

Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved

Chapter 178

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Anthony's POV:

After breakfast, Jennifer and I went to visit my mother.

As soon as we arrived at her room, one of my attendants came in to report a piece of news to me.

"Mr. Jones, we have received word that the king has brought a stranger back to the royal palace with him. The king treats him as a distinguished guest, even though he looks like an ordinary werewolf."

Why would Austin bring an unknown werewolf to the palace and treat him like a distinguished guest? I had a feeling that something fishy was going on.

My gut was telling me that Austin's distinguished guest couldn't have been just an ordinary werewolf.

"Have you taken any photos of Austin's guest?" I asked.

"Yes, Mr. Jones. I've sent it to you."

"Good work! Please, continue to keep an eye on Austin."

I smiled to show my appreciation and waved my hand at my attendant.

"You can leave now."

"Who could be that mysterious werewolf? What's Austin up to this time?"

Jennifer frowned as she couldn't help but feel worried.

"Austin and I know each other very well. I think he must have guessed that I'm going to make a move. My best guess is that werewolf is here to help him" I said calmly.

Then I took out my phone to look at the photo my attendant had sent to me. The werewolf standing next to Austin looked nothing out of the ordinary in the photo.

I handed the phone to Jennifer so she could have a look as well.

"I don't know him." Jennifer shook her head.

“And he doesn’t look special to me.”

We both got lost in our thoughts.

Just then, Roy came out of my mother’s room.

He had been keeping an eye on my mother’s health.

“Roy, come and have a look. Have you seen this werewolf before?”

I showed him my phone, but I wasn’t expecting anything from him.

“Well...he looks quite familiar!”

Roy furrowed his eyebrows in a pensive mood as he looked at the photo carefully.

“He looks like a famous wizard, but I can’t seem to remember his name right now. Don’t worry, Mr. Jones. I can ask some of my friends to see if they know anything.”

“Thank you, Roy. I’ll send you the photo later.” I quickly expressed my gratitude.

“You’re welcome, Mr. Jones.” Roy smiled politely.

“I’ve just done a full check-up on your mother. Her vital signs are getting better. The side effects of the dark magic have disappeared completely.”

“That’s great news! Thank you very much!” Jennifer’s eyes lit up with joy.

“Thank you very much, Roy.”

After we expressed our sincerest gratitude to Roy, I took Jennifer to see my mother.

“Anthony, you are here.”

My mother was lying in the bed with a big smile.

“I’m so happy to see you. I’m so bored of always lying around in bed.”

“Mrs. Jones, I’m so happy to hear from Roy that you’re fine.” Jennifer stepped forward and helped my mother sit up.

“Mom, how about I take you out for a walk in the sun?” I suggested.

“Okay, that sounds like a good idea!” My mother agreed readily.

“Jennifer, please join us.”

“Of course! I would love to!”

As I smiled and looked at Jennifer, her ears reddened.

When we went out for a stroll in the garden, I told my mother everything that my attendant had told me earlier on.

“Austin has been seen in the palace with a wizard. I’m sure he’s plotting something. The situation seems more complicated than we anticipated,”

I said as I helped my mother walk slowly.

“Anthony, should we ask Roy and Jeff to contact the other wizards and have them join our side?” Jennifer suggested.

“All right. It’s better to be safe than sorry. Besides, Roy and Jeff seem to have a wide range of contacts. With more wizards to help us, our chances of winning will increase greatly.” I nodded in agreement.

Jennifer’s POV:

Anthony and I were talking about how to deal with Austin when his face suddenly became pale and he clutched at his chest as if he was in a lot of pain.

In a matter of seconds, tiny beads of sweat formed on his forehead.

“Anthony!” I screamed and quickly held him.

“What’s happening to you? Are you okay?”

“It hurts...”

It looked like Anthony was having a heart attack.

“Help! Please help! Can someone please call the doctor?”

Elizabeth started to cry out for help as well. Several attendants ran over in a hurry and I followed them as they carried Anthony back to his room.

When I saw Anthony lying in the bed, I felt so anxious that I didn’t know what to do.

I kept calling his name.

Fortunately, he was still conscious enough to hold my hand tightly.

The family doctor came shortly after as Elizabeth and I waited anxiously.

He opened the medical kit and examined Anthony for a while.

After a while, he shook his head.

"I'm sorry, Mrs. Jones. His vital signs are normal. I can't seem to find the cause behind his suffering."

The doctor lowered his head.

My heart thumped uncontrollably, but I knew that panicking wouldn't help Anthony.

"Please ask Roy to come!" I suggested.

Elizabeth gestured at the maid, signaling to her to call for Roy.

Roy hurried to the bedside as soon as he came in.

He took out his magic wand and chanted some incantations at Anthony before he retreated with a frown.

"Mr. Jones seems to have been bewitched with some kind of dark magic, but I'm not sure what kind of spell it is."

Roy looked at me and Elizabeth apologetically.

"I can try and relieve his pain using my magic."

"Thank you, Roy. Please do what you can to help him."

Elizabeth looked at Anthony pitifully.

Before long, Roy cast a spell on Anthony.

My heart broke at the sight of Anthony.

He was a strong man.

Seeing him sweating like that made me realize that he must have been in a lot of pain.

I was at a complete loss.

What could I do? How could I help Anthony? Suddenly, an idea popped into my head.

If anyone could dispel the black magic from Anthony's body, it would be Larry, the grand wizard.

Unfortunately, we didn't know where Larry was.

All I could do was hold Anthony's hand as Roy cast multiple spells on him.

Eventually, Anthony's facial expression softened and his breathing relaxed.

"I've used magic to ease his pain for the time being."

Roy let out a deep breath as he put away his magic wand.

Then he took out a medicine bottle and handed it to me.

"This magic medicine will help him ease the pain, but please try to refrain from giving him too much of it."

"Thank you, Roy." I was grateful to have Roy there.

Otherwise, I didn't know what I could do.

"Poor Anthony..."

Elizabeth's voice trembled with exhaustion.

"Don't worry, Mrs. Jones. Anthony will be fine. We will find a wizard who can remove the black magic from his body."

I gently patted Elizabeth on the back to give her comfort.

"You should get some rest as well. I'll look after Anthony."

"I'm so relieved to have you here, Jennifer."

I could sense from the look in her eyes that Elizabeth was truly happy to have me there.

I nodded my appreciation and watched as the maid help her get back to her room.

Soon, I was left alone in the room with Anthony.

As I looked at his handsome face, tears started trickling down my cheeks.

The sight of watching someone I loved suffering hurt more than me experiencing pain firsthand.

"I'm sorry I made you worry."

Just then, Anthony woke up.

He raised his hand and wiped off the tears from the corners of my eyes.

“Anthony, are you feeling better now?”

I shook my head and held his hand tightly.

“What can I say? With you by my side, nothing can defeat me,”

Anthony said with a gentle smile.

I was over the moon with joy to see his smile again.

However, I couldn't help but wonder what I would do if the pain came back again.

Was there any way to locate Larry?

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Roy's POV:

I used magic to temporarily stop Anthony's suffering caused by the black magic.

Then, I went back to my room and sent a message to the other wizards asking for help.

I also felt sorry to see Anthony in so much pain because of the black magic.

Anthony was a powerful and kind-hearted man.

I did everything in my power to help him because I appreciated him.

His love for Jennifer was pure and sincere.

The bond of love between them was built on trust and loyalty.

I had always dreamed of having such a relationship one day.

I once had a mate as well, but I ended up losing her because I wasn't brave enough.

I reached out to a few close friends, who were also wizards, and asked them to come to the Osman Kingdom for the sake of Anthony.

I also sent the mysterious man's photo to all the wizards I knew asking if they knew who he was.

Unfortunately, I didn't get a response as fast as I had expected.

It wasn't until the next morning that I finally received a response.

Much to my surprise, the first wizard who agreed to come here was Cynthia.

When I saw her in the hall, I was stunned frozen, because Cynthia was the woman I had lost.

I didn't think that she would still be willing to help me after what had happened between us back then.

The moment we locked eyes, my face conveyed an arresting spectrum of ambivalent emotions.

For a moment, I was at a loss for words.

Fortunately, Cynthia seemed to have forgotten everything about the past when she walked over to greet me.

"It's been a while, Roy. It's good to see you!"

She smiled and my heart skipped a beat.

