403 THE DEATH

"A stranger did." He replied looking boldly at her. 1

"You just took help from a woman you don't even know?" Rose asked in disbelief.

"Yes and at least she helped us!" He snapped back at Rose. "We came to the Royal physicians. They turned us down. We pay taxes even though we have nothing and we couldn't be helped!"

Rose was taken aback and still in disbelief that the Royal Physicians didn't help them.

"We pay taxes and our own leaders won't help us." He exclaimed in a fit of rage. "What did you expect us to do? Watch our little girl die in pain?"

Rose nodded and sighed to herself.

"I am sorry that you went through what you did." She explained. "Truly I am. I wasn't aware that things were this bad."

"Did you see this village we in when you were coming in?" He asked. "Did you see how poor we are? We have nothing. Absolutely nothing."

Rose bit her bottom lip. "And when someone comes ready to help us, why sounds we accept. She never asked for anything. She healed my little girl and let us go."

Rose felt weak to her bones.

She wanted to ask how someone would have helped him out of nowhere without collecting payment.

But she knew what having children meant.

It meant being blind to the obvious and doing anything for them.

She had been blinded when she lost Scarlett.

Refusing to see or believe anything else.

Doing any and everything to find her daughter.

So in a way she understood.

"And i know what the law so for disobeying the rule against wolves using magic." He said and then he showed her his wrists. "You can as well take me away. My children don't have a mother and I don't expect you to feel any different if they don't have a father."

He was a very bold man.

She gave him credit for that.

And that was something she never really experienced.

"I'm not going to take you away." She said. "That law is old and outdated. You did it in good fate to save your daughter and I don't see anything wrong in that."

He said nothing.

"I would appreciate it if you could at least, find a way to know who this woman is and tell me." She said .

He stiffened. "So you can kill her for helping us?"

Rose sighed.

"You might not believe this." She started. "But I am sorry for what you went through. No patents should go through that. I had been away from power for a very long time. But I have returned and I would address these matters properly. I know what it's like to do anything for a child and so I understand why you did what you did." 2

He said nothing at first.

"I don't know who the woman is. Even if I did. I still wouldn't tell you." He stated. "She was an angel."

Rose shook her head.

If only he knew that this very woman had turned out to be his wife's worst nightmare. 5

He simply had his face facing the wall, refusing to look at her.

"I am sorry for your loss." She said. "I will give you employment in my home and I will provide a much better living condition for you and your children. If you remember anything about the woman who helped you, then please I would appreciate it."

And then she turned around and started to leave when he stopped her.

"She slipped and died?" He asked. "She just slipped and died? Or you killed her?"

This time Logan took a step forward to attack him and Rose intervened almost immediately.

"Logan don't." She warned.

She looked at the grieving husband and sympathized.

He was angry. She could understand.

The irony that it was his wife who had tried to kill her rather.

She would never tell him what happened and she would make sure no one did.

The official story was that she slipped and died.

"Because if she simply slipped and died, then why are you here? You didn't just one day care." He said. "You came for a reason."

She sighed. "I came because I am making new changes in the law. And she was one of our workers. She told me about what happened to your daughter and I wanted to sympathize."

He didn't look like he believed her

"I still don't want your help." He said in arrogance.

She shrugged her shoulders. "That's okay. But if you ever change your mind and need help. The offer would still stand and so would my door always be open to you."

He folded his arms and looked away .

She turned away from the room and walked out of the door.

Logan and Hildegard were right behind her.

"That man has gone through a lot." Rose stated matter of fact. "I can't believe that is what these

people go through."

Hildegard sighed weakly. "There had been rules set in place since you stayed away from the crown."

"Is it really true that the royal physicians turned him down?" Rose asked lost.

"Do you think it's possible?"

Hildegard shrugged. "Yes I do. I know that it's true."

Rose's eyes opened.

"Some of the workers had complained that they were unable to take care of their children and forced to borrow money and further land into debt because of the inability of the physicians to provide long lasting treatments for them."

Rose scoffed. "That's impossible."

"It's what has been going on." Hildegard pointed out.

"Who made these laws?" Rose demanded in anger.

"The members of the wolf council." Hildegard said .

Rose was furious.

To prevent any issues of having a dictorial leader, the wolf council had been made with different members of the founding packs.

So that they could pass judgement into the people.

But now Rose was seeing that they were abusing it and exploiting the people.

"What do they even gain from stopping the people from being treated by the physicians. They pay taxes hence why they should be allowed to in the first place."

"Taxes." Hildegard pointed out. "The physicians came out saying they weren't getting enough money anymore and that treatments were getting expensive so they drastically reduced the people from being allowed to gain treatment."

"But this wasn't true was it?" Rose asked brewing in rage.

Hildegard shook her head. "No it wasn't. I found out underground thatMembers of the wolf council had been stealing money from so many ventures. The royal physicians amongst them too. They are all scheming and gaining from it while the people suffer."

Rose was in utter disbelief.

"Does my husband know this?" Rose asked .

Hildegard shook her head. "I don't think so."

"Why didn't you ever tell me?" Rose asked lost for words.

"You were in a very delicate state." Hildegard said. "And you were frequently sick. Now we know that it was the effect of the poison. But then you were seen to be recovering from losing your daughter. I couldn't tell you."

"Why didn't you tell my husband?" Rose asked. "He is the King himself."

"I tried to." Hildegard explained weakly. "The one time I did, someone found out and threatened my family so I stayed back. It's a well arranged scheme. Hence why it's hard for anyone to know."

"These people are paying taxes." Rose said angry. "They deserve to be held responsible."

The entire system was rigged.

She was so angry she wanted to storm into the castle and fire everyone.

It was their fault she had been poisoned in the first place!

If they had not selfishly sabotaged treatment,

Bernice would have never been blackmailed to poisoning her and she would still be alive.

If they could do this then what else could they do!

They started their way back to the outskirts of the village when Rose stopped.

"What happened?" Hildegard asked. "What's wrong?"

"I forgot my gloves." Rose said .

"We could Galway's get another." Hildegard said.

"They belonged to my mother." Rose said. "I can't let that go."

"I can go get it for you your majesty." Logan offered.

She shook her head.

"Don't worry. It's just here. I'll go get it myself." She said.

And before listening to their disapproval, she was off to the cottage.

She was already at the door in seconds.

She was about to knock when she felt something off.

She shrugged it off and knocked.

There was no response.

She knocked again and yet no response.

She sensed something was wrong.

She very gently opened the door and stepped into the room.

The entrance of the house was the same as she had just left it except the man was no longer in it.

She saw the saw her gloves on a stool and then she picked them up.

When she turned to go, she saw him seated in his chair, his chest opened out and blood all over him.

She gasped and dropped the gloves.

She hadn't witnessed something so grotesque in such a long time. 4

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