320 GOODBYE MOONLIGHT PACK

Xaden came into the room and looked around from left to right. 1

"What the hell are you doing here?" He demanded annoyed.

Jasmine quickly hid the paper in her sleeve ad they had both turned to face him.

She gave him a tight smile .

"You're here." She said.

"Of course I am here." He said. "I had bloody sent out all the men in the pack looking for you. I accept final goodbyes but you are delaying our travel." 1

She smiled weakly at him. "Urma died. The souls took her body for her funeral."

He stopped short and seemed to be looking for the right thing to say.

He eventually managed to say a. "I am sorry for your loss. She seemed like someone who genuinely cared for you."

"She did." Jasmine remarked.

And then she felt cold remembering that Urma had truly died and was no more.

Ned turned and looked at her.

"Are you alright?" He asked.

She nodded numbly and began to hate the feeling of pity they all felt for her.

She rubbed her arms and walked ahead.

Xaden stopped Ned as he was about to follow.

"What happened?" He asked.

Ned gave a light shrug. "She just fell."

"That was it?" Xaden asked. "Nothing it of the ordinary?" 1

"No." Ned shook his head. "She is an old woman and I guess it was her time to go."

Xaden said nothing and Jasmine who had not completely left and was still overhearing their conversation breathed a sigh of relief before finally walking ahead.

She reached the ground floor of the pack and turned around to look at what she had known as home for a very long time.

She saw the pack members standing by windows, doors, alleys, looking down at her.

As if watching her go.

She knew that this might probably be her last time here.

There was no one to say goodbye to.

Her father and his wife were dead.

The only one person she had ever cared about was dead and gone.

There was nothing left for her here.

This was no longer her home.

She took in the place one more time and headed to where the party was.

Anna snorted when she saw her coming close to the carriage.

"I hope you have no intentions of getting into this carriage with me." Anna hissed at her.

Jasmine turned and glared at her.

She was genuinely getting so irritated of her.

Especially since she had just lost someone dear to her.

"I'm not in the mood." Jasmine said and walked away, leaving a very frustrated Anna looking back at her.

And then Xaden came behind.

"What took her so long?" Anna asked him. "Perhaps she does not wish to come with us anymore. You don't need to enforce it."

"Her healer just died." He said.

Anna's face sulked.

She wanted to say thank goodness that old hag was there and she stopped herself quickly.

"She does not have anyone here to stay with." He remarked. "She will be coming with us."

His finally statemenf had not been a comment but a command. 1

Anna pulled a fake smile. "Of course I understand."

Then Xaden got on his horse and Erik pushed one of the spare horses to Jasmine.

"I am sorry for your loss." He said.

She nodded weakly and gently caressed the hair of the horse.

She did anything to get her mind away from her loss.

And then they finally began the journey.

Jasmine was quiet all through without saying a

word.

Xaden was worried about her and kept on looking back, but Jasmine was simply on her horse looking blank.

"Jasmine." Ned said. "Jasmine."

He had road up to her side and caught up with her.

She turned to her left and saw him.

"I managed to read what was in the paper." He said. "And I believe it is in the old wolf tongue."

She blinked hard .

"The old wolf tongue?"

"Yes. It was ten first langue the wolves used when they ascended." He said. "It is almost extinct."

"You said almost. That means there are others who still read it." She said.

"Yes but these people are old mages." He said. "They use the language for their magic and secret conversations. Moreover it is could be a myth. A mere false story being told around by people. No one has credible information of it still existing."

"So if no one knows what the old tongue looks

like, then how sure are you it is what it is?" She asked him .

"Because I am a healer and when they were teaching us as students, we learned all languages. And the Old tongue had about only two existing pages written. We had no idea what it meant but we knew what it looked like. That is why I could easily tell."

She was quiet. "And where are the mages?"

He shrugged. "Probably off somewhere causing mischief. The mages are not as great as you think. It is usually corrupt with dirty politics, drinking, violence and sex."

She looked at him shocked.

"Okay maybe I am exaggerating a little." He said. "But believe me when I tell you that the mages are the last people you want to ask for help. They are very selfish and conceited and prefer to do things only for themselves."

"We have to try," Jasmine stated. "At least not all of them can so bad."

Ned gave a face and finally said. "I will send word to my contact.

She nodded and smiled at him. "Thank you very much for everything. It means a lot to me that

you are keeping this a secret."

"If Urma wanted to leave a message for you." He said. "Then I will make sure I do everything I can for you to find the truth."

She stopped her horse and smiled at him.

"Thank you."

And then she reached out from her horse and gave a kiss on the cheek . 1

Ned went an instant red and Xaden turned and saw them and became furious but swallowed his anger. 1

JASMINE'S RETURN/ NEW B... ›