"Indeed, long time no see, Cynthia." I tried my best to stay calm and get straight to business.

"Thank you for agreeing to help. Mr. Jones is waiting for us." Cynthia nodded.

The prince's attendant standing by the side took us to Anthony's room.

Jennifer's POV:

Anthony's pain came back sooner than I had expected.

I didn't know what to do as I watched him suffer helplessly. I could tell that Anthony was in a lot of pain when he curled up into a ball and started shaking. I called Roy as quickly as I could. I sat on the edge of the bed, holding his hand and wiping the sweat on his forehead.

"Anthony, you are going to be fine. Everything will be fine." I could only offer words as a means to comfort him.

"How is Mr. Jones doing?"

"Is Anthony okay?"

I raised my head and turned around the moment I heard two voices behind me.

Roy came in with Cynthia, followed by Elizabeth.

I quickly ran to hold Elizabeth as I was surprised to see her.

"I'm worried about Anthony."

Elizabeth looked at Anthony with tears in her eyes and her voice trembled.

"Anthony is a very strong man, Mrs.Jones. He will be fine."

I hid my anxiousness and comforted her.

I helped her sit down before I went to greet Roy and Cynthia.

"Cynthia, it's nice to see you again." I smiled at Cynthia.

We had met her before, but I didn't expect to see her again here in the Osman Kingdom.

We decided to leave the pleasantries for another time as this was an emergency.

Before long, Roy and Cynthia began to discuss the treatment plan.

"The pain easing magic can only work for a while.I'm not able to determine what kind of black magic Mr.Jones is afflicted with." Roy shook his head helplessly.

"We can't use the pain easing magic too often as it will have side effects."

Cynthia frowned as she fell into deep thought.

Just then, the attendants brought in two other wizards who came to offer their assistance, Bill and Clark.

With more people coming in to help Anthony, the hope of him making a recovery increased.

I tried to make them feel at ease, by offering them a seat and then telling them about Anthony's condition.

"Mr.Jones seems to have been bewitched with the Love Curse," Bill said after some contemplation.

"Indeed, one of the most common symptoms of the Love Curse is intense heartache." Cynthia nodded.

"Anyone who is bewitched with the Love Curse will feel heartache as long as they feel love for their mate. The spell only gets stronger with time. In the end, as long as they keep thinking of their loved ones, they will eventually die of heartache."

My heart sank and my eyes widened as I watched Anthony slip into a coma because of the pain.

How could this be? Was Anthony in pain because of me? After a brief discussion, the wizards finally confirmed that Anthony had been bewitched with the Love Curse.

"It is an ancient curse. In fact, I didn't think that there was a wizard who could cast a spell like that anymore." Cynthia sighed.

"An old magic spell like that could only be cast by the legendary grand wizard, Larry. Do you think that he's responsible for this?"

"Larry? Roy, I wanted to talk to you about the photo you sent me earlier. The man in the photo looks a lot like Larry," Clark chimed in.

The photo? I immediately recalled the conversation between Anthony and his attendant yesterday.

"I was skeptical at first when I first saw the photo, but I think Clark is right." Roy nodded.

"I'm certain that Clark is right because he has met Larry in person before. It had to be the grand wizard Larry. Austin must have somehow convinced him to join his side. It was all starting to make sense to me. Before I could say anything, someone grabbed my hand. I looked back and found that it was Elizabeth and her face was as pale as the moon.

"Don't worry, Mrs. Jones. Roy and the others are trying to come up with a solution as soon as possible!"

I stifled my worries and comforted Elizabeth.

Then, I looked at the others and said, "Is there any way to remove the Love Curse from Anthony?"

At first, there was no response. After a while, Roy shook his head.

"I'm sorry, but there's nothing we can do." Roy looked at me apologetically.

"The Love Curse is a very old spell. None of us know how to cast it, let alone remove it. The only way for the inflicted to survive is to stay as far away as possible from the one he loves."

Roy spoke euphemistically, but everyone could understand what he had meant.

"No, no..."

My knees felt weak and I almost fell onto the floor.

I shook my head and I felt like I couldn't breathe.

However, I had to stay strong for Elizabeth's sake.

"Mrs. Jones, why don't you go and get some rest first? I'll stay here with Anthony. The wizards won't be able to focus with you here."

I turned around and tried to smile at Elizabeth.

"Thank you for looking after my Anthony."

Elizabeth looked at me as if she had a lot to say, but she simply resigned with one sentence.

She looked at Anthony once again as she wiped her tears and then left the room with the help of her maids.

After she left, the wizards banded together to cast the pain easing magic.

They managed to stabilize Anthony's condition, but everyone knew that the spell wouldn't last very long.

I once again expressed my gratitude to the wizards who had come to help.

After I asked the attendants to send them away, I stayed with Anthony alone.

At dusk, Anthony finally woke up from his sleep.

The moment I saw him open his eyes, I leaned forward and gave him a hug.

I wanted to kiss him and tell him how much I loved him.

But as soon as I saw his gentle eyes, I realized that I was the reason why Anthony was suffering.

My heart was filled with dread when I realized that he could fall into a coma again at any moment.

"Anthony, you have been bewitched with the Love Curse."

My tears began to fall, even though I tried my best to restrain my sadness and keep calm.

"As long as you love me, your heart will always ache until you die. Anthony, I want you to live. The only solution is for you to stay away from me and forget me eventually. I can't see you suffer like this."

Anthony sat up before he held my hand and stared at me quietly.

We looked at each other in despair.

A few seconds seemed to be as long as a century.

"Jennifer." Anthony's voice was hoarse.

"How can I forget you? You are the most important person in my life!"

Then he came closer and kissed me gently.

The voice of reason inside me told me that I should push him away, but I couldn't.

After all, I loved him and I didn't want to leave him.

I leaned against his broad chest and tried to kiss him back.

His kisses gradually became intense, as if he was afraid of losing me.

His passionate kisses fell on my forehead, lips, and ears.

My face blanched with an expression of suffering endured in silence.

Then, he kissed my cheeks and wiped the tears from my face.

"I will love you forever, Jennifer," Anthony said, as our fingers intertwined.

Tears of joy and sadness welled up in my eyes.

What was I to do now that things had come to this? I didn't want to leave Anthony, but I couldn't watch him die either.

Was there anyone who could help Anthony right now?

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Skylar's POV:

With ample rest and recuperation, I eventually made a full recovery.

Before long, I was discharged from the hospital.

I was pleasantly surprised by flowers that suddenly appeared in front of me on the day I was to be discharged from the hospital.

The people who came to greet me with flowers were Jerome and Robin.

Jerome was holding a large bouquet of delicate red roses in his arms, while Robin was holding a bouquet of golden sunflowers.

“Congratulations on getting discharged today, Skylar.” Jerome spoke first.

He smiled gently and handed me the large bouquet of roses.

I hesitated to accept the flowers because I knew that roses represented love.

My heart thumped inside my chest as I didn’t know what to do when Jerome expressed his love to me.

“Skylar, I hope you like sunflowers.” Robin handed me the sunflowers.

“I hope that these flowers bring you joy and I pray that your life is bright and sunny from now on.”

“Thank you, Robin. I do like sunflowers.” I smiled at Robin in response.

“Honey, don’t forget your flowers.”

Seeing that I didn’t take the roses, Jerome pushed the bouquet of red roses into my arms as he glanced at Robin coldly.

I felt a little awkward at first, but when I noticed the affectionate manner in which Jerome looked at me, I held both bouquets in my hands.

When I got out of the hospital, I was carrying two bouquets of flowers.

“Skylar, where are you going? I’ve booked the presidential suite at the hotel I’m staying in.” Jerome caught up to me before I could figure out what to do next.

“The food there is great and they have a wide selection of desserts. I’m sure you’ll like it there.”

“Skylar, would you like to go to my place?” Robin offered.

“I’ve cleaned up your room, so you can stay there if you want to.”

I paused, not knowing what to say to Robin.

I didn't want to bother him, but I also didn't want to stay with Jerome at the moment.

"Skylar doesn't need you to take care of her! She's my mate!"

Jerome screamed at Robin before he picked me up in his arms.

"Jerome, what are you doing?"

Embarrassed, I tried to push him away.

"Put me down!"

"Robin, thank you for looking after my mate, but I'm sorry to say that I'm leaving with her."

Jerome held me tightly and glared at Robin with squinted eyes.

