331 THE SERPENT

They got into mage city and were in awe at the colors and magic happening left right and center. 1

"Buy yourself some green lizard tarts." A woman called. "I sell the best in town."

"How about the eyes of a griffin. Three hundred centuries old and best in the city." Another man called.

Jasmine watched as a bird flew above and then came landing into a woman who walked by, a man followed past and disappeared into the thin space.

"This is amazing." Jasmine said in absolute awe of the city that stood behind her.

Anna didn't seem to see it that way.

She was hovering down right behind Jasmine as they moved through the crowds.

"Can we just make it to wherever we are going." Anna scowled very irritated.

It was night but the city was still very bright and vibrant.

It was alive.

"Just hold onto me and stay close." Jasmine said as they went through the crowd.

Jasmine looked up at the different stores that hung from left and right to see which was more likely to direct her in the direction where she would find something that would lead her to where she was headed.

She saw a sign that hung with a writing on it.

She turned back to a not so pleased looking Anna and asked. "What does that sign read?"

"I didn't ask you to be an illiterate." Anna snapped back.

Jasmine shook her head and wondered why she had even bothered to ask in the first place.

They continued to head up down the street and soon there was some noises of what seemed to be celebration.

As they got closer they saw a procession leading up to them.

Jasmine grabbed Anna's hand and they steered off the main Road.

A number of horses passed along with some carriages and the people waved and greeted.

Cheered at them.

Jasmine watched as the procession went further down the road.

There was a woman beside her.

"What's going on please?" Jasmine asked.

"It's the grand Mage." The woman replied through the loud crowd.

"What's the grand Mage?" Jasmine asked further confused,

The woman looked at her as if she was a stranger and ignored her.

"Let's go." Jasmine said pulling Anna alongside.

Then they went past the noisy crowd and were soon down the streets once again.

Jasmine looked around and saw a young boy passing.

"Hey." She called out to him. "Where can I find the mages?"

He crossed his brows together. "Which of the mages. There are so many of them."

"The fire serpent flames." She said.

His face went grim and he started to back out as if she had slapped him.

She gently caught his wrist and pulled him

back to her.

"Hey hey. I'm not trying to hurt you." She said "I just want to know where I can meet a mage."

The boy looked at her warily.

He seemed very cautious and then he pointed down the street at a store. "Go down there and ask the woman at the bar. She would tell you what you need to know."

And then he withdrew his hands from her grip and ran away.

"You even scared that child." Anna said.

"Let's go." Jasmine said ignoring her and heading to where the boy had pointed out.

They hung at the steps of the door and Jasmine opened the door.

It was a loud and noisy room.

There were people drinking and laughing.

Eating and playing music.

Jasmine looked around the entire room and saw a woman standing over a table and walked straight to her.

"Hello." Jasmine said .

The woman cleaned the glass cups and poured

drinks in more cups .

She barely noticed Jasmine.

Jasmine tried to speak up. "Excuse me. We just want to know how we can find the fire serpent."

The entire room went quiet.

Jasmine became aware of her surroundings as she looked around and saw that everyone was looking at her and Anna.

The woman froze immediately and turned to look at her sharply.

"Where did you get that name from?" The woman leered at her .

"My grandma. Urma." Jasmine replied. "She always mentioned that name in high regards."

Jasmine was very uncomfortable with the way everyone was looking at her.

The woman gave her a warning look. "No one has mentioned that name in years."

Jasmine was uncertain what to say.

"I just want to know where I can find this person." Jasmine.

The bar woman with her brown hair packed to side adjusted it and tucked it again.

She folded her arms and looked at Jasmine over.

"Come to the back." The woman said as she led the way.

Jasmine followed her and Anna was right behind.

"Erica cover my shift." The woman said ti a girl who was seated opposite her, as she went further down to the back

They walked behind her and Anna grabbed her arm and said. "We can't just follow someone we don't know. What are you even looking for?"

Jasmine turned to Anna. "As long as you are with me, you would not ask any questions, until we are done here."

Anna started to argue and bicker but Jasmine glared at her. "You are going to put us into trouble worse have us killed. I am pretty sure you don't want to die."

Anna poured but her silence said she agreed.

"Are you coming or not?"

Jasmine sighed heavily. "Yes we are."

And grabbed Anna's hand and led her down the way.

"I wonder where my brother and Erik are." Anna said .

"We will get back to the camp before dawn so we won't get to run across them." Jasmine stated clearly.

Soon they reached a room and the woman had stopped and was now standing facing them.

The door was shut right behind them and they jumped.

The bar woman turned around and faced them,

There were about two other women present.

The first had white hair and spectacular body, while the second had raven black hair.

"Sisters. She has requested to see the serpent fire." The bar woman said.

The women were all now looking at them.

"No one knows that name." The one with white hair said. "Only those worthy know."

JASMINE'S RETURN/ NEW B... ›