

Forgotten Wife : Let the Traitors Kneel Down Novel

71 Sealing a promise Alessandro found the butler in the hallway and told him that April had already woken up and that he should bring her something light to eat.

Then he went to look for Sirius, who was in the library reading books, trying to find a way to help the princess.

When he saw Alessandro he was very surprised because he had not left her side for a single moment since the princess fell asleep.

_ Did something happen? _April has awakened.

_That's good news.

_Yes, it is, although I was a little shocked by what he said.

_ And what did the princess say? _She already knows she has magic, she says her mother told her and gave her some earrings to help her control her magic until she knows how to do it.

_It's not really that strange, I've heard that sometimes if a wizard's spirit is strong enough it can continue to exist without a physical body, it all depends on how much mana the wizard has and if he has something holding him back in this world.

_April's mother died when she was a baby.

_Surely his spirit clung to his daughter, it's not so strange really.

_I'd like you to check her over and make sure everything is okay with her magic.

_I will do so.

When Alessandro returned to the room he found Cassian keeping him company.

Sirius approached the princess and asked her.

_ How are you princess? _Hungry.

_They will bring you the food shortly, be patient, they will surely not take long.

Alessandro replied.

Sirius took the princess's hand, after checking that her pulse was normal again he checked that her magic was under control and was surprised to see that everything was fine.

-How are you? Alessandro asked as he looked at April.

_It's okay, your magic is stable.

Alessandro seemed relieved to hear Sirius confirm that April was fine.

Sirius felt like they were superfluous in that room, so he told Cassian.

_Prince Cassian, there is something I would like to talk to you about, could we go out for a moment? _Of course.

After Sirius and Cassian left a maid entered with a tray of food, after delivering it she left leaving them alone.

Alessandro took the spoon to feed him, Abril told him.

_She could have done it alone.

_I know, but I want to do it, open your mouth.

April obeyed and opened her mouth, Alessandro fed her as if she were a little girl, when the soup was finished, he peeled an apple for her and cut it into pieces, while he did so Alessandro asked her.

Your mother told you something else about your magic.

_Yes, she sealed my magic so that my father wouldn't use me as a weapon.

When April said that, Alessandro felt miserable because he had thought of doing the same thing with her, using her so he could win the war.

April continued talking.

_It seems that one of the seals has been broken, that's why my magic went out of control.

_How the seal was broken.

_I think it was when we made love, for a moment the beating of our hearts became one, I think it was at that moment.

April took a piece of apple and put it in her mouth, Alessandro remained silent for a moment trying to digest what Abril was telling him, she continued saying.

_I always believed that I was alone, but I was wrong, my mother has always been with me, I think that is one of the reasons why despite everything I lived when I was young I did not die, she was taking care of me even when I did not see her, you know I had never seen my mother's face since there was no portrait of her in the palace, but I was able to see her while I was unconscious, she was very beautiful, she had blonde hair, beautiful like golden threads and her eyes, apparently I inherited t

hem from her.

Alessandro, seeing Abril so happy to have met her mother, said to her.

_I'm glad you were able to meet her.

_ Me too, and I'm glad my mother sealed my magic when I was born, because if she hadn't, my father would never have let me leave the kingdom of Laios, he thought he was getting rid of a useless woman, I'm glad it was like that, thanks to that I'm your wife.

_I wasn't very nice when I met you and for a while I...

April gave him a soft kiss on the lips and said.

_That doesn't matter anymore, because now I'm happy by your side, I love you.

_ Do you love me? _Yes, I didn't want to admit it because I was afraid that if I gave you my heart I would end up hurt, but it's useless to continue denying what I feel for you, I love you Alessandro.

Abril's words were like daggers piercing Alessandro's heart, making him feel happy and also miserable for everything he had done to her up until that moment.

For not thinking of her the same way King Venobich would have, for not caring for her and loving her as she deserved, he pushed aside the tray between them, took her face in his arms, kissed her, and then apologized.

_You are too good and kind, I am not worthy of you loving me, I don't deserve it.

_Of course I do and I'm happy that it is so, happy to be your wife.

April asked him timidly.

_Aren't you happy that I love you? Alessandro pressed his forehead against Abril's and looked her straight in the eyes and answered.

_Of course I am, I'd be an idiot if I wasn't.

April lifted his face, kissed him and said.

_Our marriage was something we were forced to do, however, we are the ones who choose how to live it, whether we are happy or not, and I have decided to give you my heart, I have decided to love you, what do you decide? April anxiously awaited Alessandro's response, he took her lips and whispered to her between kisses.

_Yes, I also decide to be with you, I also decide to love you, I decide to be happy by your side.

April smiled, her smile was beautiful and full of happiness.

Alessandro had never been in love, but without a doubt he thought that what he felt in those moments must be it, the happiness he felt when seeing her smile, when being by her side, she

was beautiful not only on the outside but also on the inside, she with her light He had broken down her walls and entered her heart, it was useless to continue denying what was so obvious.

He was in love with her, that was why he had been so afraid of losing her, because he loved her.

_I will take care of you, I will make you happy.

_I also want to make you happy, that there is a lot of happiness in our future.

And there will be, I will make sure that it happens, that we are very happy.

Alessandro brushed a lock of hair behind her ear and said.

_I promise to love you, protect you, kiss you, dream about you, live for you, do anything for you.

And he sealed his promise by kissing the marriage mark on her left hand and kissing her lips, doing what he had not done on his wedding day.

72 Everything is better when we are together Despite having been sleeping for three days April still felt sleepy, she gave a big yawn Alessandro asked her.

_ Are you OK? _Yes, I just feel a little sleepy.

Alessandro looked worried, Abril told him.

_This time it's just a dream, my magic isn't escaping.

_ Really? _Yes, now I can feel my magic, although I can't control it, but the earrings help me with that.

_ How could your mother give you those earrings? _I don't know, he put them in my dream, when I woke up I already had them.

_Your mother must have been a very powerful magician.

_I don't know, no one ever told me about her, I don't really know anything about her, I would have liked to have met her, spent time with her, maybe my life would have been very different if she hadn't died.

April yawned again, Alessandro didn't want her to go back to sleep, he was afraid that she wouldn't wake up this time, but she looked tired, she was fighting sleep to stay awake, it was selfish of him not to let her sleep.