"Then, perhaps we'll see each other at another time."

Robin scratched his head, smiling to hide his embarrassment.

"Skylar, I'll visit you at the hotel. Goodbye!"

Meanwhile, Jerome grinned like a child as he watched Robin walk away.

I slapped him on the arm for his childish behavior.

"Honey, let's go back to the hotel."

I pouted my lips crossly as Jerome kissed me on the cheek.

I felt a little light-headed when we arrived at the hotel.

Just as I was about to sit down, Jerome hugged me from behind.

"Skylar, you have no idea how much I've missed you," Jerome kissed my neck and whispered in my ear.

"I thought I was going to lose my mind."

Jerome began to caress my waist and buttocks as he spoke.

Then he moved his hands to touch my chest and thighs.

With each touch, my body quivered and my lips trembled.

As we were very familiar with each other's body, he knew exactly where my sensitive spots were.

The first moan escaped my lips as I began to feel aroused.

"Has he ever touched you like this? Skylar, you are mine. I won't allow anyone to covet you," Jerome whispered, biting my ear.

"Why are you so envious, Jerome?" I couldn't help but laugh.

"I have no feelings for Robin beyond friendship. We are just friends."

"That's good to know." Jerome cupped my breasts with both hands.

"I want you to come back with me, Skylar."

I had a feeling that Jerome was going to say that.

I didn't agree right away as I wasn't too eager to return to the Rainbow Pack.

The thought of what Linda had done still gave me chills.

Thinking of the past always made me feel sad, and I had to deal with it carefully.

"I need some time to think about it. Jerome, the Rainbow Pack is a sad place for me. Although we discovered Linda's plots, I still can't forget what happened."

"I understand what you're saying. Skylar, I am willing to wait here for you until you're ready." Jerome kissed me on the forehead after he spoke.

Jerome's POV:

After I took Skylar back to the hotel, I tried to persuade her to go back to the pack with me, but she refused.

I was willing to drop everything and stay here with her, but she wouldn't allow me to do so.

"No, you can't do that, Jerome." Skylar looked at me seriously with clear and bright eyes.

Her gaze intoxicated me as I could hardly extricate myself from it.

"You are the future Alpha. You can't leave your pack behind. You have a lot of responsibilities on your shoulders. You can't just stay here with me. You have to go back to deal with the pack's affairs."

"Don't worry about that, honey."

I ran my fingers over Skylar's soft skin. I found myself utterly bewitched by her.

"I have made some arrangements before coming here. Everything should be in order. Trust me." I said Skylar on the bed as I spoke.

Then, I leaned over and kissed her luscious lips.

I had spent many days longing for her scent and her touch.

Seeing Skylar again rekindled the passion inside my heart.

Skylar was my mate.

She was meant to be only mine.

I loved her more than anything else, including my own life.

I wanted to taste and feel every inch of her body.

"Skylar, you are the most beautiful woman in the world to me. I love you,"

I murmured before I kissed her again.

To my relief, Skylar didn't push me away this time.

I found myself losing control as I kissed her harder.

I was surprised to see that she was responding as well.

Consumed by my desires, I wanted to spread her legs apart and enter her, but when I remembered the baby in her belly, I snapped myself out of my trance.

I didn't want to make an impulsive move as Skylar was pregnant with our child.

Having suppressed my urges, I slowly lay down, holding her in my arms.

"I almost forgot that you are pregnant with our child,"

I whispered, gently caressing her belly. I lowered my voice as I was afraid of frightening our child.

"I promise I'll make sure that he is the happiest child in the world. The three of us are going to spend the rest of our lives together."

Skylar's eyes shimmered when she looked at me as though she was moved by my words.

"Yes, of course! Our baby will be the happiest child in the world." Skylar smiled agreeably.

"Honey, you look so beautiful when you smile."

I kissed her on the forehead.

"It must have been hard for you to spend so many days in the hospital. Would you like to go out for a walk?"

"Sure," Skylar agreed happily.

After all, she spent the past few days confined to her ward and she hadn't seen the outside world in a while.

I decided to take her shopping.

"Honey, you've lost a lot of weight."

While we were walking on the street, I felt sorry for her as I stroked her slender wrist.

"We can go shopping and then have a nice dinner? What do you say, Skylar?"

"Well, I don't really need anything, but perhaps we can buy something for our baby." Skylar smiled.

"have enough clothes."

"But Skylar"

"Jerome, I just want to buy things for our child. Please?"

Skylar playfully yanked my arm, acting like a spoiled child.

What else could I do? I had no choice but to take her where she wanted to go.

We ended up buying a lot of things for the baby.

Skylar assumed that the baby was going to be a girl, so she bought several dresses.

I followed her the whole time and carried her shopping bags for her.

In less than half an hour, both of my hands were carrying shopping bags.

However, I didn't mind because we were both having a good time.

I couldn't wait to take her to dinner.

Unfortunately, our happiness came to an unexpected end when we ran into Linda just outside the shop.

She looked absent-minded and her ragged clothes were barely hanging from her skinny framework.

"Have you seen my son, Andy?"

She kept stopping the people who were passing by.

I grabbed Skylar's hand and started walking in the other direction because I didn't want her to see Linda.

Unfortunately, it was already too late because Linda turned around and saw us.

The atmosphere froze for a moment as the three of us stood there staring at each other in awkward silence.

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Linda's POV:

Not a single day would pass when I would open my eyes in the morning and not long to see Andy's smile.

"Andy, my dear boy, where are you? You are the cutest and brightest child in the world. I can't go on like this without you." I kept telling myself that Andy was still alive.

He was just playing hide and seek with me.

How could he be dead? I needed to see him again.

I didn't care how long it would take.

I roamed the streets, asking everyone I ran into where Andy was, but they all responded with strange glances and answers I didn't want to hear.

I could keep looking for him until the end of time.

I didn't care.

Suddenly, I got to see the only two people in the world I didn't want to see ever again – Jerome and Skylar.

Their mere existence was like a thorn in my flesh, reminding me of the tragedy that had happened a few days ago.

I couldn't shake the memory of Andy falling down in front of me, foaming at his mouth. I killed Andy.

After all, it was I who had prepared the poison.

No, no, it must be a dream.

Andy was still alive.

I stepped back in shame when I met Skylar's gaze.

Why were they looking at me like that? I wanted to run away, but my eyes fell on the bags full of children's toys and clothes in Jerome's hands.

They bought gifts and clothes for their future child.

Skylar was pregnant! I had never felt more envious and angry in my entire life.

My life felt completely empty without Andy, and yet, they looked so happy together.

"No! No! No!"

I pointed my finger at Skylar and shouted angrily.

I stared at her belly and forced the words out of gritted teeth.

"Why do you get to have a baby? What about my Andy? Why..."

I screamed at her with all my might as burning rage hissed through my body like deathly poison, demanding a release.

However, what embarrassed me the most was the look of pity in their eyes.

"Linda, it's time for you to get help. You need to let go of the Visit to read the newest content, everyone! go on living like this," Jerome said slowly, holding Skylar's hand.

"What's the point of anything? Andy is dead!" I finally broke down Visit to read the newest content, everyone! a kind of sadness I had no way of dealing with.

"Perhaps you can start again. Find a job and a new life. Who knows? Maybe one day in the future, you will meet someone who really loves you. You have to believe that life can get better, Linda,"

Skylar also persuaded me, even though I didn't expect her to do so.

The calmness in her eyes when she looked at me made me feel embarrassed.

I kept silent, but I realized that I couldn't lie to myself anymore.

Andy Visit to read the newest content, everyone! I didn't even have the money for his burial.

I felt ashamed of myself for being so pathetic.

I must have been the worst mother any child could ever have.

I was filled with so much remorse and self-loathing that I couldn't breathe.

It was all my fault.

I was wrong about everything from the very beginning.

If it weren't for my greed, Andy would still be alive, acting like a spoiled child and calling me his mom.

I couldn't go on like this.

Andy hadn't even been buried yet.

"Please, Visit to read the newest content, everyone! back. My Andy is still lying in the morgue. I don't have the money to bury him. Please..."

As I cried bitterly, I begged the two of them.

"I know I was wrong. I apologize for what I did to you." Skylar looked at me sadly.

"Jerome, please help her. Andy is innocent."

Jerome nodded in response as I stared at him with a hopeful expression.

I stood up in a hurry and bowed at them to show my gratitude.

