289 FEELING NOTHING TO DEATH

Xaden watched Jasmime walk ahead, staggering in fact. 1

He has just murdered her father.

He had finally killed him, after all this years.

And the worst part, was that he felt nothing.

Absolutely nothing.

Then Erik met him at the door.

"What happened?" Erik asked.

"He is dead." Xaden said.

Erik took the information and then asked. "How do you feel."

"Empty." Xaden replied.

And then he looked back into the room and saw his sister.

His heart swelled with overwhelming emotions.

And then he went to her.

He was about to throw his arms around her and give her a very tight hug.

But then she seemed uncomfortable and so he simply stood.

"Is he...?" She asked him.

He nodded softly.

And then there was genuine sorrow in her eyes.

He understood, after all who could blame her.

She had grown up her entire life thinking these people were her family.

And yet he was angry.

Angry that she was sad Bale had died.

She nodded unsure of what to say and seemed dazed by her surroundings.

"You finally killed my husband." Luna Maria said.

Xaden had completely forgotten about her.

He nodded at a guard. "Lock her in the cells."

The guards did as they were instructed and Luna Maria began to scream.

"Jessica! Jessica! Jessica do not let them take me away!" She wailed as she was dragged away. "I am mother. You can not let them take me away."

Jessica turned around and put her hands over her ears to block the screams of the woman she had believed was her mother all alive.

It was then Xaden was compelled to pull her into his arms and hug her, shielding her from those last horrible moments of Luna Maria's voice echoing.

When she was finally gone, Jessica looked up at him.

"Is this all meant to deceive me? Is any of this true?" She asked him, her big eyes searching his. "Are you truly my brother?"

"Can you scent? Me?" He asked her.

She nodded. "Yes I can."

"Do it again." He instructed.

She did as he asked and she frowned.

And then she sniffed her own self.

"You smelled like you when you came in, but now it seems like your scent is on my skin." She said confused.

"That is because when we first saw each other, your scent was hidden from me." He said. "Even after the spell was removed you still were unable to perceive your true scent. It has been

over an hour now, it has returned. And now you scent like me because I am your blood and you are mine. You have always scented like me, it was just hidden." 1

"You are my sister and I am your brother. We are one, scent and blood. Do you understand that now?" He asked.

She nodded.

Her lips quivered. "So... what you are telling me is that the stories about you and your family.... Is about my family?"

He nodded. "Yes."

"What really happened? I do not know what to believe anymore? Then where are our parents?" She asked him.

"Gone." He said.

Her face was blank mixed with grief and confusion at once.

"Then who am I?" She asked him tears in her eyes. "My whole life has been a lie. Is my name even Jessica?"

"No." He said maybe a bit too quickly and too harshly.

He cursed inward.

He was still upset with what the moonlight pack had done to his family.

He was upset that they had stolen his sister and given her a fake identity.

"No," he said much softly. "Your name is not Jessica."

And then he tucked a loose blonde strand of hair behind her ear.

"Your name is Anna. Mother gave you that name. It is who you are." He said.

She nodded, even though she seemed genuinely confused and lost.

"You do not need to understand it all today. Puppy steps." He advised looking down at her as he set his hand on her shoulder to

Reassure her.

"What is going to happen to her?" She asked making reference to Luna Maria. "Do not lie to me or sugarcoat it."

"She will have to answer to her crimes." He said.

She swallowed and nodded.

Then Erik came to stand in front of the both of them.

Jessica's eyes twinkled when she saw Erik.

Her heart skipped.

She had never seen anyone so handsome. And her face went red. 2

"Sorry to interrupt." Erik said to them. He turned mainly to Xaden. "What about Jasmine?"

Jessica looked up sharply.

"She is exhausted and I believe she deserves to rest somewhere comfortable." Erik remarked.

"Yes. You are right." Xaden said. "See to it that she is given a comfortable bedchamber. I will see her tomorrow."

"Jasmine?" Jessica asked aloud.

Both men turned to look at her.

"Yes, Jasmine." Xaden said.

"Why is she being taken care of?" Jesica said with malice and jealousy in her voice. 3

"She was the real daughter of this pack.. She can not be trusted."

"You do not need to worry about anything." Xaden said his hands on her shoulder. "Jasmine will not hurt you."

"You do not know her like I do." Jessica shook her head adamantly. "She has never liked me. What if she revenges the death of her father. Her parents have always treated me like I was their own and she hated me for it. She will be more furious that I am 1

Not even their daughter and yet I was raised by them. She hates me." 2

Erik rose a brow at her words, seemingly annoyed but said nothing in reference to it.

He cocked his head. "I will see to it."

And with that Erik left them.

"You have nothing to worry about." Xaden assured Anna once Erik was gone. "Jasmine will not do anything like that. I will explain everything to you tomorrow.

"You should rest." He said gently touching her fore head. "Would you wish me to see you to your room?"

She nodded. "Yes please." 2