Alessandro took off his shoes, climbed onto the bed, put his arms around her and said.

_If you are sleepy, go to sleep, I will be by your side when you wake up.

April settled on his chest and said.

_This time I will wake up, I just need to sleep a little.

Alessandro gently stroked her hair, kissed her on the forehead and said.

_Good night my sleeping beauty, I'll be here when you wake up.

April closed her tired eyes and it didn't take long for her to fall asleep.

Alessandro was also tired.

He had spent three days taking care of April day and night, during which he hadn't slept a single minute.

Worry and fear prevented him from doing so, but at that moment, knowing that April was fine, all the tension in his body disappeared and tiredness came suddenly; in the end he too ended up falling asleep while holding in his arms the warm body of his wife, his beloved.

When April woke up again the sun had already begun to set, an orange light flooded the room, she was still in Alessandro's arms, she looked at him and for the first time in her life she felt true happiness and thanked God for having met him.

She caressed his sleeping face, there were very few times she had seen him sleep, it was always the other way around, his sleeping face seemed beautiful to her, her fingers ran over his features and stopped on his lips, soft and warm.

Alessandro woke up to her caresses, when he opened his eyes she told him.

_I'm sorry I woke you up.

Alessandro caught her hand before she pulled it away, gave her a kiss on the palm and said.

_Don't apologize, I'm fine.

Alessandro, seeing that the sun was beginning to set outside, said to him.

_It seems we've slept all day.

_Yeah.

_Do you feel like stretching your legs a bit? _The truth is yes, I have been lying in this bed for three days, my body feels a little heavy.

Alessandro got out of bed, put on his shoes and looked for Abril's and a robe to put on her since she was only wearing a light white silk nightgown.

Alessandro helped her sit up on the bed slowly so she wouldn't get dizzy, then he put on her shoes and robe, and helped her stand up.

Abril's legs felt weak, like those of a newborn deer.

Alessandro held her by the waist and helped her walk until they reached the balcony, there they sat on a bench, from there they could see the mountains, the sun slowly descending, hiding behind the mountains, Abril leaned on Alessandro's arm and said to him.

_It's lovely.

_I'm glad you like it.

_I really liked the sunset on the beach, but this is also beautiful.

_Yes it is.

_You know what I like most about this.

_ The fact that? _Although the landscape is beautiful, what I like most about this is being by your side, that makes everything even more beautiful, your company.

Alessandro kissed her and said.

_Yes, by your side everything is better.

Cassian had gone out to train since he felt suffocated from being locked up all day with nothing else to do.

While training Cassian felt light, like he hadn't felt for a long time, the injury on his leg had healed, there was no more pain, nor difficulty walking, for the first time in a long time he felt like he was back to his old self.

He ran around the mansion several times, he wanted to do everything that his injury had prevented him from doing before, when the sun began to set he was making the last lap around the mansion, then he turned his gaze to the balcony of April's room wondering how she was since Sirius had taken him out of the room and told him to go to the bathroom.

He had told me not to bother them, that they needed time alone.

Cassian saw Alessandro and Abril coming out onto the balcony, he stopped and stared at them.

His brother helped Abril sit on a bench on the balcony, the two of them were sitting next to each other, Abril with her head resting on her brother's shoulder.

For Cassian that was painful, although not as much as he had imagined, when he had seen his brother be with Abril all the time and not leave her side for a single moment, he wished that Abril would wake up soon and that his brother would be the same as always, it broke his heart to see him so broken and hurt.

When Cassian saw his brother kiss April, he continued running and wished to one day find someone to love like his brother had done.

Three days later.

April had fully recovered, Sirius decided to return to his tower since he had nothing else to do there.

Alessandro had barely had time to talk to Sirius about what was happening in the kingdom at that moment, so he went to see him before he left.

_I'll leave in a while.

_I know, Cassian told me, we will also continue with our journey, there are still many other places I must go.

_Taren told me what's happening, the kingdom is full of traitors.

_Yes, I must clean up before the war starts, otherwise this time we will fall from within, King Venobich has started to move his pieces, you have reinforced the barriers as I asked you.

_Yes, I have sent the magicians to reinforce all the barriers and I personally reinforced the palace barriers, we will be fine for some time.

_I hope it is long enough until we can be prepared, this time the war will not end with a treaty, it will have to end with the blood spilled by one of us and I hope it is the blood of King Venobich and not mine.

73 do you want me to call you ? Alessandro and Abril were taking a walk through the garden when they saw Cassian running by, when he saw them he stopped and approached to say hello, Alessandro said to him.

_I haven't seen you run for a long time, not even so energetically.

_I guess I owe that to Aby, thanks to her magic my leg injury has healed, now I can run.

_I'm glad I was of help.

Alessandro noticed that Cassian called April several times by that name Aby so he asked.

_ So? _It's his nickname, don't you think it's nice? _Yes it is.

Alessandro replied as he looked at April.

Cassian, seeing that those two were flirting in front of him, decided that it was best to leave them alone.

_Well, I'm leaving, I want to be in shape again, see you at lunchtime.

Cassian ran away Alessandro told him.

_You like your nickname, _Yes, I've never been given a nickname before.

_Cassian usually calls me Lessan, since my mother always called me that, you can do it too if you want.

April's eyes sparkled with excitement and she asked.

_ Can I really call you Lessan? _Of course.

Alessandro wrapped his arms around Abril's waist and pulled her towards him.

_Although if you prefer to call me something else, I wouldn't mind either.

Alessandro brought his mouth close to Abril's and whispered against her lips.

call me my love, darling, husband, I like them all.

He gave her a soft kiss on the lips, she responded.

_Lessan, I prefer to call you that.

_And do you want me to call you Aby or do you prefer me to call you my love, darling, darling, sweetness or my ray of sunshine? Which do you prefer? April laughed, she never imagined hearing Alessandro call her by such names and she found it a little strange, he gave a kiss on the cheek and asked.

_ What makes you so funny? Don't you like those names? I could look for another one if you want, like my little kitten, my little flower, my little bird.

While calling her by several affectionate names he kissed her cheeks, her lips and her neck, tickling her, she told him.

_To.

_ Are you sure? I really like the one of my kitten.

_Not me, I prefer you to call me Aby like Cassian does.

