

139 OPPOSITES

Hildegard nodded and started to leave. 1

"Hildegard, wait." Rose said, hurrying off to stop Her. "It's not like that."

Hildegard stopped moving but simply stood still and didn't say a word.

Rose went up to her and held Hildegard's hand to make her face her as she stood.

"Hildegard, look at me, please." Rose begged. "I did not mean to hurt your feelings you know that you mean the world to me. I would never have lived had it not been for you."

Hildegard said nothing, and the guilt burned in Rose's throat.

"Please say something." She begged.

Hildegard eventually cleared her throat and said. "But I am not your flesh and blood. I am merely a servant." 2

Queen Rose took a step back, shocked at the impact of her words.

She was shocked at how much it hurt her, like an arrow piercing her heart.

Her lips formed, trying to say something.



"Hildegard I-

"Forgive me, Your Majesty." Hildegard said. "But if that is all, I have things that need my attention."

It was like a slap to Rose's face.

Something she was too shocked even to believe.

The only time Hildegard had called her by her title was when they were children, and then they had gotten so close that she had made her stop.

She had never used that title in over forty years. But for the first time, she just did.

Rose swallowed hard and took a hard step back.

"Of course." Rose cleared her throat after managing to find her voice. "You May leave."

Rose tried to suppress the hurt in her face while Hildegard's face was unmoving, returning to the subdued and obedient servant she was always supposed to be.

Then, the door was pushed open at that moment, and Cherry galavanted inside.

"Sister! I have been looking for you everywhere. You can not even begin to imagine where I-

Cherry noticed the tension inside the room, and then she stopped.

"Oh," Cherry mumbled.



Hildegard who had never for once pretended to like Cherry ignored her and went out of the room right beside Cherry without saying a word.

"What was that about?" Cherry asked, confused.

"Nothing." Rose said, dressing her coat. And immediately changing the subject. "You came to see me?"

"Yes, I did." Cherry said. "Is it a surprise that I came to meet my only sister?"

Cherry extended her arms and hugged Rose.

"Of course not." Rose said with a tight smile, even though her mind was still on Hildegard.

Cherry let go and touched the fur on the white coat.

"I also came to speak to you about that thing we discussed earlier." Cherry said. "I wish I had the time to stay, but I must leave now. My pack is far away from here, and the road is extremely dangerous. I can't afford the luxury of leaving here at any time like you. I don't have much guards. So I came to say goodbye."

Rose's attention now went to her sister.

She couldn't imagine how much her sister had endured traveling all the way to exile and how sad and lonely her castle was. 1



"About that." Rose said. "Your exile is over. You don't have to move back there anymore. You can come back home now." 1

Cherry's eyes widened. "What? You do not mean it do you?"

Rose nodded with a smile. "Yes, I do. You can finally return."

Cherry squealed in excitement and hugged her fiercely.

"Oh, thank you so so much." She cried.

Rose blushed. "You're welcome. There is no need to thank me. It is your home, after all."

Cherry was giggling, and then she paused. "What about Roland? What did he say? He won't ever allow me back in."

Rose shook her head. "I spoke to him and I made the decision, don't worry he won't be able to interrupt your plans of returning back home."

Cherry squealed in excitement again and threw her arms around her sister.

Rose was elated to know that she had made her sister happy again.

"Now we can be one big beautiful family again." Cherry said. 4

Rose's heart swelled with joy. "Just like we had



when we were kids."

Cherry pecked her on both cheeks. "I have to go tell your daughter and granddaughter this news. Thank you so much for this."

"You're welcome." Rose said.

Then Cherry eyed her dress. "Are you already ready to go?"

"Yes and no." Rose said. "I am dressed for the journey, but then I wish to see Xaden to discuss some things."

Cherry rose a brow. "What things?"

Rose shook her head and waved off her hand.

"Do not worry, it's nothing so serious. Would not want to bore you."

But Cherry insisted. "Bore me? I thought you had just said we would be a big family like we had always been? And that means no secrets between us." 3

Rose hesitated at first, but Cherry was right.

Being a big family together meant no secrets. 1

"Alright." She said with a smile. "It's just to discuss about Jasmine."

"The serving girl?" Cherry sneered.

"Yes." Rose said. "I don't believe she had anything



to do with Xaden being attacked. She isn't capable of that."

Cherry sighed and massaged her temple. "Sister sister. Being too far away from you has made you too soft." Cherry informed. "Do you not see that she is just using you? She is a slave, nothing more I believe she deserves the death penalty."

But Rose shook her head. "No, she does not. Fine she knew that Bale sent someone to the pack, but I do not think that she has a hand in any of what had happened."

"You've been around the likes of Hildegard too much. You are royalty. You shouldn't be hanging out with peasants too much. Your mind would become like theirs. Now, look at you making decisions about a mere enslaved person. The daughter of a betrayer." Cherry said, trying to make Rose feel bad.