

A great magic.

Cassian stayed in the small house, staring at Abril intently. His gaze was unsettling her, so she asked him.

"Are you planning on staring at me all day?"

"I am watching you." "I don't know why my brother hasn't posted guards to make sure you don't escape or try anything." Cassian said.

"I won't run away, I have nowhere to go, and I'm not planning anything."

"I just want to stay here and live a peaceful life with three square meals a day, a roof to shelter me, and warm clothing during the winter." Abril said.

"I won't trust the daughter of King Venobich." Cassian said.

"I suppose my father has caused a lot of harm to your kingdom, so it's understandable that you hate me."

She said with sadness written all over her face.

Abril felt hungry, so she started preparing a soup with potatoes and carrots. It smelled delicious.

When the food was ready, Abril served herself a bowl. Cassian's stomach growled, so Abril asked him.

"Are you hungry?"

"Would you like some soup?"

How dare you offer me something like that? He questioned her.

Abril tasted her soup and told him.

"I suppose that's a no."

Cassian's stomach was rumbling with hunger, so he said to her.

"I suppose there's no avoiding it."

"I'll try that concoction you've made, but you try it rst."

"I don't want to be poisoned."

Abril served another bowl of soup, tasted it, and said to him.

"See, it's not poisoned."

Cassian's mouth watered. He had eaten very little for breakfast and was starving.

As he tasted the soup, he was surprised. It was delicious. He quickly nished everything he had been served, extended his plate, and said to her.

"Serve me some more."

Abril showed him the empty pot and said, "There is no more."

Abril collected the dishes, brought out some roasted sweet potatoes, and gave him one.

"What is this?"

Cassian asked while poking it with his ngers.

"These are sweet potatoes."

"Have you ever tried them?" Abril asked.

"But I thought they were oranges." Cassian said.

"That's because they still have the skin on, you must remove it." She replied.

Abril started peeling it off with her ngers.

"Look, you have to do it like this."

Cassian felt doing that went against everything he had been taught, but in that place no one would see him, they were alone, so he did what Abril showed him. He spent the whole day with Abril and the pain in his leg almost completely disappeared. When it started to get dark, Cassian returned to the palace as he always had dinner with his brother Alessandro.

During dinner, Alessandro asked him.

"How's your leg?"

"I'm ne brother, it hardly hurts anymore." He replied.

Alessandro knew perfectly well that Cassian's leg pain never went away and that on cold days like that, the pain was almost unbearable, so he said to him,

"You don't have to lie to me, if you feel bad, please feel free to tell me."

"It's not like that, brother, I'm really telling you the truth, it hardly hurts, but thank you for your concern." He said.

In fact, the leg pain had almost disappeared that day. Cassian had started to wonder if Abril had something to do with his improvement.

The next day, Cassian went to the kitchen and asked the servants to prepare a basket of food and some desserts. He went to Abril's house, like the day before, his leg was in terrible pain. But after spending some time with Abril, the pain was considerably reduced.

When it was time for lunch, Cassian told Abril to serve what he had brought. When they nished eating, they continued with dessert. It was a chocolate cake. When Abril tasted it, she shed tears, Cassian asked her.

"What's wrong with you? "

"Don't you like it?"

"On the contrary, I love it."

"I have never eaten anything so delicious in my life." She replied.

You are a princess, this kind of dessert should be common for a princess. Cassian said.

Although I am a princess, it is only in name. I have never been treated as one, she replied.

"You're lying, you are the beloved daughter of King Venobich, who would dare to ignore you in the kingdom of Laios." Argued Cassian.

Abril laughed when she heard what Cassian said.

"It doesn't matter whether you believe me or not."

"I have never received such affection from my father or anyone else and I don't think I ever will."

"Although I don't care, I just want a quiet life and to go unnoticed until my last days."

"Unfortunately, I don't think that's possible," she replied.

Cassian couldn't believe Abril's words. He had heard the report from the guards who had escorted the princess. They had said that the princess was the beloved daughter of the emperor, that they themselves had veried it when she had not bowed to the king, and he had only said loving words to bid farewell to his daughter, that he had even given her a blessing.

But there was something that Cassian wanted to confrm, that's why he had to be close to Abril, it wouldn't be convenient for him to be on bad terms with her, so he said nothing and simply remained silent.

Cassian visited Abril daily throughout the winter, although at rst she was uncomfortable with his visits, in the end she had become accustomed to him visiting every day.

Cassian had a check-up very often, to make sure that the consequences of his old injuries did not worsen. While the doctor examined him, Cassian asked him.

"Doctor, is there any kind of magic that can heal any injury or relieve any pain?"

"No, Your Majesty, healing magic helps to heal wounds."

"However, when an injury is too severe or the pain is too intense, it is not very helpful."

"Unfortunately, there is no such magic," the doctor said.

The doctor recalled a story and said to him:

"Although some say that a magic like that existed long ago, I don't believe it to be real if I'm honest with you."

"Could you tell me a little more about that magic?" Cassian pleaded.

"I don't know much myself, as it's only a story my father used to tell me when I was a child."

"He said that long ago, there was a magic that was a blessing from heaven, it was the magic of light, a power granted by the Goddess Juno herself."

"My father also told me that magic could heal all kinds of illnesses and wounds."

"It was a magic that increased strength and spirit." He said.

"I had never heard of such magic before," Said Cassian.

"That's why I say it's just a story, I don't even believe it to be real."

"The possessor of that magic was considered a saint, but there have been no indications that someone with such power ever existed." The doctor concluded.

"Thank you very much for answering my questions." Cassian said.

"You don't have to thank me, Your Majesty."

"In reality, I believe what I have said is useless."

"I'm sorry I couldn't help you any further." The doctor apologized.

The doctor gathered his things and said to him:

"Now, if you'll excuse me, I must leave."

"Thank you very much for everything." Cassian replied.

When the doctor left, Cassian stood thinking about what he had said and wondered if the princess possessed such power. Ever since he had been by her side, the pain in his leg had almost completely disappeared, and he had started walking better, and his leg had stopped failing him. If his suspicions were true, Cassian wondered why King Venobich would let such a valuable person go to the enemy.

"It's useless to make assumptions, it would be better for me to nd out more about this." He said to himself.

That day, Cassian went to the library and spent the whole day looking for information about the magic that the doctor had mentioned. Unfortunately, he found nothing. He wondered if that magic was truly real or just a story invented by some storyteller to make a living.