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Koko's POV 1

Our jaws just almost fell to the floor when we realized that the person that we have been mourning for over a month was alive and well, standing at the doorstep with the same wide eyed expression that we were giving him.

I had to rub my eyes with the back of my hand several times to make sure that what was in front of me was nothing more than an illusion, but then he just stood there staring at me as if he was trying to figure out he's fight or flight response.

"Chester, is this really you?" My mate asked, almost breathlessly.

Then, suddenly he rushed over to him and held him tight.

"Man I thought you were dead, I thought I lost my best friend, I thought..."

The next words he was going to say froze in his throat when he realized what he had been saying before, then he pulled away from Chester.

"How are you still alive?! I thought you were dead!"



His head turned between Juliana and Chester and then he repeated the same action.

Even though I was still shaken by shock, I knew this was the only chance I could get to calm him down before things would escalate into something else.

So I wrapped my fingers around his and said in his ears, in a voice that was a little more than a whisper. "I think we should listen to them, you said we should find out someone's side of the story before making assumptions..."

And so I pulled him to the table, and waved my hands at the other two empty seats for Julianna and Chester to seat as well.

"Look, it's better that we talk these all out right now, instead of running away." I said, when I noticed Chester's eyes were lingering at the door.

They sighed and came over to sit on the two empty chairs.

They looked at each other, and then Chester placed his hand on Juliana's lap.

"Babe, I'm going to tell the truth, we've already been caught and I'll take any punishment that comes with it..."

Then he brought his attention over to us.



"I don't even know where to begin the story..."

"How about you start from the part where you explain what your relationship with Scarlett really was that she kept pointing at you."

I never heard such coldness coming from my mate.

Chester was visibly trembling on his seat, but he was doing his best to keep his composure, then I rubbed my mate's shoulder, and whispered softly to him that he should calm down, because I understood he was still furious.

"Right.. that, emmm.. I made a big mistake. On the nights before Scarlett was supposed to be taken for her trial, she begged and pleaded with me that even though she could not be with Henry physically, she wanted to at least exchange letters with him... and honestly she looked so pitiful and miserable.. but I just shrugged it off, what harm could she do with a couple of letters, I thought..."

There was silence after he paused, then my mate urged him to continue.

"That's not the end of the story is it?" He asked, with his hands folded in his chest.

Chester just shook his head. "No that's not the end of the story of course, it's only the



beginning. So I was exchanging the letters of course, but after reading through them and making sure that there was nothing suspicious about them, just pitiful lovers' letters, probably the last day they would ever write to each other before they die...."

He was now drawing circles on the table with his fingers as he was speaking to us.

"I must have missed something, there was a message that they encrypted that only they could understand and I overlooked it, which was a grave mistake, because eventually I found out that one of the guards was actually a spy that had been hired by Henry's father..."

"Henry's father?"

My mate asked, cocking his eyebrow.

"That's ridiculous, that man should not even be able to buy clothes to cover his back. I totally stripped him of his alpha hood, so he should not be able to have any money..."

"Actually..." Julianna started.

I turned my attention to her, almost leaning over the table as she was speaking.

"It turned out that he had some associate that he had kept from his alpha days... that probably owed him a few favors so he took that



to his advantage..."

And so they continue telling the story, pausing occasionally. They also told us about how they had hired some people to pose as the associates of Henry's father so that they could trick them to follow them into the woods towards the bridge and it was when they were killing them that Chester was pulled into the water by Scarlett.

However Julianna found Chester before the rest of the search parties could and then they both decided to live in hiding instead of confronting the Alpha King on their mistake.

The air was so tense after they finished their story that somebody could even cut it with a knife.

I was disappointed, because I had a lot of expectations of these two people in front of me and to realize that they have lied to me and their alpha King so easily without a single trip of conscience was actually frightening and saddening at the same time.

"Your majesty please if you're going to punish anyone, punish me. I'm the one that was encouraging Chester to do all of these things from the start..." Juliana said through the silence.

Chester's head snapped over to her, "do you



know what are you even saying? please I was the one that arranged all of these, then I dragged her along with me, because I know she could not leave me, as my mate and I did not want to be lonely-"

At this point my mates stop both of them by slamming his hands on the table, with enough force to send it splitting into two.

"Don't you think that I've heard more than enough lies from the two of you? And whether or not what you're saying right now is true, both of you are still working together to lie to the royal palace and deceive your king.. Chester, you of all people should know how these offenses are..."

My mate said as he stood up, I could no longer even meet his eyes, but instead he looked at the flower vase that was placed in the middle of the table.

"I'm sorry, Niyol, and I'll take any punishment that comes my way... but I just want you to show mercy to Juli-"

"No your majesty! just do what you're saying and punish both of us together..."

My mate looked over to me.

"What do you think will be the most appropriate punishment for them?"



I looked at him.

Then my eyes strayed over to them and I replied.

"I know exactly what they deserve."

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