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Aurora: 1

I jolted up from deep sleep when someone placed a comforting hand on my shoulder.

I moved my swollen eyes and found Amora standing there. Sebastian was behind her in the doorway.

I suddenly got up and hugged her tightly, "Thank Goddess, you're here. Now he will be fine. Right, Amora?"

When she didn't react, I repeated, looking into her eyes, "Right, Amora? He would be fine!"

She placed her hands on my arms and made me sit on a bench. She looked over her shoulder, and Sebastian nodded before leaving the room.

"Good news is... yes... You can save him, Aurora. I'll help you, and he will be as good as new."

"Wow!" I wiped my face and tried to smile, "That's good news. Just a few minutes back, he was saying..." I trailed off, pointing my thumb towards Jai's unconscious figure, "That motherf*ucker thinks that I..."

Amora nodded in understanding and squeezed my hands.

"Of course, love."

Hand in hand, we left the room together with only one thought in mind... Getting Jai back healthy and in one damn piece.

"You want to see him strong again, right?" Amora asked me, and I nodded at her.

Of course. That was what I wanted.

Right now, we were in this small hut that was assigned to her by the Royal family to practice her magic.

This place was at some distance from the palace.

Amora went to her little rack and took out some papers.

Wow! An educated witch.

I always thought that the witches used that crystal globe that had sparkles and swirls in it. Here, there wasn't any such thing.

I looked around and tried to find one or two clues that could tell me that the place belonged to a witch.

"We couldn't find anything at Kiki's place, either. And later we realized that she was also a witch," Aria reminded me.

Hmm. Interesting. Modern-day witches didn't need that creepy stuff.

"Do you remember, Aurora?" Amora's voice brought me back into reality, "As I once told you, I can send you back in the past and give you a chance to make things right in your life?"

I nodded at her and took a chair near the coffee table, "Yeah. But why are we discussing the past when we're here to treat Jai?"

"Because I told you that I would send you at three instances and one of them would be my chosen spot."

I bobbed my head. Yeah. I remembered everything.

"The thing is..." she sighed, "I can send you in the past... at the chosen spot, and you need to bring me the Emerald. I would tell you where you can find it. Once it's here, the Emerald and your healing power, combined, can save Jai."

In the past, I used to be so stubborn that I didn't want to visit my past life to get back my face. However, this time it was about Jai.

I could risk anything for my best friend.

Anything for you, Jai.

"Fine!" I gestured in the air, "I'll bring you the Emerald. When do we need to do it?"

Amora chuckled and shook her head, "There is a teeny tiny problem, Aurora..." She paused when she saw me frowning, "There is a shell that is missing. I've been looking for it for the last few years. Someone told me that Blood Stone pack has got it, but..."

I raised my finger and got to my feet, "Wait! Shell? A green colored shell?"

Amora's head snapped up with a gasp, "Yeah. Have you seen it?"

With a smirk, I responded, "I've got it. Jai gave it to me before we parted ways."

Surprise flickered in her eyes.

"You have got that shell?" She seemed excited now.

"Yeah. I've got it. Give me a sec and I'll fetch it for you."

Without waiting for her answer, I raced outside to get it.

But then something crossed my mind that made me halt in my tracks. It seemed as if... as if Jai knew that I would need that shell.

"We can think about it later, Aurora," My wolf reminded me, "Let's go get that shell."

"Where are you going?" I was going back to Amora's hut, with the shell clutched into my palm protectively, when I heard Sebastian behind me. I slipped it in my pants pocket and smiled.

We were in the hallway, and I didn't want anyone to eavesdrop on our chat.

I went back to him and lifted myself on my toes to kiss his cheek, not caring that there were people around us.

"Amora is ready to help me, Sebastian," I told him and struggled to keep the joy off my face.

He was looking at me carefully and must have realized that I was no longer a half-dead, pathetic zombie who had been crying for her friend.

"Are you sure about this, Aurora?" he took me in his arms and pressed a kiss on my forehead, "I ... I don't believe in magic and... I don't want you to hurt yourself."

The best thing was that I wasn't wearing a mask anymore since yesterday, and no one even batted an eye.

Nobody seemed to mind that I was showing my ugly face to everyone. None of them seemed to flinch, in fact, they were far more accepting than the werewolves had ever been.

"I promise, I wouldn't be harmed," I wrapped my arms around his neck, "I just need this chance to save Jai. You do know how important he is to me. Right?"

He nodded and looked speechless for a moment, "I wish I could accompany you... but Amora will never allow it. She is quite..." he started chewing his inner cheek.

"Strong-headed?" I helped, and he smiled, "Yeah. That too. Extremely stubborn and maybe manipulative."

He didn't know that I was planning to go into the past because my sixth sense told me that he might stop me from going there.

He suddenly gripped my waist as his eyes locked on mine, "Promise me you'll look after yourself... A... and don't let anything happen to you."

I gave him a faint smile as my hand reached to hold his, and brought it to my lips to kiss it, "You have my word, my king."

I promised him that I would take care of myself without knowing that fate had other plans for me. 1