luxury car pulled up beside me just as I was about to speak, cutting off my conversation with Henry.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

Mateo got out of the car, wrapped his arm around my shoulder, and looked intimidatingly at Henry.

"Get away! My mate does not need others to protect! Besides, her grandmother said in person that she thinks I am better than you!"

I looked at Mateo with surprise. I assumed he hadn't heard it outside!

Maybe I overlooked the fact that Mateo was an alpha wolf with exceptional hearing abilities.

Mateo now appeared to be the type of man who could not wait to assert his dominance when jealous. I thought the tone and gesture were a little cute.

However, Mateo's words distorted Henry's expression. He looked at Mateo's hand on my shoulder, as if he wanted to burn a hole there with his eyes.

"Ivy, wake up, a man like him won't treat you sincerely, he's just playing with you!"

Then he attempted to make his eyes appear more affectionate.

"I'm different from him, I'm your boyfriend, I'll be loyal to you. We've been through so much together, you've long been the only one I can't give up."

"Look, I'm still wearing our engagement ring, I'm the one who loves you the most in the world!"

I would have spoken to him calmly if he hadn't mentioned it. I couldn't help but touch my cheeks.

The scar on my face had healed long ago, but the scar in my heart would never go away.

I couldn't help but sneer as I remembered how he grabbed my hair so violently that day.

"If the love you are talking about is that you can leave me for others again and again and hurt me mercilessly, then I admit that you are the only one in the world who treats me like this."

"Henry, your love is terrible. I have thrown away the ring, and I hope you will deal with it as soon as possible. Of course, even if you insist on keeping it, it doesn't matter. There is only one engagement ring left, which is meaningless."

Henry's face became paler, and I knew he had finally realised what he had done to me.

He took two steps back, as if he had received an unbearable blow.

I felt funny. Didn't he do these things himself? How could he have the nerve to act as if my words hurt him?

"By the way, you and Elena better move out of that house as soon as possible. I have sold the right to live in the house to someone else. I don't want the new tenant to call the law enforcement team to drive you away. That is not conducive to the harmony of the tribe."

Henry looked at me with confusion. "How can you sell our wedding house without

my consent? I just took all the money to compensate that man, and you want to give the house to someone else. What about me? Where would I live?"

"You can live anywhere you want, what does it have to do with me?"

"According to tribal law, you automatically ended your relationship with me when you slapped me that day. You are a stranger to me. I hope you know yourself and don't continue to pester me!"

I turned around and got in Mateo's car, leaving Henry behind.

"Ivy! I don't believe you have the heart to treat me like this! Look back at me, look at my eyes, your favourite eyes..."

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

I rolled my eyes and ignored him.

However, I noticed Mateo sitting in the driver's seat with a gloomy expression, as if he was in a bad mood.

I wanted to ask him what was wrong, but what had happened in the previous days had exhausted me. Mateo's scent soothed me, and I fell asleep almost immediately.

When I awoke, I noticed a ceiling with strange patterns – this is the decor style of our tribal guesthouse.

Mateo didn't know my family's exact address, and he didn't want to disrupt my well-deserved rest, so he took me back to his temporary residence here.

When I awoke, he was standing at the door, his back to me, speaking to a subordinate. His voice was low and suppressed, and I could smell anger around him.

"What's wrong, Mateo?" I enquired.

"No, nothing," Mateo responded, his tone gentle, attempting not to vent his rage on me. "It's just that some people did something they shouldn't have... He will pay the price."

I nodded, even though I didn't understand or care.

But I couldn't maintain this indifference for long. When I walked along the tribe's trails, people began pointing at me and whispering.

I had no idea what they were talking about, but my intuition told me it was something bad about me.

Later, my father called and reminded me personally.

Henry was spreading rumours about me, claiming that I had abandoned my five-year boyfriend and married a werewolf from another tribe. It was a betrayal against him and the Silverlands tribe.

Furthermore, he claimed I took away the wedding house he had purchased for me and was about to kick him out.

In his opinion, I had become an unfaithful and unrighteous woman.

I didn't like to use my father's authority, so many people in the tribe had no idea I was the alpha's daughter, and I couldn't betray the Silverlands tribe.

Many people believed the rumours and took Henry's side.

They wanted to defend Henry, so they purposefully waited on the trails I frequently passed and talked loudly.

"Is this Henry's cruel ex-girlfriend? Sure enough, beautiful women will turn bad."

"I heard that the neighbouring tribe is indeed stronger than ours, and has been interacting with our tribe more frequently recently. But this is not a reason to dislike your native tribe!"

"Yeah, I really don't know why she is so morally corrupt. Has Henry ever treated her badly?"

I listened quietly as these voices slandered me, and then a long black coat was draped over my shoulders.