With the help of Jerome and Skylar, I was finally able to bury Andy.

I felt my heart crumble as I watched his little body being sent into the cremator.

I held his ashes in my hands and buried him in a quiet cemetery while a priest prayed for his departed soul.

Andy finally had a place to rest in peace.

"Andy, I'm sorry. I'm so sorry, my child..." I held Andy's tombstone and burst into tears again.

"Please be strong, Linda," Skylar comforted me gently.

I know that she was coming from a good place, but I couldn't help but feel ashamed again.

If I were her, I wouldn't have been able to make peace with the one who had hurt me so badly.

Skylar's POV: Perhaps considering our history, it would be hard for anyone to believe it but I really didn't feel any hatred for Linda.

I pitied her.

After all, she had paid a high price for her sins.

I couldn't imagine what I would be like if my child died like that.

"Thank you, Skylar and Jerome. Thank you for helping me regardless of what I did to you. I deeply regret my actions now. Thank you..."

Linda broke down as she held Andy's tombstone.

After a while, she wiped her tears and knelt down before us.

I stood there not knowing what to say, but fortunately, Jerome spoke up.

"Linda, it's good that you are willing to reflect. Skylar is right. Only you can give yourself the hope you need to carry on with life. Here is some money from both of us. Please use it to make a fresh start. You deserve to be happy too."

Jerome took out a bank card and handed it to Linda.

She was so shocked that she couldn't utter another word.

Tears welled up in her eyes again and she kept bowing her head to us.

"Thank you, thank you. That's very kind of you. I wish you both a happy life together."

"You too, Linda," I said sincerely.

When I first fell in love with Jerome, I didn't expect that there would be so many twists and turns in every path of the way.

However, after all the things we had been through, we were finally together, and Linda finally made peace with us. We parted ways with Linda and went back to the hotel as it was already getting dark.

As I stared at Jerome, who was busy packing, I couldn't help but sigh at the thought of what had happened today.

"Jerome, your actions today really surprised me. Andy is not your child and Linda deceived you on multiple occasions, but you were still willing to help them," I said to him, sitting on the edge of the bed.

"Your act of compassion finally got through to Linda. I am very proud of you today."

Jerome turned to look at me, his eyes full of tenderness.

"Skylar, you are the one who deserves to be praised. After all, you're the one Linda has hurt the most, right? But you were still kind enough to help out Linda when she really needed it."

Jerome walked over to me and slowly held me in his arms.

"Skylar, I helped her because of you. Please believe me when I say that I only love you and no one else." When I met with Jerome's affectionate eyes, my heart started to race, just like when I had a crush on him for the very first time.

"Jerome, I love you too."

I sincerely expressed my feelings for him. I still loved him even when we were apart.

However, I never thought that we would end up together again.

I didn't expect that Jerome would come back to my life again.

Today, we buried Andy together and finally put an end to the feud with Linda.

In the end, I eventually realized that I couldn't live without Jerome because I loved him deeply.

"Let's forget the past and look forward to a new future, okay?" Jerome whispered in my ear.

I felt like the happiest woman in the world! "I would be happy to," I answered.

Jerome was so happy that he pulled my face close and kissed me.

Tears of joy trickled down my face as I kissed him back.

"Jerome, let's never spend another moment apart again, okay?"

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Chapter 182

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Jerome's POV:

I was finally able to get a good night's sleep after many days.

In the morning, I got out of bed quietly as I didn't want to disturb Skylar's sleep.

After all, she was pregnant and could use all the rest she could get.

As soon as I kissed Skylar on the forehead, my phone vibrated inside my pocket.

I took it out and found that Anthony had sent me a message.

"How is everything going between you and Skylar? Caroline and Austin are getting married. The queen's coronation ceremony will be held in just a few days. Jennifer and I have just come back to the kingdom. I'm sorry that we haven't been able to visit you and Skylar because there's a lot going on here right now, but hopefully, we'll see you both soon."

After reading Anthony's message, I texted back.

"Mr. Jones, where are you?"

Shortly after the message was sent, Anthony sent me his location via text.

Judging by his words, I guessed that Anthony was in a tough situation.

After all, Austin wanted to kill him.

"What's wrong?" Skylar asked me as she woke up and sat up on the bed.

"I just got the news from Anthony that Caroline and Austin are going to get married. Jennifer and Anthony have returned to the Osman Kingdom. They're going to have to deal with a lot on their own." Skylar frowned.

"Jennifer and Anthony's situation will only get worse after Caroline and Austin get married. After all, Anthony gathered Dana and others to confront Austin and overthrow him." I decided to tell Skylar everything that was on my mind.

"Things are going to get ugly for Anthony and Jennifer. Skylar, I have to find a way to go back and help them."

"You're right! I'm worried about Jennifer too. Please take me with you!" Skylar jumped out of bed and started packing her clothes.

"All right, let's go together then. Besides, I can't leave you here all alone. But there's no need to rush. Let me do the packing. You can freshen up and have breakfast."

I urged her to calm down, even though I found her sudden burst of enthusiasm amusing.

"Okay!" Skylar smiled at me, but suddenly, as if something occurred to her, she shook my hand.

"Jerome, I almost forgot to tell you that I still owe Robin some money. I have to pay him back before I leave."

"No problem. We can return it to him together later on," I said with a gentle smile.

After breakfast, we packed up our stuff before Skylar and I went to visit Robin.

I didn't want Skylar to have too much contact with him, so as soon as Robin opened the door, I explained why we were there and tried to give him a bank card.

At first, Robin refused, but after Skylar and I insisted, he finally accepted. Visit to read the newest content, everyone! smile, "Goodbye and I wish you two a happy life together."

"Thank you! We wish you a very happy life as well." I Visit to read the newest content, everyone! took Skylar to the airport.

As soon as we arrived at the Osman Kingdom, we went straight to Anthony's private residence to look for him.

Jennifer's POV:

I was busy reading something in the study when Anthony came in.

"Honey, what are you doing?" he asked, hugging me from behind as I held his arms and kissed him on the cheek.

"Anthony, I'm trying to find a way to remove the Love Curse. I won't be able to rest easy unless the curse is removed from you." I Visit to read the newest content, everyone! by the wizards. Maybe I can find some clues on dispelling the curse."

"That's very sweet of you, honey." Anthony grabbed my hands and pulled me up from the chair.

"But I want you to come with me. I have a surprise for you."

I looked at Anthony curiously as I followed him out of the study.

Anthony had a surprise for me? I kept trying to guess what it could be as I walked behind him.

A bouquet of roses? A gem? Anthony led me all the way Visit to read the newest content, everyone! and before I could even realize what was going on, I found myself in a warm embrace.

It was Skylar! So that was what Anthony was talking about! Indeed, this surprise was very precious to me.

"Skylar! Is it really you? What are you doing here? Is everything all right? Where is my brother?" I hugged Skylar tightly as I could hardly contain my excitement. Before Skylar could reply, I kissed her on the cheek to express my joy. I was so excited that my tears fell down my cheeks without my knowledge.

"Jennifer, you have asked me so many questions at once, which one should I answer first?" Skylar shook my hand and stuck out her tongue playfully.

"Why are you crying, silly? Isn't Jerome with you?"

I didn't realize that my brother was also there until Skylar pointed behind her back.

He winked at me and smiled, as if he was saying, "Long time no see."

I looked at Skylar and then at Jerome in shock.

My eyes wandered back and forth between them.

"So..." I enunciated the word on purpose.

"Yes, we are together again!"

Skylar hugged me and hid her face shyly as soon as she said that.

Jerome came over and held Skylar's hand affectionately.

"We haven't seen each other for such a long time, Jennifer. I'm happy to see that you are still as cute as ever," he said with a smile.

I sprang and hugged him. I was overwhelmed with excitement to say anything.

Meanwhile, Anthony was standing behind me and smiling at us.

I felt such joy in that moment. It was indeed a big surprise.

"Thank you, Anthony," I wiped my tears and said with a smile.

In order to celebrate my reunion with Skylar and Jerome, Anthony asked the cook to prepare a hearty lunch.

Elizabeth, Dana, Gary, and the wizards who were here to help Anthony were all there.

Anthony sat next to me and introduced them to each other.

He also told Skylar and Jerome about Austin and Larry's collusion, as well as the Love Curse.

However, his tone was calm when he spoke, like a mature and dignified king.

