273 ROSE'S REGRET

"You abandoned your people looking for our already dead daughter." He said. "You triggered all of our traumas. You disturbed it all. Look at Corral! You abandoned her! You let go of her! You were so obsessed with finding a story that you forgot the one the gods had left us with." 1

"Stop! Stop! Stop!" She screamed in agony with her hands over her ears. 1

He went quiet for a while and in a gentle voice he said.

"Scarlet is gone. She is dead. She died a long time ago. If the kraken arose then it is possible that the sirens moved it from her body. That is the only explanation." He said. "The sooner you accept it the better for all of us. Because you are tearing this family apart." 2

And after that statement he turned and walked away.

The other members of court quietly left after him.

And the Queen was left alone.

She fell down to the floor and wept her eyes out.

Meanwhile Corral had been standing in secret a place in the court room where she and her sister Scarlet used to play hide and seek. 1

It was a secret tunnel way but then it led out of to the imperial court where they would hide and watch their parents sit on the throne and listen to their people.

Now it was only Corral that stood there and watched the entire scene.

She had felt herself being touched by her father's words that she had been abandoned and it broke her that she had seen her mother overcome with so much grief. 2

Seeing her crying all alone.

Corral too much of a coward to step forward pulled back into the darkness 1

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There was a slight knock at Corral's daughter.

"Yes?" She answered. 1

Her mother peeped in. "May I come in?"

"Of course mother. Do come in." Corral said motioning for her mother to move in.

Then Corral came down from the bed and hurried to where her mother stood and closed
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the door behind her.

"Come in mother." She ushered her in 1

Her mother gave a stiff smile and stepped into the warm room.

"Would you like tea mother?" Corral asked as she walked to where the tea had already bedn set by the last maidens. 1

"No thank you." Her mother shook her head. "I was just passing by and I wondered if I could see you." 1

Then her mother sat down on the bed and looked around. 1

"It had been such a while since I was here." She said. And then she frowned. "Did you do some renovations." 1

"I changed my rooms." Corral answered quickly. 1

Rose nodded. "I see. But why? You and your sister shared the same room and you two loved it together ."

Corral shook her head. "That was a long time ago mother. And the memories were too much. I decided I wanted one for myself. One that did not hold any of those old memories."

Rose sighed in heavily. 1

"I apologize for not knowing that." Rose said. "Still seems odd and new to me." 1

"You do not know a lot of things about me mother." Corral said accusingly. 3

Rose's mouth dropped in shock.

And then Corral waved her hand away. "I apologize mother. I did not mean it to disturb you."

Rose sighed in heavily. "No you are right. I do not know a lot of things about my own little girl. It is like time flew away so fast."

She looked at Corral and realized that she had actually grown up.

Was a fully grown woman. 1

How had she let this happen?

How had times gone so fast that she had not even witnessed her own daughter right in front of her?

She pressed her hands together.

Was it true what Roland had said?

That she had abandoned her daughter? She had left her alone and pursued the daughter that was no longer around?

Her other missing daughter?

She sighed in heavily. "May I ask you some questions."

Corral crossed her brows in suspicious and then nodded. "Yes you may mother."

Rose adjusted on her seat. "Do you still love blue berry pie?"

Corral gave a little laugh and out her hand on her chest. "I had no idea that was what you wanted to ask me. You made it seem like it was something so bad."

Her mother laughed too.

"Well." Corral said. "Yes mother. I still do love blue berry pie. The one that you made not the servants. It was and still is my favorite sort of pie."

Her mother clapped her hands. "Yes I still do know somethings. And pink? Is pink still your favorite? I remember your sister used to hate pink. She loved red instead and we had the entire room divided into two. One part pink the other red."

Corral laughed at the memory. "Yes mother. I do remember that. Scarlet was so territorial around her shade of red. I have no idea but she

always hated pink. It made her sick I belive". 1

Corral smiled lightly. "But you always had our hair in pink and red bows. You were always the one doing it. Even though my hair was red you would fit the pink bow in my hair and tell me I still looked beautiful. Scarlet's hair was red and it matched together so I always felt out of place."

Her mother held her hands. "Of course you were different. You both came through me together. And surely you were both different. There was no way you could be the same."

Corral dropped her head weakly.

