314 THE FALSE OATH

"I swore an oath on my wolf." Jasmine said and then gave Maria a dead look, her eyes blazing red as hot as flames. 1

"Jasmine!" Xaden said as he struggled to get away from the crumbling dungeon.

"I have never been a shifted wolf can you remember step mother?" Jasmine asked.

It was at this moment that Maria known she had been lied to.

She had been deceived.

Jasmine was bound to no oath because she had never turned to a wolf hence why she would never be held to ransom.

And at that moment, the walls came down on Maria smashing her to death.

And then Xaden happened to grab Jasmine once her hand was no longer burning hot and he pulled her out of the dungeon.

They managed to make it out, but their faces and entire being was covered in dust.

He coughed as they stood at the foot of the dungeon and watched it all crumbling down.

The guards around were equally coughing and struggling to breathe.

Xaden grabbed Jasmine's arms and forced her to look at him.

"What the hell were you thinking?" He demanded. "You could have killed yourself."

"I am fine." Jasmine said and coughed some more.

"Like hell you aren't." Xaden swore in annoyance. "You made a bet with her, how sure are you were you that the mini earthquake would have occurred. There was no way in hell I was ever going to release Maria."

"I know." Jasmine said as she dusted away the dust from her shoulders and coughed some more. "I swore an oath on my wolf. I am unshifted, and she happened to forget too. So that is why her plans to hold me ransom to the blood oath did not succeed."

Xaden narrowed his eyes at her. "So you are more cunning than I thought."

She gave a light smile as she dusted her hair. "Yes I am."

The remainder of the ceiling that had been hanging completely fell and then Jasmine and

Xaden turned to look back.

"We could have been buried alive." Xaden said annoyed and then he looked around. "This entire pack is falling apart so badly who knows when next the pack building itself would fall."

Jasmine sighed and remembered what Maria had said to her.

That her father was not her father.

That Bale was never in fact her father.

She did not want to believe her, but Maria had been bound by an oath, she could not lie because unlike Jasmine she was a wolf.

So who was her father?

Who was her mother?

Who was she truly.

All she had heard from Maria was the most she had ever heard about her mother, nothing more.

She had ever intentions on asking Urma why she had his this from us.

Xaden looked at Jasmine and gently took her hand.

"You have a cut." He said indicating to a her

wrist.

There was a mark of blood there.

His eyes made a connection with hers and there was fire in the air, felt like thunder went through her.

"What bothers you?" He asked so gently she was touched. "What did Maria say to you?"

She took in a deep breath and after about a minute of thinking, she started to speak.

"Brother! Brother!"

It was none other than Anna.

She was rushing towards them, her skirts in her hands to prevent her from tripping.

She caught sight of them and raced towards Xaden .

"Thank the goddess Selene you are safe." She swept as she threw her arms around him and hugged him tightly.

She cupped his cheek in her hands.

"Are you alright? Are you hurt?" She asked looking over. "We heard the noise and I came straight here. I was so worried that something might have happened to you. Something might have taken you away from me just when we

found each other."

He very gently touched his sister's hand to his cheek and kissed her palm.

"I am alright." He said.

And then Anna turned around and saw Jasmine.

"Is it a surprise that she is here when all of this happened?" Anna asked glaring at Jasmine. "I know she had a hand in this.

"No none of that Anna." Xaden said standing for Jasmine. "We were together when it fell apart. Even if she wanted to kill me, I am certain that she would not want to kill herself too."

Anna snorted and said. "You have no idea how much I know her. You don't and she will take advantage of that."

He gently touched her cheek with his palm and said. "Well just so you know, it takes a lot more than burying me alive to have me killed. The dungeons are old and falling apart. The building itself must be in ruins. No one is safe around here."

He looked up to gaze at the old castle walls.

"We should be on our way back to our own

pack." He informed and started to head up away from the debris.

Anna stopped and seemed to freeze in time.

"What's that?" She asked.

Jasmine turned around and saw that it was piece of Maria's jewelry.

Anna went down and picked it up before anyone could stop her.

She pushed away the dust from the bangle and looked at it.

No one said a word.

Anna already knew what had happened.

Maria was dead and there was no turning back.

She started at it for so long that Jasmine wondered if a hex had been put on her.

And then Anna finally moved a muscle and walked ahead of everyone the bangle in her hand.

Xaden started to walk up to her, but Jasmine stopped him.

"Let me talk to her." Jasmine offered.

He said nothing at first and then later said. "Alright. But we will be returning back to my

pack by noon."

Jasmine nodded and turned away.

She dusted herself and went off after Anna who was already far gone ahead.

JASMINE'S RETURN/ NEW B... >

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