"We are lucky to have these wizards at our side. We can use all the help we can get,"

Anthony concluded, pointing at Roy and other wizards.

Both Skylar and Jerome looked serious as they listened attentively.

After the introduction, we started to discuss how to deal with Austin at the queen's coronation ceremony.

"Why don't we disguise ourselves to attend the ceremony together? Perhaps, the wizards can hide their scent and dress up as attendants?" I finally pitched my idea after several other suggestions were rejected.

"That's a good idea!"

Anthony gave me an approving smile and turned to look at Elizabeth.

"Mom, you don't have to come with us. You should just stay back and get some rest."

"All right. Besides, I don't want to be a burden to you."

Elizabeth knew that Anthony wouldn't risk anything happening to her, so she gave them her blessing.

"I wish you all the best! You must take care of one another."

The whole plan was settled.

In the evening, as soon as I lay down on the bed, Anthony showed me his phone.

"Where are you? My dear brother, please don't forget to come to the queen's coronation ceremony." It was a message from Austin.

Austin's message gave me the chills and Anthony patted me on the back to comfort me.

"I told him that I will be attending the coronation ceremony. Don't worry, Jennifer. I'm here with you always."

I nodded and then leaned my head against his chest.

"Anthony, we will succeed," I said firmly as if to give myself encouragement.

No matter what happened, we couldn't afford to lose this time.

I knew that I had to be strong for Anthony and everyone I cared for.

"Yes, we will succeed!"

Fortunately, Anthony's tone and confidence were very reassuring.

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Skylar's POV:

There was a lot I had to discuss with Jennifer now that we had been reunited.

"I'm sorry to disturb you, Mr. Jones. I was hoping that Jennifer could sleep with me in my room tonight."

I felt a little embarrassed because it was Anthony who answered when I knocked on the door to Jennifer's room, but I managed to give him a polite smile.

"No problem. Please come in."

Anthony stepped aside so that I could pass.

I grabbed Jennifer and dragged her to my room.

"Tonight is just for us girls," I told Jennifer.

We settled into my bed and grinned at each other.

"You know what, Jennifer? I experienced a lot of things while I tried to make it on my own."

I then told Jennifer about what had happened to me during this time.

I told her about my good friend, Robin, and how I helped Jerome and Linda bury Andy.

"To be honest, I don't hate Linda. I'm happy that she was willing to change," I sighed.

Jennifer held my hand comfortingly.

"Congratulations on your pregnancy, Skylar." Jennifer smiled wider.

"I can't wait to meet your baby."

Even though she was smiling at me, I heard a tinge of bitterness in her tone.

I knew that my friend was genuinely happy for me so I figured that she was just worried about something else.

"You look a little bothered, Jennifer. What's wrong?" I asked cautiously.

"Does it have anything to do with Anthony?"

"Anthony is afflicted with the Love Curse," Jennifer replied after a moment of silence.

"Do you have any idea how terrifying the Love Curse is? You probably don't. People who have been cursed with this will be in extreme pain if they feel even the slightest bit of passion for their significant others. They could even die from it. We suspect that it was the grand wizard Larry who cast this curse. We've consulted with several wizards, but none of them could undo the curse."

Jennifer's gaze became gloomy as she spoke.

During lunch, I heard Anthony mention that he was cursed, but I had not expected the curse to be so horrible.

I hugged Jennifer despite my shock.

"Once the Love Curse is activated, Anthony would be in an awful lot of pain. Seeing him in that state, I would rather that he forgets me instead,"

Jennifer admitted to me as she closed her eyes.

"Don't say that, Jennifer. Where there's a will, there's a way."

Compared to this tragedy that Jennifer and Anthony were facing, my own rollercoaster of experiences with Visit to read the newest content, everyone! strength and the resources at his disposal, we will find a way to undo the curse.”

Jennifer managed to smile back at me Visit to read the newest content, everyone! not talk about this anymore. I don't want to make you sad too. Let's talk about something more pleasant.”

Jennifer's POV:

I didn't want to share my pain with Skylar because she was pregnant so I changed the topic.

“We haven't talked in so long, Jennifer. It feels so good to hang out with you again.” Skylar was a considerate girl.

She playfully pinched my cheeks in an effort to make me happy.

“By the way, Jennifer, there's something else I've been wanting to tell you.”

Skylar knocked on her head Visit to read the newest content, everyone! recalling the memory that she wanted to talk about.

“After I left, I ended up in the Black Stone Pack. I wanted to find a job so I applied for a job at a fast-food restaurant, but I nearly got raped instead of getting hired. However, at the critical moment, a strange force suddenly burst out from within me. I was able to knock my assailants with a gust of wind, but I don't know how I did it.”

“A gust of wind?” I was surprised to Visit to read the newest content, everyone! as if I could control the wind. Have you heard of anything like it, Jennifer?”

Skylar looked at me in a mixture of hope and confusion.

Being able to produce winds strong enough to knock down werewolves sounded like some special power.

I heard of the ability to control the wind, but that ability was restricted to vampires.

“Have you told anyone else about this? You should keep this to yourself, Skylar,” I sat up on the bed and told her with a serious expression.

“All right, all Visit to read the newest content, everyone! as well and nodded.

“Have you been able to control the wind since then?”

“No. I tried after that, but I haven't been able to repeat what happened that time.” Skylar shook her head.

It seemed as if Skylar was only able to unleash such power during critical moments.

“Skylar, you have to promise me that you won’t use it in front of other people. Okay? We shouldn’t make this public until we’ve figured out what’s going on. You might be placed in danger if others hear about this,”

I explained.

Skylar nodded obediently.

I continued to chat with Skylar, but I had a bad feeling about her situation.

If what Skylar said was true, it was highly likely that she had vampire blood running through her veins.

And if that was the case, she wouldn’t be able to marry Jerome.

The elders would never allow the future Alpha to marry a hybrid.

We did not have a clear explanation for Skylar’s newfound power, so I decided not to share my thoughts with her because it might upset her.

Skylar and I fell asleep around midnight.

Before we did, I received a message from Daniel.

He asked about Skylar and I informed him that she had returned safely.

The next day, after thinking it over, I decided to consult my brother about this.

I told him what Skylar shared with me last night along with my suspicions.

“You need to prepare for the worst, Jerome. But you shouldn’t worry too much about it right now because it’s just my speculation,” I said to him.

“I see. Thank you, Jennifer.”

Jerome’s expression became very serious.

Talking with him made me feel relieved.

After that, I prepared to go shopping with Anthony.

I needed a splendid dress for the queen’s coronation ceremony.

After lunch, Anthony accompanied me to a dressmaker’s shop.

The interior design of the shop was low-key, but its display windows and racks were full of gorgeous dresses.

“Don’t worry, Jennifer. My men have surrounded the area so Austin won’t be bothering us here,”

Anthony said as he led me inside the shop.

The staff warmly greeted us.

“Do you have anything for couples?” Anthony asked them, much to my surprise.

“I want to wear matching outfits with my mate.”

“Yes, we do. Please follow me.”

One of the shop assistants nodded.

I followed after Anthony, feeling a little shy.

The shop assistant led us further inside the store and showed us a matching set of clothing.

“This couple’s set is the best that our shop has to offer. This gown and suit are by the same designer, and it took thirteen tailors a whole month to finish them,” the shop assistant told us with pride.

The gown was as blue as the night sky, and its corset was covered in diamonds.

The suit had a similar design and color with diamonds on the cuffs.

From afar, it was like gazing at a beautiful starry sky.

I was immediately drawn to this set.

Anthony bought it and patted my head in a doting manner.

After that, Anthony took me to another store to pick out wedding rings.

I was both surprised and happy.

I entered the jewelry store with a mix of excitement and anxiety.

It was a large store that had about a hundred counters, and each one displayed several diamond rings.

“You can pick whatever ring you like, honey.”

My hesitation must have shown on my face because Anthony chuckled as he hugged me from behind.

Finally, I decided on a pair of rings that looked gorgeous and elegant.

Anthony bought them without any hesitation and ordered the shop assistant to engrave our names inside the bands.

I had mixed feelings as I recalled my past.

When I used to be a slave, I never imagined that a day like this would come.

Feeling like the luckiest girl in the world, I turned toward Anthony and grabbed his hand.

I looked forward to wearing the most beautiful wedding dress and ring and becoming Anthony's bride in the near future.