_Okay, but in bed while I make love to you I can call you whatever I please, right? _I guess so.

Alessandro kissed her again, his kiss was deeper and more exploratory, as he separated his mouth he said to her.

_When you've recovered, I assure you that I won't let you sleep at night.

_ Why not? Alessandro kissed her and his hands went down from her waist to her hips to her butt and he said.

_ Why do you think that is? April was a bit naive so she didn't understand what Alessandro was referring to.

_I really don't understand.

Alessandro laughed and said.

"Sometimes your innocence surprises me," Alessandro whispered in his ear.

_I mean I'll make love to you so many times that you won't be able to sleep all night.

April blushed, Alessandro laughed again and said to her.

_Until now I have limited myself because your condition has not been very good, but when you get better I will stop doing so.

April covered her face with her hands, ashamed of her husband's words and told him.

_You shouldn't say that kind of thing in this place.

_ Why not? _Someone might hear us.

_It doesn't matter.

_It doesn't matter, it's embarrassing, that kind of thing should only be said in private.

_Okay, then I'll tell you when we're in our room.

April nodded.

Alessandro released her from his embrace and said.

_Let's keep walking before the sun gets too strong.

April kept walking and asked.

_ Will you be with me all day today too? _I would love to, but I can't, there is something I have to do, but we will be together during dinner.

As they walked a gust of wind blew past and blew Abril's hat away, Alessandro ran to catch it.

When he caught it he turned around to see Abril, she looked beautiful in her white dress blown by the wind, with her long reddish hair framing her face, he walked up to her, put the hat on her and said.

_You are beautiful, I will never tire of saying it.

*** Alessandro went to the cells where they had the mine foreman, when he got to his cell he saw him curled up in a corner, Alessandro asked one of the guards who had been in charge of torturing him.

_He said something else.

_Not your majesty.

_You think I'm lying.

_I don't think so, after what we did to him it's impossible for a person not to talk.

_Open the cell.

When the guard opened the door Alessandro entered and said.

_Get up.

The foreman, upon hearing the king's voice, began to tremble with fear.

_Your Majesty, I have already told you everything I know, I swear I know nothing else.

That man was completely broken, Alessandro knew he was not lying, as he left the cell he gave an order to the guard.

_Hang him, let him serve as an example for others, the fate of traitors is death.

That man had been through so much suffering in the last few days that when the time of his death came he felt relieved because it would all finally be over.

Alessandro had to find a replacement for the foreman of the iron mine, after having organized everything he returned with April.

When he entered he did not find her in the room, but the balcony door was open, when he went out to the balcony he found her sitting on a bench that was on the balcony, she had fallen asleep with a book on her lap.

The sun was already setting, the last rays of the sun were bathing her, making her look even more beautiful than she already was, Alessandro did not want to wake her, he stayed by her side watching her sleep until the sun completely set, he moved his shoulder and said to her.

_Aby, wake up.

When she opened her eyes, April looked at him and asked.

_When did you come back? _A while ago.

_ Why didn't you wake me up? _You looked tired so I didn't want to do it.

April stood up, hugged Alessandro and said to him.

_I'm hungry, let's go to dinner.

_Of course, we will ask them to prepare your favorite dishes.

Before reaching the dining room, April remembered that she had dreamed about her mother while she was sleeping and that she had told her something important.

She stopped dead, stopping Alessandro.

He asked her.

_ What's happening? _I dreamed about my mother _Was it a nice dream? _Yes, but she told me something.

_ What did he say to you? _That I shouldn't have children until my magic fully awakened.

Alessandro understood why April's mother had told him that, with her magic being so unstable, if she got pregnant and any of those seals that prevented April's magic from If she got out of control and opened up, it was most likely that if she was pregnant she would end up losing the baby.

Alessandro saw April a little sad about that, he gave her a kiss and said to her.

_So for now we won't have children.

_But you wanted an heir.

_Yes, but I don't want anything to put you in danger, so we'll wait until you learn to control your powers, until then we'll practice a lot on how to make babies.

74 I love you During dinner Alessandro and Abril were flirting during dinner, both of them looked very happy.

Cassian noticed that since Abril had woken up from her deep sleep Alessandro was much more affectionate with Abril, it was as if he had finally realized his feelings.

Every time they were together Cassian felt like he was not needed.

After finishing dinner he stood up and said to them.

_I've been running all afternoon, I'm tired, I'm going to sleep, have a good night.

_Wait Cas, I haven't told you yet, but we'll leave tomorrow, I've already finished everything I had to do here.

_ What time will we leave? _We will leave in the morning, I would like to arrive early and have time to rest.

_OK.

_Good night.

After Cassian left Alessandro smiled at Abril and said.

_We should also go and rest and maybe practice making babies, don't you think? April blushed and said to him.

_Don't say that, it's embarrassing.

_It's true, I'm sorry, I forgot that I could only say that kind of things when we're in private.

Alessandro stood up, shook Abril's hand and said.

_Let's go to the room.

When they reached the bedroom, Alessandro took her by the waist with one hand and pulled her close to him.

He joined his lips with hers and gave her a deep kiss, an exploratory kiss that turned into something wild.

Alessandro picked her up and carried her to the bed, gently placing her down.

Alessandro began to unbutton his shirt as his lips crashed into hers.

He threw his shirt to the floor and got on top of her, his hands moving up her dress and over her thighs, all the while kissing her sweet mouth that was as addictive to him as a drug that made him lose his mind.

He untied the ribbon of her dress and took it off, he stepped back for a moment to look at her body, she was beautiful, his gaze analyzed her carefully and stopped at the scar on her belly, she reached out her hand and touched his well-marked abdomen.

Alessandro saw the small marks from the ties that had been left on her wrists, he hated that she had those scars, he hated that he hadn't been able to protect her.

April, seeing that he was staring at her scars, asked him.

_ Do you dislike my scars? Alessandro took her hand and kissed the marks on her wrists, then he kissed the scar on her belly as if he wanted to erase it with his kisses and responded.

_No, but I hate not being able to protect you.

_But you were the one who saved me, when I was in danger, you were the one who came like the prince from a fairy tale and rescued me.

_Still I feel like I should have done more.

April put her arms around his neck, kissed him and said.

_That was enough for me.