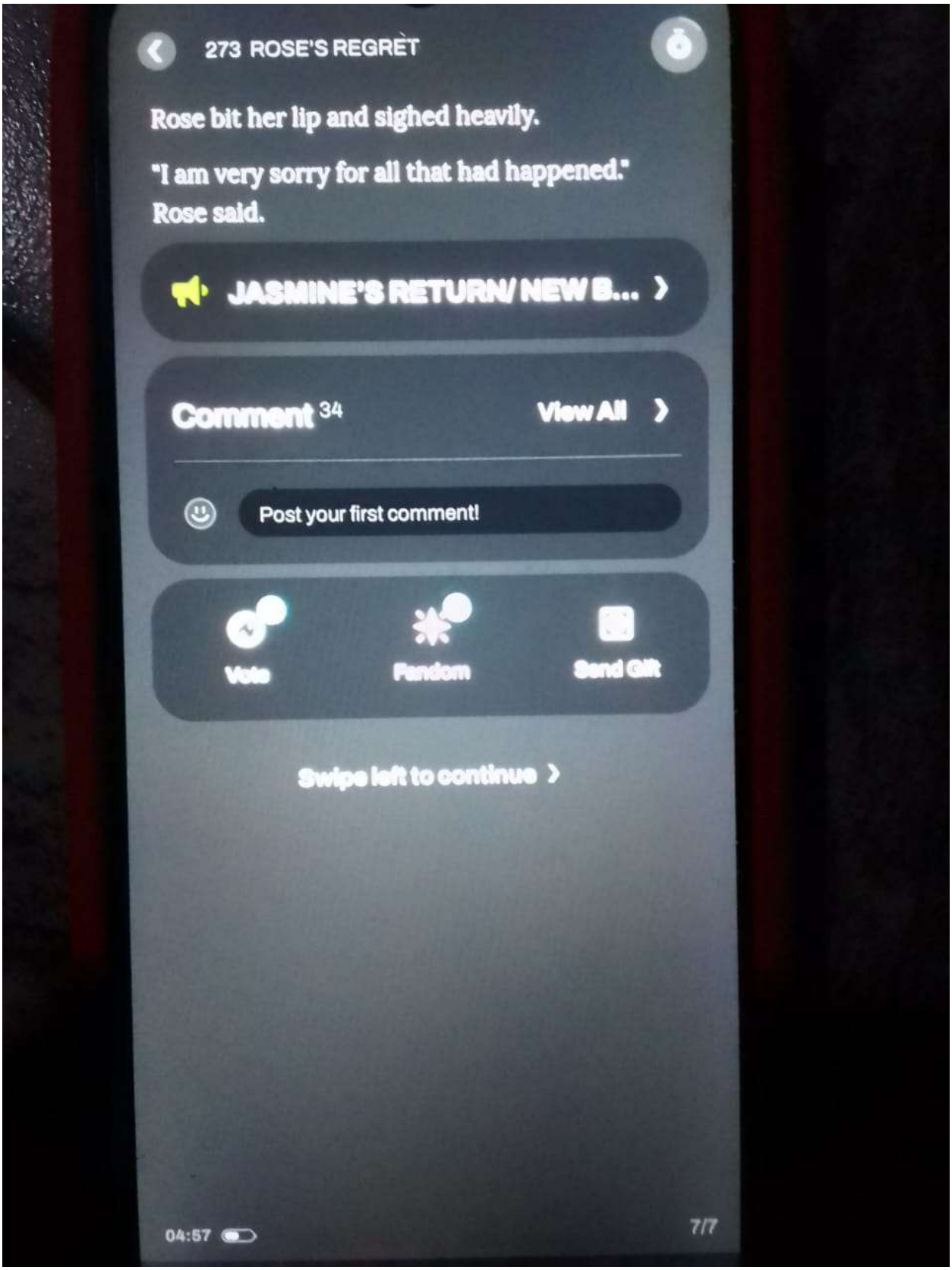
But her mother lifted her chin very gently up to look into her eyes. "But you were both special. In your own ways. And nothing would ever change that."

Corral felt her eyes brimming with tears and then she hugged her mother. 2

For the first time since the accident. 1

When she finally let go, her mother said. "Your father said something. That I abandoned you. Pushed you away after what happened. Is it true? Did I do that? Do not lie to me."

After a short while Corral nodded.


273 ROSE'S REGRET
Rose bit her lip and sighed heavily.
"I am very sorry for all that had happened." Rose said.
JASMINE'S RETURN/ NEW B...
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