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Anthony's POV:

After picking out wedding rings, I drove Jennifer around in my sports car.

"Where are we going, Anthony?" Jennifer asked as she watched the outside scenery flash by.

"Are we not going back yet?"

"It's a surprise, Jennifer," I told her.

"You'll know when we get there."

"As long as I'm with you, I don't mind going anywhere."

Jennifer smiled shyly and leaned her head on my shoulder.

Seeing her like this filled my heart with tenderness.

Eventually, I stopped the car on the roadside and led Jennifer to a lavender field.

"Oh, wow! This is so beautiful! How did you find this place, Anthony?"

Jennifer cried out in pleasant surprise as soon as she stepped out of the car.

"Let's go inside. You can take your time looking around," I told her gently as I held her hand.

I had decided on this place a while back, and I had started making arrangements a few days ago in order to surprise Jennifer.

I planned on proposing to her here.

A gentle breeze kept us cool as we walked strolled through the flower field with our fingers intertwined.

When we arrived at the center of the field, I got down on one knee.

Before Jennifer could realize what was going on, I took her left hand and kissed it.

"Marry me, Jennifer."

As I said those three words, countless balloons launched into the air.

Each balloon had "Anthony loves Jennifer" printed on it.

The balloons flew into the sky, surrounding me and Jennifer, and making it seem as if we were in a world of our own.

I looked at Jennifer expectantly, waiting for her response.

Jennifer burst into tears as she watched the balloons ascend.

"I love you, Jennifer. You are the light of my life. I never thought about marriage until you came into my life. And when I got to know you better, I knew that you were the one I wanted to marry."

As I spoke, I felt my heart beat in sync with Jennifer's.

"But, Anthony, you're still afflicted with the Love Curse..." Jennifer sobbed.

"Even if we can't undo the Love Curse, I will still marry you. I never want to be separated from my mate."

"Yes, Anthony. I will marry you!"

Jennifer wiped her tears and smiled back at me.

"I love you too, Anthony."

After she agreed to my proposal, we embraced and kissed each other. Visit to read the newest content, everyone! setting sun and decided to carry out the next part of my plan.

I suggested that we resume walking through the flower field.

Jennifer Visit to read the newest content, everyone! for her.

I led her down a small path.

At the end of the path were two chairs and a table laden with delicious food.

This was the second romantic surprise I had prepared for Jennifer—a candlelight dinner.

“Please have a seat, beautiful lady.”

I pulled out a chair for Jennifer and she sat down with an amused smile.

“Anthony, how many more surprises should I be expecting tonight?”

Jennifer picked up a glass of wine and looked back at me.

When she blinked her big doe eyes, it felt Visit to read the newest content, everyone! I told her mysteriously.

Fireworks lit up the sky.

Jennifer admired the view with wide eyes, and she grabbed my hand.

The fireworks went on for the while, filling the sky with colorful light.

I watched Jennifer as she watched the display above us.

Such a warm and romantic night obviously needed a fantastic ending.

After dinner, we returned to the flower field and made love under the stars.

I held Jennifer’s naked body close to mine, and she warmly responded to my ministrations.

Our gasps and moans were accompanied by the chirping of insects.

Jennifer, the light of my life, fire of my desire, my redemption, and my soul.

Jerome’s POV:

After breakfast, Skylar said that she wanted to go on a walk so I went shopping with her.

"Honey, there is a flower shop over there. Let's go and have a look."

Skylar's eyes lit up when she saw the shop.

She grabbed my arm and pulled me across the street.

I followed after her.

Because I was so focused on her, I didn't notice the car that was headed towards us.

"Stop, Skylar!"

I only noticed the car when it was ten meters away from hitting us.

I could only scream hysterically at Skylar.

I lunged at Skylar in an effort to save her, but the collision I was expecting did not happen.

My vision became blurred and the scenery around me changed.

When everything calmed down, I realized that Skylar and I were on the other side of the street.

"Skylar! Are you all right? Did you get hurt?" I asked, grabbing her shoulders out of worry.

"I'm fine. But how did we end up here?"

Skylar looked at me, totally unaware.

My heart ached as a realization sank in.

I quickly looked around.

Fortunately, the incident happened so quickly and the street we were on was a busy one.

No one noticed what had just happened.

"Skylar, let's go back." I took Skylar's hand and led her home.

I was still worried that someone might have noticed what had happened.

“What’s going on, Jerome?”

“Skylar, I think you just used a special power,”

I whispered as I quickened my pace.

“If you didn’t teleport us, we probably would have gotten hit by that car. Skylar, never use your special powers in front of others, okay?”

“I can’t use my special powers? Even if I don’t know how to use them? I’ve never had such abilities before. What’s wrong with me?”

Skylar looked very confused.

I took a deep breath and pulled Skylar into an empty alley.

“Skylar, only vampires have special powers,” I explained in a low voice.

“What?” Skylar’s face paled.

“That’s impossible. I’m an orphan so I don’t know who my parents are. Could one of my parents be a vampire?”

She suddenly dropped to the ground with her head in her hands.

Feeling sorry for Skylar, I pulled her into my arms.

“You have to keep it a secret, Skylar,” I whispered in her ear.

“Werewolves hate those with mixed blood. You can’t tell anyone about this. Do you understand?”

“But...but...”

Skylar’s eyes widened in alarm.

“Does that mean we can’t be together anymore, Jerome?”

Her eyes became glassy with tears.

She grabbed my hand as tears rolled down her cheeks like pearls.

“Don’t cry, Skylar.” I hugged her tightly.

“I don’t care who or what you are. I love you just the way you are. If the elders ever learn of your true identity, I’ll give up my position as Alpha. I’ll go wherever you go,” I told her sincerely.

After all the ups and downs that Linda had put us through, I was determined never to be separated from Skylar.

“No, I can’t let you make so many sacrifices for me. I’ll keep my identity secret.”

Skylar shook her head and wiped her tears.

“But, Jerome, I can’t control my powers.”

“Don’t worry. I’ll always be by your side,”

I declared. I was not going to let anything bad happen to Skylar.

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Chapter 185

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Jennifer’s POV:

Tomorrow was the queen’s coronation ceremony.

Anthony and I met up with the others at the gate.

Elizabeth also came, supported by a maid.

Her eyes were a little red.

Elizabeth held Anthony’s hand and mine, patting them over and over again.

She looked very worried and reluctant.

“Anthony, Jennifer, don’t forget to protect yourselves,” she told us.

“Be careful.”

“Take care of yourself as well, Mom,”

Anthony said and hugged Elizabeth.

“I will leave some of my men here to protect you. If you need anything, just tell them and they will relay it to me.”

After bidding his mother goodbye, Anthony and I set off.

Just as we had planned, Dana, Gary, Jerome, and several wizards disguised themselves as Anthony’s attendants.

They could enter the royal palace this way.

Skylar and I could attend the coronation ceremony as Anthony's guests.

Skylar was very nervous during the flight. I held her hand to reassure her.

"We are going to succeed,"

I said not only to Skylar, but also to myself.

The next day, we made our way to the royal palace.

Before getting into the car and heading out, Anthony and I changed into the outfits that we had bought.

"Honey, I'm worried about you." I hugged Anthony.

"What if the Love Curse attacks you during the ceremony?"

"Don't worry. I've taken some medicine that should ease any pain induced by magic. Everything will be fine."

Anthony kissed my forehead to comfort me.

He then whispered in my ear, "Jennifer, I've secretly deployed my own guards outside the royal palace. They are ready to make a move at any time."

I nodded and gripped Anthony's hand tighter.

The car rolled to a stop in front of the royal palace.

Anthony held my hand and led me up the steps which were covered with a red carpet.

I tried my best to look steadily forward, all the while observing our surroundings out of the corner of my eye.

When we arrived at the hall, there were already many guests present.

Anthony Visit to read the newest content, everyone! well-dressed.

When they saw us, they took the initiative to greet us first.

"Long time no see, Anthony, Jennifer. How have you been recently?"

Caroline smiled Visit to read the newest content, everyone! belly.

"My dear brother, why haven't you been visiting the royal palace these days?"

Austin inquired in a friendly tone.

Caroline's other hand was tucked in his arm.

Those who were unaware of Anthony and Austin's true relationship would think that they got along.

"I had to deal with some personal affairs," Anthony replied coolly.

"By the way, Jennifer, how was everything after you returned to Rainbow Pack?" Austin turned to me and asked.