Alessandro responded to her kiss by intertwining his tongue with hers, eliciting a moan of pleasure from her.

He then moved to her neck and continued down between kisses until he reached her breasts.

He caressed them gently, and her moans were soon heard.

Alessandro took off his pants and underwear, revealing his manhood.

Abril stared at him intently.

She still couldn't believe that something so big could enter her.

_ Do you like what you see, my wife? Alessandro asked as he kissed her mouth.

April blushed and replied.

_Not me alone...

Alessandro knew she wasn't going to be sincere so he didn't let her finish what she was going to say and snatched her lips away again.

Then his mouth tasted her breasts, licking and sucking them, delighting in them; his mouth continued descending and positioned itself between her legs, he used his tongue to give her pleasure and make her see stars.

He went back up to her mouth and lightly nibbled on April's lips and then kissed her in a wild yet sweet way.

He positioned himself between her legs and sank into her slowly, eliciting a loud moan of pleasure from her.

She clung to his back as he moved his hips slowly and little by little increased the intensity of his thrusts.

_I love you.

April told him between gasps as she gave him small kisses and hugged him tightly.

_I love you Lessan.

He hugged her tightly, both of them were very close, it was as if he wanted to fuse their bodies into one.

Lessan attacked her with more force and whispered in her ear.

_I love you too Aby.

He whispered in her ear while moving his hips forcefully making her reach climax.

Alessandro was also about to finish, but he remembered that April had told him that they couldn't have children until her magic had fully awakened and she hadn't learned to control it.

So Alessandro pulled out of her before sowing his seed in her belly, wetting her legs with his fluids, when she had calmed down a bit Alessandro took a handkerchief from the nightstand next to the bed and wiped her legs.

_I'm sorry.

Alessandro had always finished inside her, Abril asked him.

_ Haven't you done it as usual? Alessandro understood what Abril meant and responded.

_We can't have a child at the moment, remember? _ Yeah.

_If I finish inside you, you could get pregnant, so I can't do it.

Alessandro kissed her again and they made love once more, he still felt full of energy and wanted to do it once more, however, that was not a good idea, April had been through a lot and he didn't want to force her body, so he held back.

They both slept embraced for the rest of the night, skin against skin, sharing the warmth of their naked bodies.

75 My wife The sun's rays entered the room, April began to open her eyes and the first thing she saw was Lessan lying next to her.

Without thinking she reached out her hand and began to touch her hair, it was soft and silky, she sank her fingers into it enjoying the softness of her hair; Lessan seemed deeply asleep as he did not wake up, April stared at him and whispered.

_I really love you.

Alessandro opened his eyes and responded.

_I love you too.

_ Were you awake? April asked, a little embarrassed for touching him without his permission while he was sleeping.

_I've been awake for a few minutes.

He replied as he approached provocatively and asked.

_ Do you like my hair? _Yes, although I like everything about you.

Alessandro loved the direct way Abril said things, she was like an open book who didn't hide when she liked something, but she didn't hide when she didn't like something either.

He hugged her, gave her a soft kiss on the neck and whispered in her ear.

_I like everything about you too.

Alessandro continued giving her little kisses on her neck tickling her, she laughed and said to him.

_To Lessan, you tickle me.

Alessandro started tickling her sides, Abril laughed out loud and asked him.

_This tickles you too.

_Yes, now for Lessan.

Alessandro stopped, stared at her and said.

_I love your smile.

April touched the corner of Lessan's mouth and said.

_I also like to see you smile because that tells me that you are happy when you are with me.

_I am, you truly fill my life with happiness, light and hope, being with you is the best thing that has happened to me in a long time.

Someone knocked on the door of the room, Alessandro complained saying.

_It seems our time is up, we must prepare.

Alessandro got up first, took his underwear out of one of the trunks and some pants, after putting them on he looked for a shirt.

Abril sat on the bed and said to him.

_Lessan.

He turned around when he heard her calling him, she was covered only with a thin white sheet, he could see perfectly what was underneath, he looked her straight in the eyes so that no bad thoughts would enter her mind.

I must think of something sacred, don't get carried away Alessandro" He thought as he struggled not to attack her and make love to her once more.

She smiled at him and said.

_You are the best thing I have had in my life, thank you for being with me, for loving me, you are the first person who has loved me.

Alessandro approached her, gave her a kiss and caressed her hair.

_I am the one who should thank you, despite everything I did to you, despite having ignored you for years and neglected you, you opened your heart to me.

_And I would do it again, because you have given me something I never thought I would have, a family and a home.

Alessandro kissed her, then someone knocked on the door again, he complained and said.

_They are indeed inopportune.

April got out of bed, she was completely naked, she went to the closet and looked for a dress that was easy to put on, Alessandro seeing her like that felt fire in his veins, it was like having a

delicious meal after having months without eating, he looked away trying to keep his instincts at bay and said to her.

_You shouldn't show yourself naked in front of me, you should cover your body when you get up.

_ Why? You've already seen me naked and touched me everywhere.

Alessandro stood up, put his arms around her waist and whispered in her ear.

_That's exactly why, when you show yourself like that in front of me, I want to make love to you and we don't have time to do it.

_So I can only be naked when we're going to make love.

_It better be that way, otherwise I'll want to devour you.

April took out the dress that was closest to her hand, covered her body with it, somewhat fearful, and asked.

_ Do you want to eat me? But you said you loved me.

Alessandro laughed, he sometimes forgot that April used to take everything literally and told her.

_I mean making love to you, not eating you.

_ And why did you say you would eat me? _It's a way of speaking.

_But if they are nothing alike, eating and making love are two completely different things.

_I would never eat you, I'm just saying that I would make love to you.

_Then next time say that, sometimes you scare me.

Alessandro released her from his embrace, put on his shirt and shoes, and said to her.

_I'll wait for you in the dining room, I'll call someone to help you get changed.

Alessandro found one of the maids in the hallway and asked her to help his wife get changed, then he went to the dining room.

Cassian was already in the dining room, Alessandro looked so smiling and happy that he couldn't help but ask.

_ Why are you so smiling? _I just find April's innocence funny, a moment ago she thought I was going to eat her, literally.

_King Venobich neglected her education, that's why she sometimes behaves like a little girl.

_Although I find her innocence cute, she cannot continue like this.

