

## I DIDN'T DESERVE THAT, FATHER

"What did you say?" Althea felt like the world crumbled under her feet when she heard what her father just told her. There was no way that was real, right? How could that be real?

"I am telling you the truth, child..." He said in apologetic tone. "Willow is still alive." He looked sad and upset when he told her the whole story. "She returned not so long after you left the pack."

Althea was not sure whether she heard him clearly or not, her ears rang painfully and there was this buzzing sound in her mind, as if there were thousand of bees that occupied her brain.

Willow didn't die, she run away with her destined mate, but because the life that her destined mate offered to her was not something that she liked, she rejected him and returned home.

"She is here now, so did your mother," Brian told her. He was not sure whether he had to tell her the truth about this or not, but because of the fact there would be a chance for her to meet with them, thus it would be best if he gave her a head up, so she wouldn't be surprised when she met with them.

More so, Althea already met with Killian.

"Althea?" Brian called her name softly. "My child?" He stretched out his hand to touch her because she looked very shocked, understandably so, and didn't give any reaction or respond. "Are you, okay?"

"So, she is alive?" Althea asked, she lifted her head and Brian was taken aback with the hatred in her eyes.

Brian knew that Althea was not as open with her emotion like Willow, but he had never seen her holding back so much hatred in her eyes like this.

In Brian's mind, Althea was a calm and collected girl, who would forgive you easily, someone, who wouldn't be holding a grudge.

But of course, Brian didn't know his daughter very well, since he didn't really involve himself with them growing up.

"Althea... I am sorry. I am really sorry..." Brian felt his throat constricted, he felt very remorseful. "I am sorry, my child."

Althea didn't know what to say, she wanted to scream at her father for the news. She didn't want to hear that. She was rather not to know about that, with that, at the very least, her pain would be worth it.

At the very least, she didn't go through that hell for nothing. Willow was dead, she should be dead, but now she was alive, why would she be tortured?

"You are not sorry, father. You never felt sorry for me." Althea said. "You only felt sorry because the truth of the situation ate your conscience. You only felt sorry for me because you wanted to be free of guilt. That's the only reason why you apologized to me."

"Althea..." Brian said, he was afraid to see Althea like this. His calm girl, had turned into someone that he didn't recognize, but then he couldn't be mad, because he was the one, who had changed her. He was the one, who should be blamed for everything that happened.

"Why you are all here?" Althea asked. "Don't tell me that you came here to look for me."

Brian nodded. "We are here to look for you, Althea."

"Liar." The word came very harsh and carried the truth. "Don't try to fool me again, father, because I am sick of it."

Brian gulped down with difficulty, he couldn't see her in the eyes and this made Althea knew that her accusation was right.

They were here not for her... the truth still hurt.

"Let me guess," Althea said, she held her baby close to her, as if she was afraid that her father would snatch her little one away. "You are here because Willow followed Killian here, right? You are here solely because you couldn't leave your precious daughter alone in the mainland."

Brian shook his head, but he couldn't meet Althea in the eyes, and she continued.

"Willow regretted leaving Killian and wanted to win him back, so she followed him here and you and mother came here not for me, but for her."

"It's not like that... you misunderstood..."

"Which part that I have misunderstood, father?" Althea gritted her teeth,

she fought back her tears from spilling from her eyes, she didn't want to cry in front of him, she didn't want to cry at all. "Do you know what he had done to me?" Althea asked.

At this point, her baby was crying, because she held her a little bit tighter and Jasmine could feel her mother's emotion, she could feel how upset Althea was and this made her upset too.

However, Althea didn't hear her little one's cry, her ears rang painfully and she felt like someone gripped her heart tightly and she couldn't breathe.

"Do you know what he had done to me, father? Do you even have the slightest idea what kind of torture I have to endure in his hand?" Althea didn't raise her voice, but Brian could see the anger in her eyes and this shocked him.

All this time, Brian thought Killian only locked her inside the room and being meant to her. Therefore, seeing Althea's expression right now didn't sit well with him, he was afraid to ask, but he needed to know.

"Wh- what did he do to you, child?" Brian feared the answer.

"He forced himself to me..." Tears streamed down her face when she said that and she got the satisfaction to see how Brian's face turned pale upon hearing what she said, riding this wave of satisfaction to see his misery, Althea told him everything. Every single thing that Killian had done to her.

And in the end of her words, she laughed mockingly at her father.

"Why? Do you think he will treat me nicely?" Althea bit her lip. "I didn't deserve that, father."