"Thank you for your concern, Mr. Jones. I have proven that I am not a jinx. The rumors Visit to read the newest content, everyone! in a neutral tone.

"I've heard about that. Congratulations, Jennifer,"

Austin replied politely, but there was no sincerity in his tone.

I kept my gaze on him and Caroline, and thinking of the Love Curse on Anthony made me annoyed.

"It's so strange. Caroline, didn't you insist that Anthony was the father of your child? Why is it suddenly the king's baby?"

I asked, pretending to be confused.

Caroline's and Austin's expressions darkened.

"This child is mine. I thought you would know better than to believe in rumors, Jennifer,"

Austin answered with a Visit to read the newest content, everyone! a little better.

Anthony's POV:

The queen's coronation ceremony officially began.

Jennifer and I stood hand in hand inside the hall.

We watched Austin walk down from his throne to put the queen's crown on Caroline's head.

Just as the crown settled over Caroline's hair, all the officials in the hall cheered.

The honor guards outside began to play music.

Austin helped Caroline up and led her to the center of the hall so that they could accept congratulations from the guests.

After the ceremony, there was a grand celebration.

This was a crucial moment for Jennifer and myself.

We entered the banquet hall.

The long dining table was filled with delicious food, and a stage had been set up in the middle of the hall for performances.

I quietly led Jennifer to the VIP seats.

"Keep your guard up, Jennifer. Austin could hurt us at any time,"

I reminded Jennifer in a low voice as I sat down next to her.

The last time we attended a ceremony in Rainbow Pack, Jennifer and I were attacked by several magicians.

"I will." Jennifer nodded.

However, it became obvious that Austin was not going to act rashly in front of so many guests.

The party went on without any trouble.

The guests chatted and laughed a lot, offering toasts for Austin and Caroline.

Austin seemed to be in a genuinely good mood.

Because the atmosphere was good, I decided to officially announce my upcoming marriage with Jennifer.

"Excuse me, everyone. Today is Austin's wedding day, but I also have an important announcement,"

I announced in a loud voice after getting up from my seat.

Austin looked stunned, but he waved at the performers on the stage.

The band immediately stopped playing music.

"I am happy to announce that Jennifer, my mate, has agreed to become my wife,"

I declared while curling my hand around Jennifer's wrist.

The crowd quieted down.

Even Jennifer looked at me in surprise.

She had not expected me to announce our upcoming marriage in public.

She gripped my hand nervously, and I responded to her with a smile, indicating that she didn't need to worry.

I had been waiting for this moment for a long time.

I wanted the whole world to know that Jennifer was my destined mate.

I didn't want her to receive any more unfair treatment.

"Oh, that is great news, Anthony."

Austin stood up as well with an exaggerated laugh.

"As agreed, now that Jennifer has proven that she is not a jinx, of course I will allow you two to get married. Congratulations."

"Thank you," I replied indifferently.

"Congratulations, Mr. Jones!"

"Mr. Jones, may you and Jennifer have a happy marriage."

After Austin's decree, other guests echoed his sentiments and offered their blessings.

I nodded and expressed my gratitude to them one by one.

Jennifer held my hand tightly as her ears turned red out of shyness.

"I plan to decide on a wedding date and marry Jennifer as soon as possible." I looked at Austin.

"What do you think?"

"Sounds good, Anthony." Austin took his seat at the head of the dining table.

"When do you want to get married?"

"Half a month from now," I answered.

"Fine. As proof of my blessing, you shall have a grand wedding." Austin nodded in a friendly manner.

“Thank you.” I smirked.

I knew that this was not Austin’s true intention, but I didn’t mind continuing to pretend to be on good terms with him.

If I remained calm, Austin was bound to drop his guard around me.

At the very least, I had succeeded in making everyone recognize Jennifer as my wife-to-be.

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Chapter 186

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Austin’s POV:

Just looking at Anthony’s calm face drove me up the wall in anger.

I would do anything to wipe that arrogant, snobbish expression on his face.

I gritted my teeth and clenched my fists to contain my anger.

Did he want to get married? I wasn’t going to let him live to his wedding day.

As long as Anthony was alive, he would always be a thorn in my side.

I wanted him and his damned mate to rot in hell for an eternity.

I pulled Caroline over and sat her down before I whispered in her ear, “Honey, go ahead with your plan. You have my full support,”

“As you wish, Austin. Just wait and see.”

Caroline smiled charmingly and I gave her a gentle pat on the buttock to show my satisfaction.

Caroline winked at me playfully before she picked up a glass of wine and walked towards Anthony.

“Congratulations, Jennifer! Finally, it must feel good to be reunited with Anthony!”

A smile appeared on my face as I saw Caroline stand in front of Jennifer.

“Poor Anthony, you won’t even know what hit you!” I thought viciously.

“Thank you, Caroline.”

Jennifer looked calm and she didn't refuse Caroline's toast, which allowed Caroline to proceed with our plan.

“Argh!”

Before Jennifer could raise her glass, Caroline screamed and fell to the floor.

The glass flew out from her hand and shattered into pieces.

To play along, I quickly stood up and ran to Caroline in a hurry.

“Caroline! What happened? Are you okay?”

I screamed as loud as I could, attracting the attention of everyone around us.

“Jennifer pushed me! Ouch, my belly hurts! Austin, Jennifer wants to kill our child!”

Caroline winced on the floor, with both hands on her belly.

She shrieked like a wounded animal as I helped her up to her feet.

“I didn't even touch her. She just fell down on her own,” Jennifer explained with a frown.

“I can testify that Jennifer didn't touch Caroline. Austin, you better have the doctors check Caroline's condition as soon as possible.”

Anthony also stood up, but he maintained a calm and composed expression as he held Jennifer in his arms.

I felt anger surge up inside me like a storm out at sea.

“No! She pushed me!” Caroline burst into tears.

She feigned injury Visit to read the newest content, everyone! Jennifer.

“She hates me. She pushed me on purpose just now!”

Caroline's dress suddenly turned red as she spoke and a stream of blood trickled Visit to read the newest content, everyone! of our plan.

It was a small trick we had prepared in advance.

“Anthony, your testimony means nothing to me! You and your mate are in on this together!” I said sternly.

As I helped Caroline up, I gestured at the maids standing behind me with my hand.

“Take Caroline back to our room and get her cleaned up. Call the doctors at once. We have to make sure that her baby is safe!”

The maids rushed to our side and carried Caroline out of the banquet hall while Visit to read the newest content, everyone! mate tried to murder my baby,”

I yelled, pointing at Jennifer.

“Take her down and put her in prison. She needs to be put before a trial for her actions.”

Upon my order, the guards standing outside the hall swarmed inside, ready to capture Jennifer.

“I would like to see who’s brave enough to lay a finger on her.”

Anthony stared at me coldly as he stood in front of Jennifer to protect her.

“Choose your words carefully, Anthony!”

I snapped and my eyes were filled with hatred.

“How dare you Visit to read the newest content, everyone! treason? Jennifer tried to murder my baby in public. Everyone saw it. Are you still going to deny the truth?”

As soon as I finished my words, I glanced at the elders who supported me.

“Anthony, you can’t use your power to seek personal gain!”

“We all saw your mate push the queen!”

The elders stood up and joined me in blaming Anthony.

Everything was working out just the way I had planned it.

I had to keep the pressure on Anthony so he would have no choice but to react and make a mistake.

In the blink of an eye, all the guests started dispersing as the guards approached Anthony and Jennifer.

All of a sudden, Anthony kicked the guards who were about to pounce on Jennifer.

Almost immediately, Jennifer joined the fight.

They fought fiercely together, and as a team, my guards were no match for them at all.

Before long, they two managed to push them back. What useless idiots!

"Gather the royal guards at once!"

I roared, gritting my teeth.

Admittedly, Anthony and Jennifer were good at fighting, but so what? They were outnumbered and it was only a matter of time before they were subdued.

Anthony's POV:

I was not surprised to see that Austin had summoned the royal guards here. I had already guessed that he would take advantage of this party to attack me and Jennifer.

"Guards!"

I quickly called my private guards who had been hiding in the dark, waiting for my order to show up.

Then, I hurled the last guard who tried to get close to me back at Austin.

"Are you okay, Jennifer?"

I turned to look at Jennifer with concern.

"I'm fine. These useless minions are only good enough for a warm-up." Jennifer smiled.