I recognised the familiar defensive runes on it—it was Mateo, always Mateo.

Mateo's face was very gloomy, and his powerful alpha blood gave him an alpha aura that put pressure on other werewolves.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

Mateo's mental pressure made the noisy werewolves numb in the back of their necks and weak in their knees, and they were so terrified that they refused to look directly at us.

"Gathering to attack a female wolf, is this your way of being loyal to the tribe? Get out of here!" Mateo honked.

They immediately fled, rolling and crawling.

An hour later, my father arrived with the law enforcement officers. He gave a bitter grin and commented, "They are too easy to trust others, so now they are controlled by bad people. The tribe really needs to be rectified."

I was both amused and moved by their attempts to protect me.

"I know, they are not bad. As long as the rumours are clarified, they will know which side to stand on."

My father looked at me, distressed, and said, "It must be Henry who is behind it. I heard those people say Henry's name. He must want to discredit your image through these rumours and then destroy your marriage!"

"Yes, he must think so. I can almost imagine his mental journey."

I rarely used alpha authority because I didn't want to cause trouble for my father, but Henry couldn't understand why I didn't use it more to my advantage. He believed that my relationship with my father was not good. So, as long as these methods were used to provoke, my father will undoubtedly dislike me.

When I needed help, I would return to his arms.

I couldn't help sneering. I had to say that his fantasy was truly unparalleled.

Unfortunately, things didn't go his way.

My father and Mateo agreed that a serious and grand tribal meeting should be held to clear up the rumours.

Prior to that, I paused my activities and prepared for my first public identity.

But, Henry?! He appeared to interpret my decision not to go out as a victory.

He called me and said smugly:

"Ivy, it's not too late for you to regret now. As long as you come back and continue to be with me, we can still be as happy as before."

"I don't mind that others have marked you. As long as you are willing to refuse that man to be your mate, I will immediately tell the people in the tribe that you have realised your mistake and there is no need to criticise you anymore!"

It was disgusting. He was clearly the devil who hurt me, but he saw himself as a saviour.

"You don't dislike me? But I dislike you!" I stated coldly. "I have given you seven opportunities to mark, but you didn't cherish them. Didn't you like to leave me again and again to accompany your childhood sweetheart? Now I have nothing to give you and that's fair."

"Henry, you will get the punishment you deserve. It won't take too long."

After hanging up the phone, the tribe's rumours became more exaggerated. I turned into a bitch who enjoyed dating and playing with multiple men at once.

However, a tribal meeting was also held.

My father surprised everyone when he appeared in front of them, holding my hand.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

Some people warned my father to avoid me and not contact a morally corrupt female wolf like me; others whispered that my charm was so strong that I had even trapped the old alpha! This is actually—

"Shut up!" My father's stern voice filled the entire venue. "This is my biological daughter, Ivy. This is the first time I've announced her identity to you, and I hope you remember her and respect her from now on!"

"What? She is the daughter of the alpha?" Someone yelled with disbelief. "Then what about the man who deliberately went to other tribes? Did she betray the tribe?"

"She married the Icefen tribe for the benefit of the Silverlands tribe, not for you to repay her with slander!"

My father told the truth. Many people apologised to me, while others evaluated my qualifications as an alpha blood wolf.

I held my head high, took a step forward, and presented the most perfect demeanour.

"As for abandoning your boyfriend and cheating, that's ridiculous; Henry's behaviour towards me is domestic violence.

According to tribal law, the relationship is automatically ended, and he has no right to interfere in my marriage."

"The alpha heir of the Icefen tribe has marked me. I have and only have him as my mate. In the future, the connection between our two tribes will be closer, supporting

each other and moving forward together."

After a series of eloquent words, the tribe's attitude towards me shifted to appreciation. I was clear and organised, and the tribe reigned supreme. I fulfilled their vision of tribal leadership.

Mateo and I took the oath of alliance between the two tribes, but I didn't expect him to have a bigger surprise for me.

He handed me ten boxes, each containing priceless treasures.

Mateo stated that every year he thought of me, he would prepare a gift for me. He had spent the previous ten years in love with me.

Mateo elaborated: "Ten years of secret love and I finally got what I wanted today."

During the waves of blessings, public opinion completely changed.

It was time for Henry to taste what it was like to be hated!

"So Ivy gave Henry seven chances to mark first, and he abandoned his girlfriend himself... Was he cursed by the Moon Goddess?"

"He betrayed his love! If it were me, I would break up with my boyfriend the first time he left me for someone else! Ivy is too tolerant."

"I like Ivy's character. She has done her best. It is this scumbag who failed her! Henry even fabricated rumours to slander Ivy. He needs to be nailed to the pillar of shame!"