When we return to the palace, I will look for teachers to take charge of her education.

I do not want my queen to be mistreated for being ignorant.

That was the first time Cassian heard his brother call April his queen, he always referred to her as princess, he had never given her her place as Cosset's queen.

_You plan to make April your queen, _She is my wife, she is already my queen.

76 The promise of a dance Cassian was surprised at the firmness with which Alessandro had answered him, although April had not yet been crowned queen, he had already given her her place as his queen.

_ Are you going to crown your April? _Of course, when we got married she was very young, I think this is a good time to crown her as my queen, well first I will have to see about her education, I do not want her to be mistreated for not having the necessary knowledge.

_I thought you would never accept her as your queen since her father is King Venobich.

_She is not your father.

_You know that perhaps the nobles will oppose his coronation.

_If they value their lives they better not do it, you know I'm not a very tolerant person.

Cassian knew that his brother would need support if he wanted April to be accepted as his queen, if he wanted to help his brother he would have to stop hiding and take his place in the nobility, until then Cassian found that annoying and that was why he had been putting it off, but that had to end.

_Lessan when we return to the kingdom I plan to join the knights again.

_If that's what you want, I won't object.

_ And I will also take my place in the nobility.

_ That? _It's time for me to leave the nest and fly on my own wings.

_I thought you didn't want to be a duke.

_It's not that I didn't want to, it just seemed annoying to me, but I can't run away from my obligations anymore, I'm not a child anymore.

_Cassian you don't have to do it if you don't want to.

_Even if you are the king, you also need the support of the nobles, you cannot be at odds with everyone.

_If that's why you don't have to become a duke, I'll take care of everything.

_No Lessan, I am a prince who has not yet chosen what he will do with his life, you know that now that my injury has healed when If the nobles find out that you give them too much trouble, they'll want me to be the next king.

_You would never betray me Cas.

_But the nobles do, they are like birds of prey in search of food, I must make it clear that you are the only king and swear loyalty to you before everyone.

_ You're sure? _Yes, now that my injury has healed, I want to be your right hand, the sword that protects the kingdom and the king.

_If that's what you've decided, I'll accept it.

_Yes, that's my decision.

_Then we can do the naming ceremony when we get back, I'll give you land and your title.

_That sounds good to me.

_Even if you are named duke, you can continue living in the palace, you don't have to leave.

_No, I want to show everyone that I'm serious about being a duke, I'm going to leave the Lessan nest, although that doesn't mean I won't visit you.

_You better hope so.

April appeared, that day she was wearing a green and white dress, her reddish hair was tied in a braid to one side and looked just as happy as Alessandro.

Cassian was heartily glad to see that the two of them were so happy.

April sat next to Alessandro, the servants served breakfast and April asked.

_ When will we leave? _We will leave after breakfast so eat well, the road will be long since we will not use any scroll to move.

Alessandro replied.

_ Why not? _The scrolls cause wear and tear on the body, if you feel well there is no problem, but on the contrary if you feel weak it can make you feel bad, you have not fully recovered yet so it will be better to use the carriage, where we are going is not very far so we will arrive before nightfall.

_I'm sorry, I'm just a burden that makes you delay your trip.

_Of course not, Cassian overused the scrolls a few days ago so it's not in his interest to use them either.

April was relieved to know that she wasn't the only one to blame for them not using the teleportation scrolls to travel.

When they finished breakfast they left the mansion and got into the carriage.

They traveled for several hours in the carriage without stopping, at noon April's stomach began to growl with hunger.

Lessan asked her.

_ Are you hungry? _ Yeah.

Alessandro asked the coachman to stop, he got out of the carriage as did Cassian: Alessandro extended his hand to Abril to help her get out of the carriage, when Abril got out she saw a beautiful landscape, they were in a wide and extensive meadow a series of mountains and mountain ranges appeared imposing in the distance.

_We will take a short break here and then continue our journey.

Alessandro told her while holding her hand, Abril looked at everything in wonder as she used to do every time they saw a new place, she told him.

_This is beautiful.

"We were lucky to stop in a good spot," Cassian said, stretching his arms to the sky.

_It feels so good to stretch your legs.

The guards had put a blanket under a large tree and had put out some fruit and some food that the chef had prepared for them.

Alessandro, seeing that they had everything ready, said to Abril.

_They've already prepared everything, let's eat.

_Yes, I'm starving.

April replied while touching her stomach.

_So let's go.

They all sat on the blanket and ate while having a pleasant chat.

April rested her head on Alessandro's shoulder as she looked into the distance.

He intertwined his hand with hers.

Cassian, seeing them so affectionate, stood up and said.

_You can stop flirting, even for a second.

_What are you talking about? _Lately they spend their time kissing, holding hands and glancing at each other all the time, I'm single you know.

_ Is it annoying? April asked Alessandro.

_If you are single I suppose so.

_Yes it is.

Cassian replied.

_So don't flirt so much.

_You should find yourself a girlfriend, you are of a certain age and you still don't have a fiancée, perhaps you should start attending balls and find a fiancée, it's been a while since we held a ball at the palace, perhaps we should have one when we return.

April had read about the balls in several books, and whenever she read about them, they seemed wonderful, incredible.

She had never attended one and had always dreamed of seeing one, so with great excitement she asked.

_A dance, really? _I think you like the idea too.

_I have never attended one, but I have read about them in books, whenever I read about the balls I got excited, I would like to be able to attend a ball.

Alessandro, seeing Abril's excited face, said to her.

_Then when we return we will have a big dance.

_Really? _Yes, and we will dance together.

_Dancing, I've never done it.

_Then I guess I'll have to teach you how to dance first.

_I would love that, I will eagerly wait for that day to come.

77 A white rose in a garden of red roses April walked away to look at some flowers, when she did that Cassian asked his brother.

_Do you really think it's a good idea for her to go to a dance? _ Why wouldn't it be? _Everyone in the kingdom hates her for being the daughter of the man who did so much harm to this kingdom.

_I will be by your side at all times, I will not let anything happen to you.

Alessandro looked at April who was picking the flowers and said.

_ She seems excited, I want to make her happy and have everything she's never had.

_ Do you really love her? For the first time Alessandro was honest and did not deny it.

_Yes, I love her.