While we were talking, my private guards quickly rushed into the banquet hall and stood guard before us.

The atmosphere around us became tense as Austin's royal guards took position against us.

"Good, very good."

Austin retreated to the side of the royal guards with a long face.

"Anthony, are you going to rebel against me?"

"Why would I do that, Austin? I just wanted to get rid of the evil and uphold justice for the people," I replied calmly and stood in front of Jennifer.

"What are you talking about?"

Austin squinted his eyes at me.

"Come out, everyone."

I simply clapped my hand in response to his question.

Gary and Dana, who had been pretending to be my private guards, took off their guises and revealed their faces to the people.

Their deathly glares frightened Austin, who stepped back as soon as he saw them.

"What are you afraid of, Austin? Do you happen to know these two old soldiers?" I asked calmly.

"Oh, of course, I know them. Gary and Dana? I haven't seen two in so long that I almost forgot them," Austin answered in a hurry.

"Eh? Weren't they soldiers who went to battle with the former king?" an elder asked in surprise after staring at Dana and Gary for a while.

"Oh, yes, I remember them. That's Gary and Dana! I thought they had died in battle. How are they still alive?"

Another elder couldn't believe his eyes for a moment.

The look of surprise from the two prestigious elders prompted some murmurings from the crowd.

Meanwhile, Austin's face darkened in anger.

"Oh wait, I remember now. Their bodies were never found after the war and I thought that the beasts had taken them away. I always thought that the two of them had died fighting for our country. I didn't expect them to be still alive!"

Austin quickly put on a sad look on his face.

"Thank God. I won't forget your contributions to our country. I will award you two with first class merits!"

"I didn't expect Austin to be such a hypocritical coward,"

Jennifer whispered in disgust, standing next to me.

"It's all just a desperate attempt to avoid trouble," I answered.

Austin's acting didn't work.

After all, how could these battle-hardened soldiers who had wandered the edge of death be captivated by his words?

"No, thanks. We don't want your award."

Dana looked at Austin expressionlessly.

Gary simply stared at Austin with a grimace of fury.

Austin swallowed nervously as his smile froze on his face.

In an instant, the whole banquet hall quieted down and silence permeated the air.

Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved

Chapter 187

[/ Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved](#)
Dana's POV:

I could feel the anger boiling up inside me as I set my eyes on Austin. After all, he was the one who slayed the former king.

Our brave and battle-wise king! Even in the face of danger, he would never cower in fear! Who would have thought that such a valiant ruler would eventually die at the hands of his own son? The former king was a fool to attach great importance to a man like Austin, who would do anything to attain power.

My hands itched to reach for his throat and strangle him in the name of our former king!

"Dana, I know you're not happy because you wasn't awarded, but it's not too late yet. Perhaps, I can throw you a party to celebrate your safe return?"

Austin hid behind the guards and forced a smile.

How dare he make fun of me like that? Even before he took the throne, he was a spineless blow-hard who never made any contribution to the development of this kingdom.

"What the hell are you talking about? You're a shameless traitor! A sinner who betrayed the country! Stop pretending like you care about anything other than yourself! You make me sick!"

I charged at him, grunting as I couldn't contain my anger.

"Dana, calm down!"

Gary held my arm and stopped me.

"What did you just say to me?"

Austin's face flushed red in an instant.

His face contorted in anger as he pointed his finger at me.

"You should be mindful of how you speak to the king, unless you have a death wish. How dare you disrespect me?"

I scoffed and shook my head at him.

Taking the interest of the whole situation, I decided that it would be a waste of my time to continue arguing with him.

"He called our king a traitor..."

"I thought Dana died a long time ago. There must be something fishy going on in here."

The elders whispered to each other.

"Guards, arrest the both of them and put them in jail. I want to interrogate them myself!"

Austin's face turned livid.

Needless to say, he must have heard what the elders talked about.

"What crime have we committed? You have no right to make such demands, Austin!"

Gary patted me on the shoulder before he walked up to Austin, gritting his teeth furiously.

"Why are you in such a hurry to shut us up? Is it because you are indeed guilty?"

"Excuse me, what Visit to read the newest content, everyone! two still alive?"

One of the elders looked back and forth in confusion at me, Gary and Austin.

"You all deserve to know the Visit to read the newest content, everyone! father!"

Gary looked at the elders.

"Austin was the commander in that battle, and it was his decision that caused our army to get beaten by the vampires. After we lost our troops, our former king struggled to keep fighting. Dana and I were so badly wounded that we couldn't get up from the ground. Just when we least expected it, Austin stabbed his father in the back as he let his guard down."

Gary's words took me back to that tragic day.

I felt so angry that I Visit to read the newest content, everyone! from lashing out.

"Our former king took care of that bastard and that's how he paid him back. Austin ran away after his father died, assuming that we had also perished in battle. Gary and I would have gladly died that day, but the thought of our former king kept us alive because we couldn't let his death mean nothing."

Austin's POV:

How the hell did Anthony find Dana and Gary?

"Lies! You are talking nonsense! Do you know what we do to those who spread lies about Visit to read the newest content, everyone! look more imposing.

"Guards, what are you waiting for? Take these lunatics away!"

"I would like to see them try!"

Anthony strode forward with a cold look in his eyes.

When the guards saw him, they all stepped back in fear.

"Austin, why don't you let them finish speaking, since you're not guilty?"

Gary! Dana! You don't have to worry about anything. Just tell the truth!

"No!"

I couldn't let this happen.

I could see the elders looking at me suspiciously when I looked around.

However, there was nothing I could do but stand and endure this moment.

"After we escaped from the battlefield, we tried to come back to warn everyone of Austin's crime, but he sent his men to hunt us down like wild animals. He wanted to hide the fact that he had killed his father from everyone."

Gary looked at me with disdain.

“Fortunately, God gave us the strength to keep fighting, so that we could tell you the truth! It’s time for you to pay for what you have done, Austin! You have no right to be sitting on that throne!”

I started to sweat profusely as I got more and more flustered.

I could feel the hateful eyes of the other people upon me as they whispered amongst themselves.

I heard someone from the crowd accuse me for killing my father and usurping the throne.

No, I couldn’t let things go on like this.

“You have made a lot of baseless claims here, but do you actually have any evidence to support these lies?”

I sneered at Anthony as I didn’t think they would have any evidence.

Even if they had seen my kill my father, so what? There were no photos or recordings that could prove that I was the one who killed him.

“As the last two survivors of that war, Dana and Gary are the only witnesses we need.” Anthony was very calm.

He didn’t even look at me as he spoke.

Then, he walked to the center of the hall.

I took a few steps back just to be safe. Was he thinking of attacking me?

“If you don’t admit the truth, I will be happy to share some evidence about your drug trafficking business that got several innocent werewolves killed. What do you think about that?”

Anthony asked as he looked at me with confidence.

“That’s enough! I’ve had it with your lies!”

I had no idea that he had gone through such lengths to find dirt on me.

How could he have known? Then, Anthony took out a remote and pointed it at the giant TV on the wall of the banquet hall.

I almost fainted when I saw the photos of me meeting with the drug trafficker.

That was several years ago.

I had no idea that Anthony had been gathering evidence against me in secret all along.

“Who’s to say that those photos aren’t fabricated?”

I knew I was clutching at straws with that argument, but I had no choice.

“I was never involved in such criminal activities. Why would I get into business with drug traffickers? I’m a king! I don’t need money! What a joke!”

“Austin, there really is no end to your greed. I wouldn’t be surprised if you sold your soul just to make a quick buck.”

Anthony’s words dripped with contempt.

Although I was infuriated by his arrogance, I didn’t know how to refute.

I clenched my fists and began to pant. I couldn’t just admit defeat like this. I was the king! After all, I had to kill my own father to get to where I was. I didn’t want him to die.

However, how could I become the king if he was still alive? Besides, he had fought bravely in the battle and he was most likely to die in the battlefield.

I just helped to end his pain in the end. Why didn’t anyone understand me?

“That’s not all, Austin.”

Just when I thought this was over, Anthony clapped his hands and looked at the door of the hall.

“Bring her in!”

What else is left? I looked at the door in disbelief when I saw a woman dressed like a maid coming in. I didn’t recognize her.

“This maid’s name is Emma. She saw Austin rape a young maid in the royal palace and kill her after that,” Anthony said to the elders.