Furthermore, witnesses testified about Mateo and Henry's fight in the hospital. Many

people overheard Henry say Elena was his girlfriend.

When the incident was revealed, Henry was rejected by the entire tribe. Everyone called him a scumbag and refused to associate with him. Some believed he should be expelled from the tribe.

When Henry got into trouble, I was having dinner with my father and Mateo.

When I asked Mateo how he fell in love with me, he blushed and tapped his lips, "Do you really don't remember?!"

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

I looked at his handsome face and remembered how I had saved him from drowning during field training ten years ago.

I gave him artificial respiration because the situation was urgent. Since then, he has always kept me in his heart.

"At that time, your father thought that I took advantage of the training opportunity to deliberately steal your heart. But the real person whose heart was stolen was me."

"Okay!" My father awkwardly interrupted the conversation and whispered, "Boy, I didn't know you were such a loyal person at that time."

My father and grandmother were both optimistic about my marriage.

The days gradually returned to normal until the person who purchased the right to live in my home contacted me.

Ivy, there's a problem. "The people who live inside refuse to leave."

"Ivy, I've heard about you and that scumbag." I'm also very angry about it... However, he refuses to leave the house, claiming that it is his. What do you believe we should do?"

I didn't say much, only asking the other party to give me one more day.

I directly reported Henry's behaviour to the law enforcement team and asked them to follow tribal law.

When I arrived at the house, Henry was being escorted out by law enforcement officers.

"Ivy, I've been ruined and I have nothing. You won't even leave me with one last place to live?"

"This is our wedding home. Do you really not love me at all?"

Elena was escorted out behind him, and they only had one box of belongings.

Henry's possessions were limited for five years, so I purchased everything else for him.

At this point, I realised just how much I had given him and how much of my love he had trampled on.

"No matter where you live, you are not permitted to reside here. I've reminded you several times that I gave someone else the right to live in the house, but you still don't remember.

Henry begged me, "Ivy, I remember, you said you wanted to be with me forever; I remember everything!"

"Why can't you remember the last sentence?" I stared at him coldly, "I promised you that if you did not betray me, I would be with you forever.

But what have you done? How many times have you left me for your childhood sweetheart? Do you actually remember?"

Henry was speechless when he was taken away by law enforcement for trial.

After they left, I immediately requested that someone change the lock on the house, and I informed the new owner that if he continued to cause trouble, he could simply call the police and not have to check with me.

After a few days in the tribal prison, Henry and Elena returned to see me.

Henry rushed to me, grabbed my shoulders, and exclaimed excitedly,

"Ivy, our five-year relationship cannot be ended like this! I cannot live without you!"

I looked at him and thought he was being ridiculous.

"You should stay away from me." Elena, your childhood sweetheart, is standing next to you. If she falls again, won't she blame me?"

Despite my best efforts, Henry insisted on touching me.

Source Creation Date: July 3, 2025, 7:20 am

When he was about to grab me again, a car sped up to him and then came to a stop one millimetre away.

Henry was scared and fell backwards.

Mateo opened the door for me and said, "I have been waiting for you for a long time. "Get into the car."

I sat next to Mateo, and we both quietly avoided looking at the embarrassed man on the ground again.

Later, I learnt that Henry and Elena had such a bad reputation that no one would hire them; they were so poor that they stole other people's food and were apprehended on the spot by their owners.

Other tribes had already spread their reputation, and their fate would be nothing more than wandering werewolves who were always hungry. They were going to be expelled this time.

But this has nothing to do with me; Mateo took me to the Icefen tribe, and his parents wanted to meet me privately.

I felt a little restrained because I had heard that the Icefen tribe was an ancient tribe with a lot of unspoken etiquette, and I was afraid I would offend them without realising it.

Mateo understood my feelings and gently held my hand, conveying a reassuring

warmth to me.

This meeting was surprisingly easy.

His mother was delighted with me and drew me to sit beside her. The old alpha drank a few glasses of wine and asked Mateo when he intended to inherit the tribe, given that he already had a perfect luna.

I was blushing, and Mateo immediately took me to his room, where there were many portraits of the same person on the walls.

Mateo touched my face and said helplessly, "You didn't drink tonight, so why are you drunk?"

I reacted, and it turned out that the portraits on the wall were entirely of me!

In the most recent portrait, I wore a wedding gown and exchanged rings with him.

I still couldn't believe it: were these really me? I looked so happy in the painting.

"Did you paint all of these?""

Mateo nodded, "Every time I see you, I can't help but pick up the brush to depict your beauty." Did he love me that much?!

Later, my father told me that Mateo had asked him to be a lobbyist several times prior to the wedding.

This seemingly coincidental wedding was a miracle that he had worked so hard to achieve.