

Chapter 11 : Everyone Knows.

Anaya nodded and bowed her head again. Jonas said the words of rejection, vowing upon the name of the goddess. Thankfully the rejection didn't hurt.

The bond between mates could be imagined like a thin thread joining the two souls. Over time the thread would get thicker and thicker as the feelings grow between mates. It gets harder to sever the bond then.

Jonas and Anaya didn't have feelings for each other and it was only the first day of the mate bond, it didn't hurt much when the bond was cut off. Anaya spoke the words of acceptance and quietly walked away.

Anaya was prepared for the rejection, but it still hurt to be abandoned. A person who was personally selected to be her soulmate, even he didn't want her. Anaya's life was meaningless, wasn't it?

But she still had dreams. Anaya wanted to live freely for once. Even if it's for a few months, few years or even a few days, Anaya wanted to run away from this place and find a home for herself.

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Anaya didn't go back to the party. She stayed outside in the cold until her skin felt numb and taunt. There was no reason to go back to a place where no one wanted to see her. She was just an eyesore to them.

Even if Anaya stayed away for the entire night, no one would come to find her. They might only look for her the next day to finish the chores at home. That was all she was worth for them.

After staying out for a while Anaya went to the small well that was in their pack. It was abandoned for a long time, just like her. No one comes here to fetch water anymore but it didn't dry out. The water inside was clear and fresh as it was many years ago.

Anaya placed her elbows on the edge of the well and looked inside. She felt something probe inside her, her heart throbbed lightly. Maybe it was a side effect of rejection, Anaya wanted to go in and feel the water.

Anaya remembered the pool incident many years ago. She had almost drowned in the water but even then she didn't feel afraid of it. If Anaya had the chance, she'd still go into the water and flow in it freely.

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+50 Points

Anaya's deep eyes lingered on the water that reflected the stars, she was enchanted to a degree where she almost lifted herself off the ground so she could dive into the well. But at the very last moment she stopped. Someone was calling for her.

Anaya looked back and found one of the servants looking for her and calling out her name in frustration. When the servant spotted Anaya, she stomped over and caught her arm, then dragged Anaya along towards the tent.

"What - " Anaya's trance was broken and she started to walk along with the servant without resistance. The hold on her arm was too tight but she didn't shake it off.

"What is the meaning of this?! Were you trying to kill yourself there?" The servant grumbled, "Even if you want to die, do it in a place where you can get a proper burial. Before that don't even think of ending your life."

Anaya was shocked after hearing this. She thought the servant had come to find her because they needed her to do something.

"I know it is hard to be rejected by your mate, but it's not the end of the world. He may not want you

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but is that the only thing that is worth your life? Don't think that just because he rejected you, you can't find another reason to live." The girl kept on talking and dragging Anaya along.

"How did you know my mate rejected me." Anaya asked. Jonas didn't tell her to keep it a secret, but Anaya felt like it didn't need to be said. Wasn't it a mutual understanding that neither of them would talk about it to others?

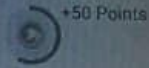
The servant girl looked back for a second and gave Anaya a sympathetic look. She turned around again and shook her head.

"Everyone knows. Someone from the pack heard you and Jonas. They spread the gossip around and after he came back he was asked if it was true or not and he didn't deny. He said that you were his mate but he rejected you on the spot."

Anaya's eyes looked down, she didn't cry of anything, it was all normal for someone as hated as her. She was rejected, so what? They could make fun of her or sympathize with her.

But would that change anything in Anaya's life? She was already living the worst possible life in the pack, nothing would change. At most people would point at her and laugh at her. Anaya had

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endure so much, she could endure more.

Anaya took a deep breath and started to prepare of the humiliation that would occur at the party. But when Anaya thought she was being taken to the party, the girl took another turn and took her to

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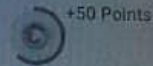
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a small run down house.

"W-Where are you taking me?" Anaya started to feel anxious.

The servant girl took a key out of her pocket and opened the lock on the door. The door opened with a creak to reveal a small room. The room had

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a little marble outer at one side with utensils and a small door on the other, it was a very small house.

"This is my house. It's small but it can accomodate two people for the night. Don't go back home today, I'm sure your family will give you a hard time." The girl said, "But you will have to sleep on the thin mattress on the floor, you see I don't have a big bed."

Anaya wanted to say that she didn't have one either. Even the small room that had nothing, was like a dream to Anaya. If she could live in a place like this, away from everyone, she wouldn't want anything else.

"Why are you doing this?" Anaya asked, the act of helping, it wasn't what Anaya was used to.

The servant girl smiled, "This pack is made of nothing but idiots. If we don't stand up and help each other, won't they exploit us to death?"



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