

## THE FESTIVAL

Killian sponged all the information and he asked a few more question to Willow, only after he was sure there was nothing else that Willow could offer to him, he told her to leave the room.

"Killian..." Willow called for him, of course, she wouldn't leave him just like that. She had something to accomplish to by meeting with him. " Can we talk about us?"

Killian's dark eyes became extremely dangerous. Willow sensed this chill ran down her spine when she started talking again, still it didn't stop her.

"Killian, will you go back to our pack if you could take the baby with you?" Willow tried to find the right word, but even then, she didn't feel those were the right words to say, but she couldn't careless about that.

Killian looked at Willow for a while before he answered her. "Yes." Of course, he would go back to the pack once he got his baby back, but it was not only the baby that he wanted, but Althea as well.

However, Killian didn't feel the need to elaborate such thing to Willow. She didn't need to know and he didn't want to waste his breathe and word with her.

Hearing this, Willow smiled, it was a genuine smile that bloomed on her tired face. She had worked so hard to get this information and in her mind, everything was paid off, because Killian was willing to go back home with her after he got the baby, though that was not exactly what Killian said.

"Okay," she said, nodding her head with satisfaction. "Let's go back home after you get the baby, okay?" Willow said excitedly, as she exited the room.

But, she gave Killian one last glance before she closed the door behind her.

Willow was satisfied with the way how it turned out, because with this, she could have more excuse to see him. She only needed more information about Althea, that was all she needed.

Her breathing was shaking when she looked at herself in the mirror, she didn't recognize herself anymore, because the reflection on the

mirror was not the woman that she used to be.

A year ago, she would have all the love that Killian could offer for her. She didn't need to beg, she didn't need to do anything, she only needed to be pretty and make demand and he would do everything to fulfill her wishes, no matter how ridiculous it was.

But right now, she needed to make an extra effort to even make him acknowledged her. This was ridiculous.

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"You look so pretty, my lady," Thalia said excitedly when she did Althea's hair. She was excited for tonight, because they would go out with the other women, who worked in the greenhouse.

This was the first festival that she would attend ever since Althea was here.

"Thank you, you too look so beautiful, Thalia," Althea said, she smiled at the young servants, who always stayed by her side.

Thalia giggled. "This dress is so pretty, I don't think the king would care to give me dress if its not for you, my lady."

"Ssh, don't say something like that." Althea became a little bit tensed, because she knew what people might say about her.

She was not sure about her feelings and how certain she was with Alex, but the way he treated her all this time and how affectionate he was with her, she would be dumb, if she didn't understand his intention, but he had never said anything to make things clear between them and Althea didn't dare to bring the topic with him.

"But, I am pretty sure that the king has feeling for you, my lady," Thalia persisted with her opinion, but now she was talking in low voice, just in case someone else would hear her, though they were inside Althea's room and the only someone else there was baby Jasmine.

"No. Let's not talk about this, okay?" Althea said with finality in her voice, which meant she didn't want to discuss anything related to this topic and Thalia didn't have other choice, but to drop it.

She would bring it again later though, but for now, Althea could be free from her penchant to gossip.

After that, Thalia dressed baby Jasmine. She looked so adorable in her

white dress with pink flowers on it. The baby was currently sleeping. She was an easy baby, if it she was not hungry or had to be cleaned, she wouldn't make a fuss at all. Smiling all the time.

"Look how gorgeous you are!" Thalia cooed after she put the dress on Jasmine.

When they were about to go out, someone knocked on the door and it didn't take a genius to know that it was the king, because you could smell his sense.

"I heard you are going out tonight for the festival," Alex said.

Seeing the king was there, Thalia scurried away, giving them some space that they needed.

"Oh, yes. I will go out with Thalia, Jaime and Mala," Althea replied, she carried the baby in her arms and thanked him for the dress.

"You look beautiful."

"Thank you." Althea couldn't help with the blush that crept on her cheeks under Alex heated gaze.

"It's okay if I joined you halfway?" Alex wanted to go with her, but because she had promised to go with her friends, he could only make a compromise with this. "I want to take you somewhere."

"Where?" Althea looked at Alex, but he only smiled. He stretched out his hand like usual and caressed her cheek.

She could avoid his touch, but she felt like it would be rude of her, more so, his touch was.... Comforting.

"I will show you." Alex glanced at the baby on the crib. "See you two later, okay?"

"Okay." Althea nodded, as he smiled gently to her.



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