355 A DINNER TO REMEMBER

Jasmine found herself going down the hallway towards the dinner hall wondering why Jessica was sending for her. 1

The doors were opened and then she stepped into the full dinning room.

They were all seated feasting and drinking together.

She saw Jessica was seated by Xaden's right handed side on the table and across them was his mate Lily and his uncle Uther.

Erik was at the end of the table with the other men.

There were some people playing music and it was noisy.

Jasmine swallowed and went down to where Jessica was seated.

Xaden frowned when he saw Jasmine progressing towards them on the table.

He was taking a sip of his goblet when she stood beside Jessica. 1

"You sent for me." Jasmine asked.

Jessica turned and looked back at her. "Yes I did. I was told you were the one that took on the role of taking care of the park. The woman's duties."

Jasmine looked up at Xaden and nodded. "Yes I did. Alpha Xaden asked me to."

Jessica sighed and then turned to now face Xaden.

"Xaden Is this true?" She asked.

Her eyes were all puppy dog and pleading.

Xaden set his goblet aside and nodded. "Yes I asked her to."

Jessica sighed and pushed away her plate. "I can't eat something that she had a hand in preparing. I'm sorry. I just can't."

"Why what's wrong?" Xaden asked worried.

She shook her head refusing to say a word and turned her face away to sniff.

Jasmine was irritated at the drama.

She knew what Jessica was doing .

It was something she did back home in the pack all the time to get away with what she wanted.

It infuriated her.

She would pretend to be hurt and then everyone would run to her feet to ask what the issue was.

And somehow Jasmine or another unfortunate maid or worker in the pack was victim to her fake tantrums.

Anna looked back up at Xaden with teary eyes and then started to speak.

But her throat was clouded and she excused herself. "Please excuse me."

And then she hurriedly picked up her hankies and wiped off her tears and then took in a very deep breath.

"When we were living in the moonlight pack." Anna started. "Jasmine wasn't kind to me. She had tried to poison me so many times. I know you said this is a new start but I can't trust her. Not after what her family did to me. To us."

And when she said that, she grabbed Xaden's hand on the table and held it firmly.

Jasmine looked up at Xaden. "I would never poison her. And I never tried to poison her in the pack."

Jasmine didn't need to ask why she was telling all these lies.

She knew already.

She was just looking for more ways to torture and punish her.

Just as she had always done.

Xaden gently massaged Anna's hands. "She would do no such thing. I promise you. She won't even attempt it. You are safe here."

"The chef made the meals." Jasmine finally said. "You can call him here and ask him. I only assisted."

"I don't trust her Xaden." Anna said. "I am so sorry. I will never ever feel safe with her here. Or her handling my meals."

Anna sniffed and wiped more fake tears. "I would have liked to be the one taking care of the Castle. But Jasmine...."

She cried some more.

Somewhere on the other end of the table Erik snorted and rolled his eyes in disgust at her behavior.

"There would be no need for you to handle the matters of the pack." Xaden said. "Once you are

more acquainted with the pack then I would not hesitate in giving you your duties. You are still new here. Let Jasmine handle them for now."

Anna's eyes gathered in tears.

"Xaden I think your sister is right." Uther said. "It is her duty after all and for you to hand them over to the daughter of the people who took her away from you."

Uther shook his head in disapproval.

Xaden cleared his throat. "For now, Jasmine would handle them matters of the pack until you are well accustomed to the pack."

And then Xaden picked up Anna'a hand and kissed it.

She knew when not to over push and decided that this was enough.

She managed a stiff smile. "Alright."

She saw Fiona roll her eyes and Anna squeezed her face.

Anna did not like Fiona.

"I have a little announcement to make." Xaden said at the table.

Everyone stopped and stared at him.

"The Royal family will be joining us in a few days." Xaden said.

There was a murmur amongs the crowd and then he sighed and said. "I want everyone to prepare for it and be on their best behavior when the time comes. We don't know who is coming but we would know."

And then Xaden rose to his feet and lifted his goblet.

"To everyone who stood by me in defeating the moonlight pack, stood by me in the entire warfare. And to everyone who has ever in any way or the other head to suffer the consequences of Bale, this is your redemption."

And then with that he rose his cup up in the air.

"My family is more complete than I ever thought it would be. We lost some. But the enemy is gone."

And then he drank to that and everyone cheered for him.

Jasmine felt sick.

It felt like allw eyes were on her because they were directly talking about her family.

She shifted uncomfortably.

Once the chantings and cheerings were done with, Jasmine started to leave the room when Anna got up to her feet.

"I have an announcement to make." She said to the crowd.

Jasmine stopped.

And then she looked around the room.

"All my life." Anna said. "I always felt like I didn't belong where I was. Maybe it was because I was treated differently? I don't know."

Jasmine tried her best not to roll her eyes.

She folded her arms and sighed.

"But coming here. Finding out that everything I went through...." And then she wiped a tear, cleared her throat and continued. "I'm sorry."

And then she fumbled for a hankie.

"You don't need to do this." Xaden said gently touching her am.

She shook her head as she wiped her tears and composed herself. "No I need to." 3

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