243 JASMINE'S TRUE PAST

Jasmine's hands began to shake in weakness and guilt. 1

That all of this had come out this way.

Some of it was not even true.

Not the way she would have expressed it at least. 2

And the revelation that he had wanted to make her his mistress was the last thing she would have expected.

She knew that she was in love with him.

There was no doubt that anymore.

But Xaden, she had heard, did not have many feelings for women.

Sex was strictly all that it gave him, and that was a pleasure.

But here he was now telling her that he had wanted to hear his own mistress?

She felt her head swoon.

"I was going to give you everything." He said, and his heart broke.

When she saw his face, she felt every part of her fall into absolute pieces.

He had lost his mother, the very same woman who had saved him from death and, against all odds, brought him back to life.

She had been his family after he had watched everyone he loved murdered.

She had stayed with him and nurtured him as her own all those years before he eventually went on his own to find his pack and exact revenge on her own father.

Eleanor had also been good to her.

After how she had been treated when he took her captive, it was Eleanor who was gentle and loving with her.

It was Eleanor who had taken care of him and made sure Xaden in turn was more gentle with her.

And now here he was, alone with her being murdered in the most brutal way.

And also, all her deception and secrets had been exposed now.

Everything she had done, even the fact that she had played a significant role in being her father's spy.

It was all on him.

And what did he mean that his sister was in the pack? She did not even think of anyone who could be his sister.

If his sister had been taken and stolen, then she would have even been treated worse than she had.

But there was no such person.

Or maybe he had gotten a false piece of information from someone.

But regardless of whatever it was, to even believe that your own sister, whom you had assumed was long ago murdered, was now supposedly alive after all these years was enough to drive anyone insane.

He looked so broken she wanted to hold him up close and tell him that it was alright.

But she dare not even touch.

"Why?" He asked. "Why did you ruin everything? We could have been happy."

Just when she believed that her heart could not break any further, it did.

She felt it shatter.

We could have been happy, he said.

She swallowed.

"I swear I was going to tell you all about it." She begged him. "Every single time that I tried to let you in on it, I was unable to. I just froze. I tried so many times".

"Why did you even do it?" He asked.

"I had no choice." She said. "It was either I followed through to go with you or face the wrath of my father."

"You are lying." He said. "I can hardly imagine Bale treating you like scorn. Trading his wok daughter out to his enemy to protect another."

She shook her head. "You believed that I was a spoiled princess. My life here, even despite being a slave, is far better than the one that I endured at home. I have a roof over my head. I have food to eat. Yes, I am whispered about. Yes, every time I pass by, people say things about it. Yes, I am well aware of all of this. But here I made a friend. I met people that I could talk to. I met Loren, I met Eleanor, I met Fiona."

She sighed heavily while he remained calm.

"I was treated like an outcast back in the pack. They hated me for who I was and for being a bastard. The men lusted after me." She said.

She saw him flinch when she made that last statement.

So he still cared for her? Despite everything.

That simple revelation that the men back home had desired her had pulled strings in him.

She saw how angry it was.

She swallowed and said. "I had no friends. Only Urma took care of me. No one cared for me. Those scars you saw on my back I.....

She stopped, not finishing up what she was about to say.

He looked at her. "Those scars. How did you get them? If it was a lie that you were taken hostage as a child from an enemy pack."

She swallowed again. "I said that because I did not want you to suspect I was not who I was meant to be."

"So, how did you get them?" He asked.

She swallowed.

There was no point in hiding anything from him anymore.

He had discovered it all, and why hide it when she never wanted to keep any more secrets from him?

"Beating I endured from Luna Maria and her daughter Jessica." She said.

He gritted his teeth.

She went on. "Luna Maria hated me. With every slight chance she got, she would use it as an excuse to hit me. Punish me. She would frequently have me tied up and stripped naked in front of evoke and have me whipped."

His teeth gritted.

"She hated the fact that I was the first child and the reminder of her husband's infidelity and perhaps was threatened that one day I would claim the pack as my right. She hated everything about me and wanted me gone." Jasmine revealed at the brink of tears again.

"Bale let you go through this?" Xaden asked.

She gave a very weak smile. "He turned a blind eye to me and everything that happened. He never acknowledged me as his daughter. I knew from rumors and words going around."

FOR SNEAK PEEKS ADD DIS... ›