389 THE INTRUDER

Rose stopped working on her report. 1

"What do you mean by she is the beginning of our nightmare." Rose asked.

Cherry sighed. "Nothing. I just don't want something going wrong. She could still hate us for what happened to her father and just like you said she has suffer a great deal. The best thing we should do I give her some money and send her far away on exile. You have to be honest she did disobey our Laws."

Rose had this feeling that her sister was not being honest and that there was more to this story than she knew.

"She is a sweet girl that won't harm anyone." Rose said as she crossed her fingers together. "I know her."

"You don't even know anything about her!"Cherry spat viciously.

"And do you?" Rose countered.

Cherry blinked at her sister and glared her nostrils.

"Tell me. What is so bad that you have against

this girl?" Rose asked leaning closer.

"Nothing." Cherry smiled. "I just don't want a repetition of our mistakes."

Rose didn't trust her. 1

"And also she looks like Scarlett and I know how that makes you feel." Cherry chipped in.

"Scarlett is dead." Rose said. "She isn't coming back and j have accepted it. I don't think that Jasmine is some Scarlett reborn. That would be ridiculous."

"I know." Cherry acknowledged. "I just care for you and I don't want anyone to hurt or lie to you. I heard the stories of the girls who came claiming to be Scarlett."

Rose bit her bottom lip at the cold memories.

After Cherry had been exiled from the Kingdom, due to the Queen's search of her missing daughter, there had been a number of girls who had come to the palace claiming they were Scarlett.

There had even been one who had looked so much like Scarlett she bought, and moved to the royal pack house.

She had gone around impersonating Scarlett

the Halo festival.

She had not had an attack in years.

The very first time she had had one was after her parents had died and she had ascended the throne.

She couldn't explain it and had gotten all the best physicians to find out what was wrong but none ever did.

It had stopped and now had come back times three more powerful.

She still hasn't told anyone because she knew that if they were aware, she would be forced to step down from the crown.

She couldn't.

She found the herbs and quickly poured it in her mouth.

She fell down to the floor as she struggled with the pain.

It eventually subdued after a few minutes and she very gently helped herself up and sat down on the chair.

She felt water at feet and she looked down under her desk and saw that tea a maid had brought in for her had crashed on the floor.

She sighed in heavily and rose back up from the table and gasped at the woman standing before her.

Rose growled and then her hands turned to claws as she slashed at the intruder.

The woman was gone from her front and now stood by the large chest of drawers.

"Your majesty. I intend you no harm." The woman said.

Rose who was still weak from the effect of the attack, struggled to control her wolf.

Her wolf returned back in and she was left vulnerable with her intruder.

She stumbled and stepped back on the broken Ceramic.

It pierced into her feet and blood spilled.

"Gods." Rose swore. And then she snapped back up at the woman. "Who are you? How did you get here?"

"You don't remember me?" The woman who was very young asked. "I was the mage at your court when you lost your daughter."

And then it hit rose.

She was the woman who had told her that her daughter was still alive and then subtly vanished into thin air never to be found again.

"You." Rose said. "Where have you been all these years?"

Rose stumbled and the woman was at her side.

"You're hurt." The woman said as she assisted her to the nearest reclining couch.

Rose was forced to sit down and she closed her eyes as she suppressed the pain.

"Where have you been all these years?" Rose asked.

