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It surprised all of them, but they were all quiet as if they silently agreed. 1

Eleanor sighed. "So what are we going to do now? I might find some rare herbs and go through my magic book to see alternatives we have to revive her."

Marie shook her head. "No, there is no need for that. We might not get anything on time. Those books are outdated. So I sent Xaden and his men to the Isle of Lycanthrope."

Eleanor's eyes widened.

She, too, knew a lot about the island because the people from her original home were alive when the things had happened, and the goddess herself had sent her people to punish the Lycans.

"No one makes it out alive," Eleanor said.

"A few have," Marie remarked dryly. "when they first expelled them after the curse, a number of Lycans escaped, hence why we now have Lycans in our world today."

Eleanor shook her head. "You know what I mean. Barely anyone escaped, and they only survived because they were pure, and the goddess had decided that they could be freed. That was the



only time they had made it alive. No one else has tried to go and made it alive."

"He went with Erik," Marie said. "And you know that Erik is a true Lycan. He had been a young boy when he had escaped with his mother. He remembers, and He will make it alive. You underestimate Xaden too much. He is much stronger than you believe him to be."

"And that is what I am afraid of because certain people took advantage of him and lured him with worldly things. Deceiving them for their own selfish benefits."

Eleanor was talking about Marie's use of dark magic on Xaden in his quest for revenge.

"I am not the best person. I might have never been the best, in fact, and I have never denied it, but I want Jasmine alive, too." She said.

Eleanor scoffed as she folded her arms. "You. I know you like the back of my hand. You do not help or give freebies you only do things for your own benefit."

"Come on, sister," Marie said, tossing her hair over her shoulder and laughing. "What do you mean by that? Do you think you are the only good one? And that I am not capable of any good."

"Sister?" Fiona said in shock. "You two are



sisters?"

"We were. Only a long time ago. That is why I know her well, and she is not to be trusted."

Eleanor said.

Marie sighed and got up to her feet. "Look, you said it yourself, did you not? Fine, you got me. I do not help unless it is for my gain. Jasmine and Xaden are tethered together. If she dies, he dies, if he dies then she dies. Either way, if something happens to either of them, then it will affect the other."

Eleanor's eyes widened in shock. "You did this, did you not?! This was your plan from the beginning, right?"

"Of course not! Moreover, I had no idea this was going to happen." Marie replied, rather annoyed. "They had a marriage bond when he took her from her home pack. They were possessed by the gods and consummated. There has never been a situation where an alpha and his mate were possessed by the gods under the halo moon and Mated. I believe that it was this occurrence that heightened everything."

"Then you let him go out into the wild! Regardless of the fact that you are aware he can die, too. She is incapacitated, and he would be soon, too." Eleanor raged.



"The curse does not affect t them in the same way. If Jasmine gets hurt, it takes a while for Xaden to feel it, and it is very hard. He most probably is in pain right now, but he would not die. At least not until he has returned. From

My calculation is when Jasmine dies, he would die too." She said.

Eleanor thought she was going to run mad.

"You took my son from me! You let him go away! How dare you?!" Eleanor screamed, and then the floors began to tremble.

Marie who was stubborn and wild knew better than to provoke her sister who was not just older than her, but stronger than her. 4

"I had no choice. We all tried to talk him out of it, but he insisted that he would go and get it along with the men. If you truly know him as the young boy you raised, you will know that Xaden does what he wants to do regardless of the consequences."

Eleanor stopped to breathe, and the shaking calmed.

It was true.

"And this was about Jasmine". Marie said. "He almost went mad."

"So he will get the cup and return in time for her



to live?" Eleanor asked hopefully.

"That is the plan." Marie said. "I will not kill Xaden. Not when he is extremely important to me. He has something that I will collect one day. He and Jasmine and I assure you that I will never bring him in harms way."

Eleanor did not care to ask why she wanted to collect from Xaden. 2

What she wanted to know was how it had happened.

"If someone wanted to kill Jasmine. Someone possessed Aurora to attack Jasmine and kill her." Eleanor said wisely. "What did they aim to achieve? What gain would make them go this far."

"I believe that whoever did it wanted Jasmine gone, but not Xaden. Most people, if at all anyone out of this room is aware of their bond." Marie said.

"Aurora hated Jasmine, but she would never have betrayed the pack and killed anyone in it," Eleanor said. "Not even with the wisdom that Xaden would end her life if he discovered what she did. She knew better."

"Well, let us hope and keep watch that whoever came to get Jasmine will not return to finish their work," Marie said

