



## 155 A SECRET WITHIN

"Xaden will do nothing." Bale said. "He will never know; that's why he has to be careful. You need to calm down." 1

Maria jumped up to her feet. "How can I be calm? Everything I know and everything I have has been changed and taken away from me. I watched that monster! Kill my son while you die nothing!"

She said and her body began to shake anxiously.

"What have I done to deserve this?! I wish to know what wrong I have done for such a thing to happen to me?" She raved on. 8

And she held herself as she wept.

Bale rose up to his feet and wrapped his arms around her.

"We would get past this." He assured her. 4

She dragged herself free from his grasp.

"How? When?" She demanded. "When will we ever get past this?! It was your fault! You

Should have left the Crescent pack, you should have never killed them! Now look at where we are!"

"You speak like you did not want Hayley's jewels."



Bale said. "When I raided twice pack and brought back home the booty didn't you demand that I give you Hayley's jewelers. Because you coveted what belonged to her didn't you?" 5

Maria became tensed, angry at the things that he now brought up.

She turned away in anger.

"You had always been jealous of Hayley. You wanted what she had for yourself. You wanted the gold and precious stones and admiration everyone had for her." Bale sneered behind him. "That's why you requested that I take her ch-" 11

"Enough!" Maria whirled back at him.

"And because you knew that you could never have the opportunity again to have what she had. You decided to steal it from

Her and take it as your own. You decided to rais-" 6

"I said enough!" She barked and the windows slammed.

The string wind blew all around and she looked at him fiercely.

"Yes! I wanted what Hayley had. And I will not deny it!" Maria answered back. "She had everything, while I had nothing! I wanted it all! She had the perfect husband, the perfect son and the perfect daughter. Their entire pack



loved them. But nobody loved me! After everything I always did! They would love her and I would never be loved! My subjects fear me but they do not love me! I saw it! I saw the happiness she had and I took it away!" 1

Bale looked at her.

She gave a coy smile. "You think that you can only point fingers at me?! You think I do not know what you did?! How you forced yourself on her? I have ears everywhere too Bale. Two can play a game."

Then she adjusted the wrinkles from her dress. "We have lost everything because you did not do your job well. You should have used a knife on that boy. Killed him. What? Were you afraid or killing a boy? Bale the terrible? Well we'll look what that has done to us! I am forever wearing black to mourn my son! While I am in fear of losing my daughter. I tell you Bale! I tell you this now nobody will take Jessica away from me. Especially with the circumstances of how she became mine." 12

"And I do not want her gone either." Bale said defeated. "We will continue to hide her. No one has uttered a word to Garrick, he still does not know about her. And it would remain this way." 1

Maria shook her head. "No, I have my family who will help us. We could send her to them. Sneak



her out of the pack."

"It will be too dangerous." Bale warned. "If they catch her, they would wonder why she is sneaking out. They would investigate and discover everything. That would be the end of us."

"So what do we do now?"

Maria demanded on the verge of tears. " we simply wait for that useless bitch to send word for us?! That bitch who would betray us in a split second. I knew we should have killed her like the dog she is!" 3

"We wait." He said. "She will not betray us." 1

Maria was not too convinced.

But she has no choice.

She simply told herself that she would pretend to go along with his plans but she would find a way.

"Fine." She said.

And then when he told her about the fact that Alexander had been killed she had wanted to lose her mind. 1

Worse now Xaden knew that it was Bale who had sent the spy.

"Why hasn't he done anything?" Maria asked further confused.



Bale shrugged. "I have no idea yet. This happened about three days ago. The other wolves working here would know and yet he did nothing."

"And the King?" She asked. "Can't he do something?"

"It is complicated." Bale expressed. "There are limits to what he can do."

Bale paced the room. "But from what it seems a number of wolves in the pack are against Xaden. I can bet who they are. But they have turned this pack to a prison. It limits me from doing things."

"I know some people too." Maria said. "I can ask my sources for more information. I will not wait on your bastard child!"

"Do not do anything without consulting me." He said.

"You are the one who got us here in the first place." She said in disgust. "Because of you my daughter is now dressed in rags like a common slave and is forced to even try to work." 1

"She has to keep that up or they will find out." Bale warned.

"Now it's like she is Jasmine." Maria said. "Like a common slave. My own daughter." 2

"Well Jasmine always worked hard." He informed



her. 2

She sneered at him. "Don't ever try to compare my daughter to that bastard! She should be grateful that we even let her live!" 1

And with that Maria walked out of the room.

Deep down she was scared because of the truth came out everything will be doomed.

But the secret of the switch, but a much more deeper secret 3

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