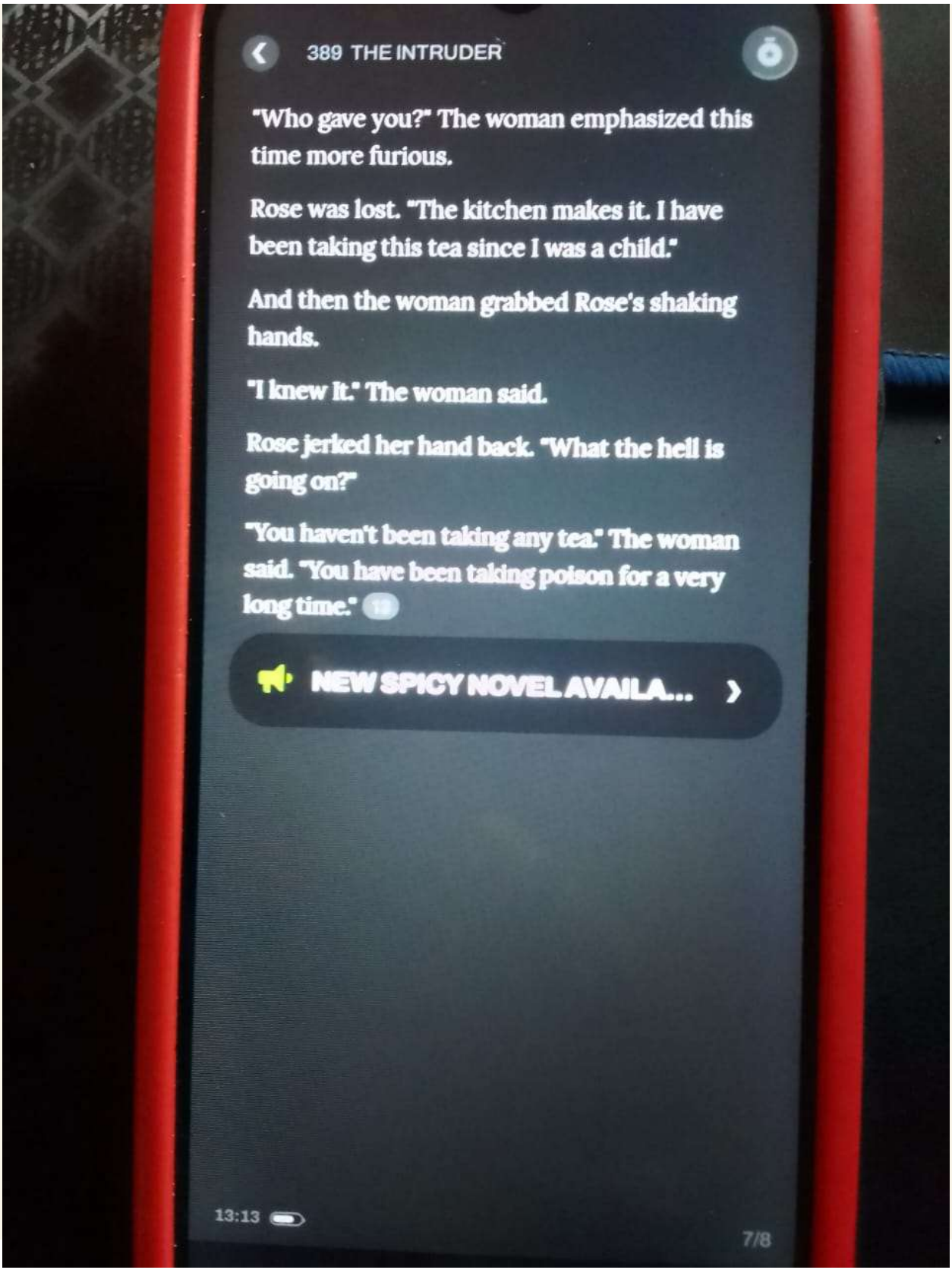
"I can't tell you that." The woman asked.

And then she used magic to very gently removed the shards of broken ceramic from her feet.

The woman brought the shards to her hands and smelled it.

"This." The woman said her eyes widened. "Where did you get this from?!"

"It's my daily tea." Rose said confused. "I take tea every morning and night. I mistakenly broke it."


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"Who gave you?" The woman emphasized this time more furious.
Rose was lost. "The kitchen makes it. I have been taking this tea since I was a child."
And then the woman grabbed Rose's shaking hands.
"I knew it." The woman said.
Rose jerked her hand back. "What the hell is going on?"
"You haven't been taking any tea." The woman said. "You have been taking poison for a very long time."
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