

## 84 ELEANOR AND MARIE 1

"You took out his heart?" Eleanor barked in anger. 1

Her sister had done it this time. 3

She had finally crossed the line, and there was no going back, no matter what.

"Please." Marie rolled her eyes with laughter. "It's not like I killed anyone." 1

Then she stopped, and she smiled before saying. "Whoops. I always do that. How could I forget?"

And she burst out laughing.

Eleanor and Marie had been born as special witches centuries ago.

They were wolves, but their main line was witches, and it was their job to assist the wolves.

And be good and kind; work with them.

They had grown up with a sect of coven witches and gone about their usual duties with other

witches.

Eleanor was the elder, and Marie was the younger.

Eleanor was the one with the wild streak, and Marie had been the kind and calm one.

Things went wrong when Eleanor went to work once and fell in love with a man.

He had wanted her, and she, in turn, had wanted him.

It was forbidden for a wolf witch to become intimate with a natural wolf.

But Eleanor was determined.

She had given up her life as a witch and been more than intimate with the wolf; she had also carried a child for him.!

On hearing about this, the elders banished Eleanor from their coven and turned their backs on her, taking away her powers.

She had moved back to the regular world and lived with the man and her child.

But tragedy struck, and she had lost both of



them.

It was a loss that had cost her.

Her younger sister, Marie, had grown to hate her for abandoning her and her other siblings for a wolf. When Marie came to the regular world, she used dark magic, and its powers covered her eyes with greed.

They were both cast away.

When Eleanor found her sister, she begged her to return to the coven since she could still live, but Marie dabbled in black arts and could no longer return home.

"Why did you take out his heart?" Eleanor asked.

She was so hurt beyond words that the young boy she had raised had turned his back on her.

Xaden had come to meet her and begged her to help him with strong magic that would help him defeat his family.

But Eleanor had told him to let it be, or instead, if he insisted on going to war with Aloha Bale, he should go like a man.

Xaden had left and never returned.

She had heard of his success from people, and when he had coke with Jasmine, it was the first time she had seen him since he had run away. 3

So he went on to find Marie, and she had helped him.

He succeeded because of Marie and the evil she had put on him.

"He said he doesn't want to love anyone." Marie said. "He said he doesn't want anyone to do to him what they did to his parents. He wouldn't let them use the ones he loved as leverage. It makes him a strong man. He can only be loyal and objective, but love will never ruin a decision."

Eleanor felt herself go weak.

How could he have made such a decision without meeting with her or talking to her about it?

"It's a lie; you were the one who did it." Eleanor accused. "You're the one who took it." 2

Marie laughed. "Honey, he came to me. He came because of the power you couldn't give me; I



gave him. I'm stronger than he is."

"You're dabbling in evil power." Eleanor accused.  
"Evil power. There is a reason why it's called the dark arts. Why it's prohibited."

"Please, you're just scared to do it for yourself. You're jealous that I was braver than you, and I chose to use dark arts." Marie said.

Eleanor rose up to her feet and shook her head.  
"Oh no, Marie, what happened to you? What happened to that little girl I knew?"

"She is dead." Marie retorted. "She died the day you abandoned her along with her entire family. Because of you, I can never go back home. I came down here to look for you. I left the coven for you and no one else. If there is anyone who would be accused, it would be you."

Eleanor felt her heartache. "And I'm so sorry. I've apologized many times without a number. I will do anything to take back leaving home."

Marie bit her lip. "There is no need to cry over spilled milk. What is done is done. The coven would never take me back, and I'm stuck here."

"You've done more than enough harm." Eleanor said. "And I've let you go on for too long."

Marie rolled her eyes. "Oh, please, sister, there is nothing anyone can do to stop me."

"I can stop you," Eleanor said.

"We're immortal. No one can stop us." Marie said. "It's just a waste of time. Only dark magic can stop me, and you won't even be able to do it. You're too much of a coward."

"Give him back his heart." Eleanor said.

"It was a spell. Dark magic. You and all people should know that nothing can be done to

it." Marie responded. "Once it's done, it's sealed."

"There is always something that can break it," Eleanor said.


"Well, there is one." Marie said. "He can only ever retrieve his heart if a child of love is borne to him."

"Child of love?" Eleanor laughed. "That is reay like saying the coven would ever accept me back. How Can a man who cannot have a child





have a child borne out of love when he can never fall in love? You made sure of that when you made that curse. It is ridiculous and impossible."

"Well, that is the only way." Marie said. "Until then, he is faced with his predicament. And I believe it's permanent."


 **FULL RETURN!!!** >

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