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Luna Maria paced up and down, frustrated at all that was happening. 1

Her little girl was being humiliated, and she could do nothing.

The only child she now had.

She waited at her husband's door until it was swung open and then she hurriedly stepped in.

"Yes? Maria?" He rose a brow.

She shook her head. "This not what I wanted. My daughter does not deserve such Cruelty. She can not live such a life!" 1

Bale turned and saw that the men who were with him in his secret meeting were just listening to her.

"You are interrupting us. This a very important meeting and of the most secret." He said. "I implore you to reserve your comments and questions until later after this meeting."

And then Bale turned his back on her and went back to discussing with his men.

But Luna Maria refused to be ignored.

She stamped her feet in rage.





"I will not be going bloody anywhere!" She snapped at her.

"For the love of the gods, woman, keep your voice down!" Bale said after he had rushed up to her and closed her mouth.

She forcefully pulled it down. 2

"I will not be going anywhere!" She snapped at him. "In fact, like hell, I will bring down this entire fucking building with my voice if that is what will bring you to listen to me!"

"Do you understand what you are saying?" Bale said. "You will let our enemies and captors know that we have been planning in secret?! Do you have any fucking idea?"

She looked him dead in the eye. "If that is what will take you to listen to me then so be it."

It was then that Bale saw that she was not backing down.

And what's more, if their enemies found them, they would all be dead.

But women were usually foolish when it came to such Matters. 2

He sighed and eventually gave in.

Then he turned around to face his men. "This meeting is over."



They looked at him. "It took us a very long and dangerous time to plan all this! If we do not discuss this here and now then I am afraid to tell you that it will take perhaps forever for us to plan another meeting."

"The risks!"

And the men murmured in agreement.

Bale turned to look at his wife, and then he understood that she was still not going to back down anytime soon.

She had her head strung up and High. 1

"I said the meeting is over." He said irritated more at himself for being a weakling in front of his men and unable to commander down his wife. "We will set another day for the meeting. That will be all." 1

And then he turned his back on them, telling them that he had nothing more to say to them.

The men all grumbled and found their way through a latch and went out one after the other until they were alone.

"What was the meaning of that unruly attitude!" Bale snapped at his wife. "How dare you step into a confidential meeting with me and my men! How stupid can you Be! You know how things are here! The walls have fucking ears! These



meetings are important and the only way for us to get out of this fucking hell hole!"

"I do not care about that!" She hissed. "I truly do not care for any of that! I just want my daughter out of here." 3

Bale groaned. "Is that why you came all the way up here to interrupt a high-secret meeting?"

Bale groaned, walked up to his table, and drank a glass of wine to dissolve his headache.

"My own daughter is suffering. She is being maltreated! The very same servants who had served her are mocking her!" Luna Maria said. "How is she supposed to live when those dirty snakes are treating her like that in our own pack? While we do nothing! While you do absolutely nothing but remain calm and solemn."

Bale gritted his teeth in annoyance. "Nothing is going to happen to Jessica. She will live well. Yes, the servants might treat her quite awfully, but they will not kill her."

And Bale sat down on his seat and massaged his head.

The headache was already so awful, and now Maria was making it worse.

"Look at you! Just look at yourself! Do you hear the words that you speak?!" She demanded in



rage. "That my very own daughter stays and manages with mere low-breed creatures called servants while they treat her like a monster?! Do you understand?! I, as a mother, watch my only daughter and child suffer under the hands of slaves?"

"For the love of the gods, do keep your voice down!" Bale said, annoyed. "They will hear us and know what we are talking about!"

"I do not bloody care, Bale!" She hissed at her husband. "I do not care if they hear or do not. I want my daughter safe and away from those monsters. I want them punished to death!"

Bale leaned back in his chair. "Alright, then, you. You are, in fact, right! They all need to be punished, and Jessica would be liberated! But how do we accomplish that? Tell me. Give me your ideas on how we are going to punish those who so wrongly punished our daughter." He asked her.

She was quiet now. Unable to come up with an answer.

"Tell me how we will do it, and I will, in fact, make it happen," he said.

She was quiet for a while, and he leaned back in his chair as she hyped a goblet of red wine.

"Just what I thought." He said. "You knew how to



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spill the words and give the order, but you have no idea how it will be executed."

Maria felt stupid, but she pressed her yes short and sighed heavily, trying to make sense of it all. "I just want my daughter to be safe."

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