Alessandro stood up and said to him.

_And I will take care of her, I will not let anything bad happen to her.

Alessandro went to where Abril was, gave her a hug, Cassian looked at them and wondered if he should do what his brother had suggested, find a girlfriend, a partner with whom he could try to be happy.

They arrived at their destination shortly before dusk, when they got out of the carriage April was surprised since they had not arrived at a mansion like in the previous cities, they had arrived at a temple, she asked.

_ Are we going to stay here? _Yes, I want to go unnoticed and this is the best place to do it.

A priest came out of the temple, bowed to the king, and led them to their chambers.

The room that Alessandro and Abril had been given was small and simple compared to the rooms they had previously occupied, there was only a bed large enough for the two of them, a closet, two nightstands, one on each side, and a small table by the window.

The priest apologized for not offering them anything better, but in the temples they tried to live as simply as possible without excessive luxuries.

Alessandro knew that perfectly well so he didn't complain and thanked him for having received them.

When they were alone, April opened the window just in time to see the last rays of sunlight illuminating the mountains, Alessandro hugged her from behind and said.

_This place isn't very comfortable, but we won't be staying long so you'll have to put up with it.

_I've never cared for luxuries, so for me this place is fine.

Alessandro kissed her on the cheek and said.

_I knew you would say that.

That night, they each had dinner in their rooms because they didn't want anyone to find out they were there.

After dinner, Alessandro and Abril went to bed.

Abril laid her head on his chest and asked him.

_ What are the dances like? _In my opinion they are boring since the nobles take advantage of those moments to approach me, but there are many who find them fun.

"I hope I find them funny," Alessandro stroked Abril's hair and replied.

_I'm sure you'll find it funny, I'll make sure it is and if anyone is rude to you, tell me and I'll make them pay for it.

April was happy to have someone to protect her, she gave a big yawn, she was very tired, she could barely keep her eyes open, before falling asleep she replied.

_I will do so.

That night April dreamed about her mother again, they were walking through a beautiful rose garden, her mother walked in front of her and stopped in front of a white rose, it was the only one there was in that place, it rested like a light in the darkness among so much red, her mother plucked it and gave it to April and said to her.

_You are like this flower, from afar it may go unnoticed, but up close you can see that it is different from the others.

His mother came over, gently caressed his cheek and said.

_To protect yourself you must hide from others that you possess magic, until the right time comes.

_ And when will that be? _When everything around you is dyed red and you are like that rose that stands out on its own.

_ What do you mean, Mom? I don't understand.

_When the time comes you will know.

When April woke up she sat on the bed very thoughtful, she did not understand what her mother had wanted to tell her.

_Why isn't mom clearer when she speaks.

Alessandro woke up and when he heard Abril mention his mother, he asked her.

_ Have you dreamed about your mother again? _Yes, he told me something strange, I don't understand what he meant.

_ Do you want to tell me? His mother had told him not to tell anyone about his magic, but Alessandro already knew so he decided to tell him what his mother had told him.

_My mother told me that to protect myself I should hide that I have magic, until the right time comes.

_ The right time? _Yes, he said that when everything around me turns red and I'm like a white rose that stands out on its own among so much red, that would be the time to reveal my magic.

_Although I don't understand what that means.

Alessandro frowned, he had understood what Abril's mother was referring to, the war that would soon break out, bathing the battlefield in crimson red, with the blood of friends and enemies.

_I agree with your mother, that it is best that you continue hiding the fact that you have magic, I don't know how your father will react when he finds out that you have magic, at least until you can control your magic, until then it will be best to hide it.

_I'll do it then, I won't tell anyone that I have magic.

78 I look like my mother Alessandro had begun to be very curious about Abril's mother.

At first he hadn't given it much importance since all his attention was on Abril, but the fact that Abril's mother spoke to him and did things that were almost impossible when she was dead seemed strange to him since he had never heard of anything like that.

That day after breakfast he left the room, went to Cassian's room, knocked on the door with his knuckles and asked.

_Cassian, could we talk for a moment? Cassian had gotten up early to run, he had just returned to his room, he was drying his sweaty face with a towel when he heard his brother's voice calling him, opening the door and asked him.

_ What's wrong Lessan? _ May I come in? _Of course.

Upon entering, Alessandro looked out the window to make sure that no one was eavesdropping.

_I would like to ask you a favor.

_ Sure, ask for whatever you want.

_I would like you to go to the information guild and look up whatever you can about April's mother.

_ From April's mother? _Yes, she keeps appearing in April's dreams.

_It's just a dream Lessan, I also dream about our mother sometimes, there's nothing strange about that.

_It's not just a dream Cas, if it were I wouldn't be so restless.

_ What's wrong Lessan? _I think April's mother has warned her about the war, she has warned her that she must keep the fact that she has magic a secret and April told me that it was her mother who stabilized her magic and gave her the limiters so that her magic would stop leaking.

_Okay, that's weird, do you think maybe his mother is alive? _I don't know, that's why I want you to find out more about her, who was she? Where did she come from and why did she marry King Venobich? _The information guild is not far from here, I'll go there today.

_Thanks brother, you're the only one I can trust with this.

_That's what brothers are for.

Alessandro returned to the room, Abril was standing by the window looking at the horizon, Alessandro hugged her from behind and said.

_ I have work to do, I'll be back in the afternoon.

_ Can I go for a walk while you're gone? I don't like being locked up.

_Yes, but you have to hide the color of your hair, it is not a common color so it attracts a lot of attention.

April had forgotten that her hair color was truly rare, a trait unique to the Venobich royal family.

_ Maybe I should stay here? I don't want to be a bother to you.

_And you're not.

Alessandro took a ring out of his pocket, put it on Abril's ring finger and said.

_It's a magic ring, if you turn it once it will change the color of your hair, if you do it twice it will also change the color of your eyes.

April looked at the ring and asked.

_ Can I choose the color I want? _Yes, you just have to think about the color you want when you spin it.

April closed her eyes and thought about the hair color she wanted, then she spun her ring.

Her reddish hair began to change color from the roots, her beautiful reddish hair changed to a blonde color, April asked her.

_ Did it work? _Yes, do you want to see what you look like? _Yeah.

April responded very excitedly.

Alessandro looked for a mirror in the room, but found none, Abril told him.

