## 123 A COVER UP (2)

Once Loren and Elena had run out to discover what was happening with the bells ringing, the hooded figure unknown to them had been watching and waiting.

Amidst everyone running around, he waited until they were all gone.

When the hooded figure was certain no one was present, he snuck into Loren's quarters.

The hooded figure very quietly closed the door and examined the room.

Right on the large potion-making and medicine table was the body of a dead woman.

The hooded figure had not been the one to send the desert assassin and could not afford to be caught.

Desert assassins were rare, but if this one had done the job that she had been assigned to, none of this would have happened.

The hooded figure looked over the opened body and saw that they had examined literally almost everything and would soon discover where the assassin had been sent.



The hooded figure picked up all the evidence of Climan and Syuni and put it in his pockets.

Then, the hooded figure now dipped his hands into his pockets and sprayed dust over the body, and it disintegrated almost instantly.

It was like there had been nothing there in the first place.

Then, the figure looked around to ensure he was not leaving any evidence behind when he saw the Lyrun plant.

The figure walked up to the pot and examined it.

He could not believe it.

Lyrun was growing from a plant.

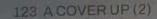
Lyrun was one of the rarest herbs ever to exist and one of the most expensive.

Lycans were killed and buried just so that they would be harvested.

The thing with Lyrun was that it could never be transplanted.

It only bared one leaf per dead Lycan, and that was that.

So how had Loren managed to get his hands on



one that could even be planted?

The hooded figure walked to the run and uprooted it. Just as he was about to put it inside his pockets, he heard a noise and footsteps.

He hurriedly pushed it down into his pockets and tried to run for the door, but then they were coming into the room; she rushed back in and tried to look for a place to hide.

The hooded figure rushed towards the windows and opened it wide

The door was open, and then Loren and Elena came back in.

"How could they have killed those many men?" Loren wondered.

"I don't know, but this place isn't as safe as we know it to-

"Wait!" Loren stopped ultimately.

Elena, too, stopped, and then she saw what Loren was seeing.

There was nobody lying down on the table . 1

Loren rushed to it while Elena strolled in, shocked.

"B-but how?!" Loren demanded as he looked over and under the table. Where was the body?" He demanded. It was here where we left it! We just stepped away for barely twenty minutes."

"The Syuni, Climan, they are all gone," Elena said as she examined the contents on the table. I can't even perceive their aura. Whoever came in here did a clean job and left no trace."

Loren turned around and saw the Lyrun plant was not in its usual place anymore.

"No, no, no, no." He muttered to himself as he hurried off to the plant.

"What's wrong?" She asked.

He looked into the pot and dug the soil, hoping that at least fragments of the plant had remained

"The Lyrun plant." He said. "It's gone, too!"

Then Elena saw the window open.

"I think he jumped out through the window." She said.

He looked down, too, and then turned d back into the room.

"That Lyrun grew." He said. "Jasmine found Lyrun that could go. If it hadn't been stolen, it could

have changed a good number of things in our world."

"We will find it." She assured him. "If there could be one then there most definitely be another."

Loren shook his head. "You know that is almost impossible, and then the body. It had been just here!"

Elena closed her eyes and tried to sense the wolf of the person who had come into the room.

But then again, nothing.

She sighed reluctantly.

"Nothing up till now?" He asked.

She shook her head. "Nothing. My powers are limited, and I can't even perceive the wolf or even know what pack it came from."

Loren was quiet.

"Xaden is going to be beyond words furious once he discovers that the body is gone." She said.

"Yes, yes, he would". Loren admitted.

Erik pushed the door and came back in.

"You came right on time." Elena said. "The body is gone."



"I beg your pardon?" Erik asked in disbelief.

"We just stepped out of the room for barely a few minutes, and when we returned, it was gone, and my room was ransacked." Loren said in annoyance as he lifted a broken potion bottle.

"The castle is on lockdown right now." Erik informed. "They can't have gone anywhere. Bloody hell what is going on?"

"We just heard about Alexander's death." Elena said.

"Why would Alexander kill himself after he had already taken away the body." Erik asked. "We found his body in the cell. He had been slit. He didn't even howl for his pack."

"About that." Elena started. "There is something you need to know."

He looked at her blankly.

Elena turned to look at Loren for support.

She sighed heavily. "We don't think Alexander was the one who sent the assassin after Xaden."

"But you said you had found enough evidence. The payment." Erik said.

"Yes, we know, but we just recently found some

