# 81 WE LEAVE JASMINE

Once the door was shut behind Belle, Corral jumped up.

"We need to do something!" She said. "We can't let this girl have Xaden. We need to get rid of her as quickly as possible. My mother is going to find out she is Scarlet's daughter."

"Relax." Aunt Cherry was reprimanded. "My God, you're as unsettled as your daughter."

"Relax? This whole thing is about to blow. We have no plan on how to get rid of this." Corral said. "You saw her! She looks like Scarlet! Even with that scar! And if the truth comes to light, then eventually, they will somehow find out that I was the one who killed Scarlet."

Aunt Cherry rose to her feet. "Keep your voice down. If they catch us, it would be your fault! So now behave!"

But Corral closed her mouth and resumed pacing the room.

"We need to evaluate what's going on and how

we're going to handle it all." Aunt Cherry said. "One step at a time. No need to rush anything."

Cherry sometimes disliked her niece.

She was so rash and could make the wrong decisions a lot of the time.

Cherry would have let her take the fall, but she could inadvertently ruin her plans.

"Why don't we use the fact that she is an imposter?" Corral asked. "We could expose her, and she would be sent far away from here."

"That's a great idea." Cherry said. "Except that allows my sister and her husband to investigate her further. Don't you think?"

She snorted in disgust and went on thinking.

If they exposed that Jasmine was not Luna Maria's daughter or who Xaden thought she was, the King, known as nosy, would inquire about her accurate background.

And it wouldn't be long before they discovered who she was.

They needed to come up with something else.

"Alright, so what do we do? I'm out of ideas." Corral was exasperated.

"It's simple. We let her be." Cherry said.

"WHAT?! WE JUST LEAVE HER LIKE THAT?!" Corral balked.

"Exactly." Cherry nodded and took a seat.

"But she is going to be discovered; they will know who she is; they will find a way. We have to get rid of her." Corral stammered.

"Don't you know that when you try to prevent something from happening, you indirectly make that thing happen? If we try to deter her from your mother, she will somehow get to her eventually. She would get the spotlight if you tried to pin things on her. Don't you see? But if we let her be, the chances of her finding out who she is are slim and low. We have only one more day left here."

"But what if, when we leave, she eventually finds out?" Corral asked.

"We only found out because I sensed her. I could see her blood only because she looked like a

#### < 81 WE LEAVE JASMINE

scarlet. But we've been able to deter that from your mother. She now thinks she is going mad again." Cherry explained.

"And okay if we succeed? One day, it's going to come out. Somehow. I mean, Scarlet survived and somehow had this girl. She had even lived long enough for that. Then that means people would know. At least someone would know something." Corral said it in absolute frustration.

"And we trace it." Cherry said. "We will trace her and find out how she came to live. I will use my spies."

"We need to get rid of her. That's the only solution. One day, she could come and find out. She is under the very same roof as us!" Corral cried.

"Did I say we wouldn't kill her? Of course, we will. But we just have to do things smartly. And not in a state of confusion like the one you're currently in." Cherry said.

Corral was frustrated because it was going to be on her.

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Her mother would never forgive her if she knew the truth.

"You're not the one who supposedly killed her sister." Corral said she itched her arm in anxiety.

She had fought for her mother's love, but it had never come.  $^2$ 

And if parents find out.

It would be over for her.

"And no one will find out." Cherry assured. "We just have to be smart about it. If you had done the job properly when you should have, none of this would have happened."

"I did my best," Corral said.

"It doesn't change the fact that you still didn't do it. There is no excuse for this, and now I have to be the one to clean up your mess." Cherry drank the last glass of wine and stormed out of the room.

Since she had arrived, she hadn't officially met her sister.

The false queen. The one who had taken her

throne and the man she had loved.

The only man she had ever loved.

The one who had even banished her out of her kingdom.

What a laugh!

There was blood to be spilled, and Cherry had sworn to torment her sister for life and take over everything.

"Where is the Queen's bedroom?" She enquired.

The guards took her in, and she paused, taking a deep breath before stepping in.

She went to her room and saw her sister watering a flower pot.

Her sister was always the perfect one.

The most beautiful and radiating.

Perfect marriage, lovely children.

She wanted to laugh.

It seemed her sister was talking to a servant. "Sister sister." She said it with a wicked smile on

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her face. "It's been such a long time. Miss me?"

Her sister, Rose, stopped short and turned around to see her.

Rose was still beautiful even with her now black hair, and her age had done good things for her.

Cherry hated it because she had had to use a lot of dark magic to make herself look younger and more beautiful.

Her sister was a natural.

"Cherry?" Rose said this in surprise and then rose up to hug her sister.

Cherry looked down and saw the slave girl again.