_There is a mirror in one of my trunks.

Alessandro took the mirror out of the trunk, holding it so that Abril could see herself in it without any problem.

When she saw herself in the mirror, Abril began to cry, her tears rolled like pearls down her cheeks, Alessandro asked her.

_What's wrong Aby? You don't like that color? April wiped the tears from her cheeks and replied.

_It's not that, this way I look just like my mother, for a moment it was as if I was seeing her in front of me.

Alessandro put the mirror aside, put his arms around Abril and said.

_Then without a doubt your mother must have been a very beautiful woman.

_Yes, it was.

Alessandro hated the idea of having to leave April alone, but he had some business to attend to and couldn't stay with her all day.

He gave her a kiss and said.

_I hate having to leave you alone.

_ I'll be fine, I'll tell Cassian to come with me.

_Cassian won't be able to keep you company today, I've asked him to run an errand.

_It doesn't matter, I'll be fine alone.

_You won't be alone, I'll leave two guards with you, they'll take care of you and keep you company.

_OK.

_You can go to town with them if you want.

_ Really? April asked very excitedly.

_Yes, this town is very quiet, you won't be in any danger.

Alessandro released her from his embrace, took her by the hand and said.

_Come on, I'll tell you who your guards will be.

As he left the room Cassian could barely recognize April with her blonde hair, he said to her.

_That hair color suits you very well.

_Thanks, are you going out? _Yes, I have an errand to run, where are you going? _I'll introduce you to the guards who will take care of her while I'm gone.

_I'll accompany you to the exit.

As they walked through the halls Cassian said to April.

_I barely recognized you with the blonde hair a while ago.

_The truth is that I was also very surprised when I saw myself in the mirror, you know, I look like my mother with blonde hair.

_It's because of your mother that you chose to wear your hair blonde.

_Yes, I thought it would look good on me.

_Well, you got it right, it looks great on you.

_Thank you.

Cassian said goodbye to them when they reached the entrance of the temple, there were the guards wearing simple clothes to go unnoticed, Alessandro approached them and introduced two of them to April.

_April this is Noah Hudson.

Alessandro points to a tall young man with light brown hair and black eyes.

_And this is Rafael Gannon.

He pointed to a young man with long, dark blond hair tied in a ponytail and green eyes.

_They will take care of you while I'm gone.

The two guards bowed to April and saluted politely.

_We will take good care of you, your majesty.

Alessandro gave them a murderous look that made them tremble in fear and said.

_It better be that way, if anything happens to my wife I'll make your heads roll on the floor.

The two guards swallowed hard and replied.

_We will take care of his majesty with our lives if necessary, we will not let anything bad happen to him.

_I hope so.

Alessandro kissed his wife in front of everyone, something the guards had already gotten used to.

Alessandro handed Abril a bag of gold coins, she asked.

_ What is this? _It's gold _ I already know that, I ask why you give it to me? _So you can do whatever you want with it.

_ Can I spend it? _It's yours, do with it what you want.

_Thank you.

Alessandro gave her one last kiss before leaving and told her.

_Have fun.

Alessandro got on a horse, the other guards followed him, Abril watched him until he disappeared into the distance, he had just left and she began to miss him.

Rafael asked the princess who had been left staring at the path where the king had disappeared.

_ Does your majesty wish to go somewhere? _Yes, I would like to go to the village.

Noah replied.

_Then I'll go get a carriage and we'll leave right away.

Noah went to get a simple carriage that did not seem to be that of a nobleman, when he returned he opened the carriage door and said.

_This carriage is simple because we don't want to draw too much attention.

_Don't worry, I understand perfectly.

April got into the carriage, Noah drove it and Rafael went with her inside the carriage to protect her if something happened.

That carriage was uncomfortable, it kept rattling and bouncing all over the road, Rafael said.

_I'm sorry this carriage is so uncomfortable, your majesty, please bear with it a little longer, we will arrive in a few minutes.

_Don't worry about it, I'm fine.

April replied as she looked out the window and saw the rice fields with several people working in them.

79 A beautiful angel Upon arriving at the village, April asked the guards to take her to the market.

She had never visited one before so she was curious to see what it would be like.

There were many stalls selling fruit, vegetables and many other things at the market.

She stopped at each one and bought something from each one.

As she passed a food stand, she saw two very thin children who were staring blankly at the food and touching their stomachs.

April had touched her stomach countless times like those children were doing when she was a child, she understood what it meant, they were hungry.

April approached the food stand and ordered several meat skewers, after paying for them she approached the children and offered one to each of them.

_ Are you hungry? The children nodded vigorously, their mouths watering at the sight of the food, but they hesitated for a moment whether to take what was being offered to them.

No one was nice to them so they were wary of the kindness of the beautiful woman standing before them.

With a soft and sweet voice April told them.

_The food is good, there is nothing wrong with it.

The children took the skewers with the meat and immediately put it in their mouths.

They had been orphaned for two months.

Ever since their parents had died, they had been sleeping on the streets because the landlord had thrown them out of the house they lived in.

Since they had no other family, they had to beg for food in order to survive.

However, people were not kind to them.

There were very few who gave them any hard bread to satisfy their hungry stomachs, this was the first decent meal they had had in a long time.

Tears rolled down their cheeks.

April stroked their heads, their hair was dirty, hard, the guards wanted to prevent the princess from touching those dirty children, but she gave them a stern look.

They were very surprised, she was always sweet, tender and naive, they never imagined that she could make that kind of look.

She comforted the children and asked.

_ What's wrong? Isn't it hot? _ Yes, it's very good.

One of the children replied while wiping away his tears with the back of his hand.

April took out her handkerchief to wipe her tears and asked them.

_ You can eat as much as you want, I've bought quite a bit.

After the children had satisfied their stomachs, April asked them where they lived.

The two children looked at each other wondering if they should tell her the truth or not.

In the end, the one who seemed to be the oldest answered.

_ In an alley near here.

April had feared it, those children seemed to have been abandoned to their fate due to the state they were in, but she asked them anyway.

_ And your parents? The children's eyes glazed over, the eldest replied.

_They died two months ago.

_Is there no one to take care of you? The two children shook their heads.

Abril knew how hard it was to be alone even as a child with no one to help them, no one to care if they had eaten or not.

