96 On A Whim (Ch.96)

The fairy carrying the tray with the goblet of poisoned wine headed straight for King Jian and by all indications, Neveah could see King Jian would accept the goblet. 1

He had already returned his attention to the map, undeterred by the ruckus Neveah had stirred...like Neveah was just insignificant.

Neveah guessed he was even relieved, he had always detested her, now he could get rid of her easily without having to lift a hand and not even Xenon could defend her.

Neveah could see it in Xenon's eyes that he wanted to rush to her aid repeatedly, but King Jian restrained him and if there was one person who could hold Xenon back, it was only King Jian.

Neveah did not concern herself with that, her reason for barging in to the hall was right before her eyes,

Neveah glanced around at the fairies surrounding her, she could still get past them since they would not expect it and so she did.

With a swift move, Neveah slid past the fairies,

taking them off guard.

"Stop her!" The fairy called Donvan roared, but with her wolf speed, Neveah had already arrived right beside King Jian.

In a flash, she snatched the goblet from his grasp and it was only then she realized she was not certain what to do with it.

If she spilled the contents, the evidence would go to waste and there would be no prove of why she tampered with King Jian's wine, she would find herself in a much worse situation than she previously was.

There was no time, the fairies were lunging for her but King Jian lifted a hand to stop them, staring at Neveah with a slightly raised brow.

He wanted to see what she intended to do and without thinking much of it, Neveah tilted her head back and downed the wine in the goblet.

Everyone stared at her in shock, unable to understand what madness she was displaying, Neveah herself was not certain what she had just done and why she had done what she did.

At first, nothing happened and as the armed fairies drew closer, it was then a sharp pain shot across Neveah's gut and her eyes widened

slightly as she clutched her stomach and gasped in pain, a mouthful of blood spraying out of her lips.

"Poison!" Kirgan exclaimed, the dragon shifters jumped to their feet and all hell broke lose.

They leaped at the fairies seated at the table, pining them down and apprehending them in the blink of an eye.

While everyone else was focused on King Jian and the poison, Xenon was by Neveah's side in an instant and caught her in his arms just as her strength failed her and she fell.

Meanwhile, King Jian was calmly seated at his seat, an indifferent expression on his face. 1

"My Liege! We know nothing of this!" The fairy who was seated at King Jian's left side said, he did not struggle against Kirgan's hold on him and the rest of the fairies did not struggle either.

"Unhand them..." King Jian said in a calm tone just as Mernax dashed into the room, staring around at the situation, he could understand what had happened especially when he took notice of Neveah's condition.

"Princess..." Mernax said in a low tone and to

Neveah's surprise, Mernax rushed to her first, stopping in his tracks when a fierce growl escaped Xenon's lips.

Neveah could hardly pay heed to the events occuring around her, her guts churned with excruciating pain as though her intestines were squeezing around one another.

The pain... Neveah could not describe it, she could hardly breathe, she could hardly think, she could only let out soft, pained gasps while regret settled in her heart,

This kind of pain...was it worth it to endure it for another? This kind of pain that felt worse than death, why had she sentenced herself to this? 1

Neveah had no explanation for her own actions, most times, she was much too impulsive, she did things on a whim and her wolf had also warned her against it but she still ended up in this position.

"My Liege... You know me!" The fairy said again and King Jian lifted a hand.

"Not a word from you, Elias." King Jian warned in a dark tone.

Every word said around her sounded so far

away, so so far away and Neveah could only pick up bits and pieces of the conversations.

"Let Mernax look at her." King Jian said.

Xenon passed King Jian a dark look but he relented and Mernax pulled Neveah's mouth open, his eyes widening.

"Her tongue is turning black!" Mernax said just as Kirgan picked up the goblet that had fallen out of Neveah's hand.

King Jian rose to his feet and also inspected Neveah's tongue, his gaze furrowing into a frown as he stared at Xenon.

Just from a look at Neveah's state, King Jian could already tell just what kind of poison she had been fed.

"If this is what I think it is...we must return to the Dragon's keep immediately." King Jian said as he turned and led the way out, passing a glance at the fairies before heading out.

It was at this point that Neveah could no longer resist the dark spots dancing across her vision, her body shutting down to withstand the overwhelming pain.

"You all... return to the Dragon's keep with us, from this moment, the Asvarian Beacon is shut

down till this situation is resolved." Mernax hissed, understanding King Jian's intention.

"Whoever resists will be killed immediately...you do understand why we shall not apprehend you?"

"The flight patrols are all about and they sense My Liege's rage, they shall swoop in at the slightest movement... no one escapes a dragon's eye." Kirgan added as the other dragon shifters headed out as well.

King Jian and the dragon shifters arrived in the landing court and King Jian passed a glance to Xenon before he took Neveah from his arms.

Xenon did not resist as King Jian stepped aside and let Xenon shift into his dragon form, it took just a moment for the mighty black dragon to take the place of Xenon.

King Jian then settled Neveah on just one arm and Xenon crouched down as King Jian climbed up Xenon's back with ease, settling at the crook of his neck, he laid Neveah across his lap before he placed a hand on Xenon's neck.

"Go." King Jian permitted and Xenon's wings spread out immediately, knocking down even more lamp holding pillars, not because he had to but in a petty attempt to vent his anger.

With an upward leap, Xenon soared up into the sky, his course set straight for the Dragon Keep.

Meanwhile, King Jian glanced down at Neveah, her brows scrunched up in pain, perspiration beaded on her forehead as quiet groans of pain escaped her lips.

"A dragon has a higher threshold for pain...you foolish wolf, unbelievable..." King Jian murmured, a look of intrigue settled in his eyes.

At the top of a mountain overlooking a vast field, a man with fiery red hair stood, his hair cascading down his back, all the way down to mid back.

His eyes were a darker shade of red and there were two horns extending upwards from his head and a pair of dark red wings from his back,

There were scales lining the side of his face from his chin up to his forehead and there was a distant look in his eyes as he gazed down at the field.

Standing beside him was a thin and

enchantingly beautiful woman dressed in a black floor length dress that accentuated her figure perfectly,

She stood a step beside him and while his gaze was fixed on the field, her eyes were fixed solely on him, looking nowhere else but at him

"It's beautiful...is it not?" The man asked with a slight tilt of his head.

By beautiful, the man referred to the vast field of a strange multicolored flower that grew all across the field, stretching on and on for as far as the eye could see.

The flowers were star like in shape and exuded a dim glow, with thorns lined all over their petals and a poisonous gas ejected out of them every so often.

"What beauty is it? You can only watch it from afar for if you dare venture close, it pricks you or the gases poison you to death..."

"Hence you must keep your distance, though you hope with all your heart to take even a step closer." The beautiful female replied in a low tone, but it was uncertain if truly she spoke of the flower itself or something else entirely.

"Why did you have me feed this to King Jian?

And at the Asvarian Beacon no less? If his life is what you want, this is not nearly enough." The woman said in bafflement.

"His life?" The winged man asked with a raised brow as he tilted his head to the side again.

"On a day befitting... I shall tell you of a tale, my dear. But that day, is not today..." The winged man said as he turned around and vanished in the blink of an eye.

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