She wanted to help them, she didn't want to do like everyone else, give them a meal and leave them behind, she wanted to do more, Abril remembered that Alessandro had once told her that she could ask for whatever she wanted and he would give it to her, at that moment she wanted to take advantage of that offer.

She gave them a sweet smile and said.

_ Do you want to come with me? I'll take care of you.

The two guards thought that the princess was being too impulsive and wanted to stop her.

_His majesty...

Before they could say anything else, April gave them an unfriendly look, silencing them.

She wanted to help those children, not only because she felt sorry for them, but also because she felt identified with them.

Every time she saw them, she saw herself hungry, alone, and scared, begging God to live one more day.

The older brother responded.

_ Can't we go with strangers? _My name is April, and you? "My name is Otis and my brother's name is Joe," the eldest replied.

_ What beautiful names? Your parents must have thought a lot about them, now that we have introduced ourselves we are no longer strangers, we are friends.

Do you want to come with me? _But...

April caressed her cheeks, not caring at all that the children's faces were dirty and told them.

_When winter comes they won't be able to live in that alley.

April turned to Otis and said.

_They are still small, they need a place to live, your brother is too small, he will not be able to withstand the cold winter weather.

Otis was aware of that, without warm clothing and without food they would die with the arrival of winter, so he asked April while he looked at his brother.

_ Won't he do anything weird to us? _Of course not, I just want to take care of you, make sure you have a roof over your heads and three meals a day, and that you grow up healthy and strong.

Otis hesitated for a moment whether to accept what the beautiful woman in front of them was saying or to run away, he was scared, many children had disappeared lately, Otis replied.

_ You're really not bad? _ Do I seem like a bad person to you? Otis shook his head.

April smiled at him, her smile was beautiful, warm, in his eyes April was like a beautiful angel who had saved them from starving.

_You are like an Angel, kind and caring who doesn't mind touching someone like us.

_ So what do you say? Will you come with me? Otis looked at his brother, since his parents had died he had lost a lot of weight and was almost skin and bones, he couldn't let his brother go through that anymore and he replied.

_Yes, we will go with you.

80 I just want to give them a home Before returning to the temple, April went into a clothing store while the children waited outside with one of the guards and bought several sets of clothes and shoes for the children.

As she left the store, a man with blond hair and golden eyes approached her.

He was going to take her hand when one of the guards stopped him.

He looked at April as if he saw a ghost and said to her.

_Sophia, are you alive?! You can't imagine how long I've been looking for you.

April thought that the man was confusing her with someone else, although the color of his eyes seemed unusual to her.

_I'm sorry, I think you've got the wrong person.

_Sophia, I'm Ethan, don't you remember me? April had never seen the man before, if she had she would remember him.

Noah took the princess's hand and said we must go.

That man tried to stop April, but Rafael prevented him, Noah put the princess and the children in the carriage.

Ethan continued calling her.

_Sophia, don't go, you have to listen to me.

Rafael pushed him causing him to fall to the ground and said to him in a threatening voice.

_Stay away from her.

Rafael got into the carriage and set off, leaving the unknown man behind.

Ethan got up from the ground, watched the carriage drive away and said.

_I don't know what happened to you Sophia, but I will find you and take you back home, to our home.

The children were inside the carriage with April and they stank, Rafael wanted to get there soon so he could get off that carriage.

He looked at the princess, she did not show any displeasure to the children, she was sharing some sweets she had bought at the market with the children, she was someone sweet and kind, but she also had her character, that was something that was given He tells of that day when he had seen them firmly demonstrating their authority.

Many nobles talked about the foolish and useless princess who would never become queen, however, Rafael did not see it that way, she just needed to polish a few things to be a great queen.

They exchanged glances, April asked him.

_ What happened to that man? _Don't worry about it, I didn't do anything to you, I just warned you not to come closer.

_I hope you can find the person you've been looking for.

When they arrived at the temple, April got out of the carriage and helped the children get out.

Otis, seeing that they were at the temple, asked.

_ Will you leave us here? _Of course not, but I'm staying here, come on.

The children followed April, as they walked through the halls they met a priest, April asked him for a room for the children and a place where they could take a bath.

That priest showed them where the bathroom was and then went to prepare a room for the children.

After the children bathed and changed their clothes they felt much better, but they still looked haggard, pale and tired.

April walked them to the room they would be staying in, tucked them into bed, and sang to them until they fell asleep.

She stayed with them, watching over their dream.

When Alessandro returned, the first thing he did was look for Abril, but she was not in the room, the two guards assigned to her were three doors down, he approached them and asked them.

_ Where is my wife Rafael replied.

_It's in this room.

Alessandro entered without letting Rafael finish speaking.

Abril put a finger on his lips and said.

_Silence, they are sleeping.

_Where did those children come from? April took Alessandro out of the room.

_You're going to wake them up.

Alessandro looked at the guards for an answer, Noah replied.

_We found them in the village.

April continued what Noah was saying.

_They are orphans, I brought them here.

April didn't want to have that conversation in front of the guards so she went to her room.

Alessandro followed her and asked.

_ Why did you bring them with you? _Because they were alone, scared, hungry and with no one to take care of them, just as I once was.

_I understand that you feel identified with them, but....

_A while ago you said that I could ask for whatever I wanted, I want to help those children.

Alessandro took Abril's face and said to her.

_You are not like them.

_You don't know anything, don't talk as if you know everything about me.

_Then talk to me, I won't be able to understand you if you don't.

_I just want those children to have what I've never had, a home.

_You already have a home.

_And that's why I want them to have one too.

April thought that this was a good time to make use of the weapons that Lady Elizabeth had given her long ago.

She hugged Alessandro, caressed his muscular and well-formed chest, went up to reach his face, stood on tiptoe, gave him a kiss and said.

_You promised to do whatever I asked you to.

April gave him another kiss and said.

_Please, just this once.

_You're not going to give in on this, are you? April kissed him again, he hugged her and said.

_How can I refuse if you ask me this way? _Will you let them be with us? _You can't be their mother Aby, but I promise to give them a good home just as you wish.

April didn't really want to be a mother to those two children, she just wanted them to be okay, safe, and loved.

That will be fine.

Alessandro kissed her and said.

_I love you.

_Thank you for keeping your promises Lessan.