

Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved

Chapter 241

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Anthony's POV:

When I looked over to the crowd and saw Caroline and Austin, I was a little surprised at first. I never thought that someone as arrogant as Austin would come to meet me, instead of praying for misery to befall me.

To show my heartfelt gratitude, I spoke to him politely and we shared a rare moment where we didn't actually hate each other.

The atmosphere between us was no longer tense and it was indeed a refreshing experience. I glanced at Austin and found him staring at me.

We locked eyes for a few seconds and then looked away. I wasn't quite sure how I felt about Austin just yet.

"Anthony, congratulations on removing the Love Curse. I wish you and Jennifer a happily life together,"

Caroline said as she looked at me with sincerity in her eyes. I was surprised at first, and soon, I came back to my senses.

"Thank you, Caroline. Take good care of yourself. I wish you and Austin have a wonderful life together as well," I replied to Caroline.

Austin fidgeted restlessly as if he was hesitating to say something before he looked at me and said, "Brother."

My eyes widened in astonishment as I looked at him.

"Anthony, you will make a far better king than I could ever hope to be. Please look after the legacy our father has left behind. The responsibility of its safe-keeping now falls on you,"

Austin added slowly.

"I will do my best, Austin. Thank you for your words," I replied.

"Mr. Jones, it's time for your brother and Ms. Wilson to go back to their prison cell," one of the guards whispered in my ear.

"Goodbye, Austin and Caroline."

Jennifer and I bade them a fond farewell.

Then, I ordered the guard, "I want you to put them in a nice cell. After all, Caroline just delivered a baby."

Austin must have overheard what I had said to the guard because he stopped in his tracks and turned around to look at me.

He stood silently for a moment as he looked at me.

In truth, he didn't even have to say anything at all because his eyes showed me that he was moved by my gesture.

I took a long deep breath as I watched Austin and Caroline walk away.

"What's wrong, Anthony?"

Jennifer asked as she looked at me with her big beautiful eyes.

"Nothing. I and I were both very young and our father was still alive. We got along really well as kids and we hardly ever hunting trips, and whenever Austin would shoot a hare, he would roast it and share it with me. He would give me the best part every time because I was the younger sibling."

"That sounds lovely." Jennifer smiled as she held my hand.

"Anthony, now it's time for you to share your hare with me."

I laughed at her words.

"The past may be filled with regrets, but the future is something to look forward to," I thought as I looked at Jennifer.

Elizabeth's POV:

When I saw Austin I decided not to disturb them.

After the Love Curse was lifted from Anthony, I no longer felt anger towards Austin.

After all, my husband and I were partly to blame for neglecting him and his relationship with Anthony.

At least, Austin was now remorseful of his actions.

After Austin and Caroline left, I walked up to Anthony and patted him on the shoulder.

"I think you did the right thing by forgiving Austin. Now that he and Caroline are willing to atone for their sins, I'm sure I smiled at him and Jennifer.

"Anthony, what are you going to do next?"

Now that the Love Curse was lifted, I was hoping that they could get married as soon as possible.

Anthony smiled as if he understood what I was trying to say.

"I've already thought about it. After Austin and Caroline move to the island, I'm going to take over the position of king and marry Jennifer," he looked at Jennifer and replied.

Anthony loved Jennifer deeply.

I could see it in the way he looked at her every time he mentioned her. I couldn't be happier for the loving couple.

It was only because of their love and devotion towards each other that they were able to find the Tear of Edith and lift the Love Curse.

Although Anthony just casually mentioned what had happened on the snow mountain, I knew that he was just making light of the situation so that I wouldn't worry about him.

I could only imagine the kind of hardship they must have experienced there.

After all, the snow mountain was the place where countless climbers had either died or disappeared.

Anthony and Jennifer reminded me of how much my late husband and I loved each other.

I sincerely hoped that Jennifer and Anthony could spend the rest of their lives together. I looked at Jennifer lovingly.

"That's a good plan, Anthony. I am also looking forward to the wedding and seeing Jennifer become the next queen."

I leaned over to Jennifer.

"You have to be prepared. I believe that you will become a respectable queen in the future."

"Thank you, Mrs. Jones."

Jennifer blushed and hugged me.

"I give you my word that I will try my best to make you proud. Thank you for believing in me and taking care of me. I don't think that I could have made it this far without you."

"By the way, Jennifer, did you encounter any danger on your trip to the snow mountain?" I asked Jennifer, looking her up and down.

"Mrs. Jones, the most important thing is that we are alive and well. Anthony and I were very lucky to meet someone on the snow mountain. With his help, we were able to make it out of there without any problems," Jennifer said with a smile.

"Where is he now? Can I see him? I'd to thank him personally!" I insisted.

"Mrs. Jones, we brought him back with us. However, since it was a very long and tiring journey, we told him to get some rest as soon as we arrived."

Jennifer waived at one of the attendants.

"Please bring Morgan here."

"Morgan is actually Amelia's husband. We were quite surprised to have run into him on the snow mountain. Don't you think it's interesting that we saved Amelia and her husband ended up saving us in return?"

As Jennifer spoke, the attendant came back with a wizard who looked to be in his fifties.

"Morgan, this is Mrs. Jones, Anthony's mother."

Jennifer courteously introduced us.

"Hello, Mrs. Jones, it's good to meet you. My name is Morgan and I am a wizard."

Morgan reached out to shake hands with me.

"I've heard about you, Morgan. Thank you for helping Anthony and Jennifer. Have you seen Amelia yet? She's here too. There's no need to feel awkward around me. I can tell that she misses you very much because she talks about you every day," I said with a gentle smile.

"Thank you, Mrs. Jones. I'll look for her right now!"

Morgan nodded to show his gratitude before he rushed into the crowd in excitement.

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Morgan's POV:

When Elizabeth told me that Amelia was waiting for me, I was so happy that I couldn't control my emotions. I was finally going to see my dearest Amelia again after so many years!

"Amelia!"

My palms were sweating from anticipation as I looked for her amongst the crowd. I didn't expect that I could meet Amelia again.

"Amelia! Amelia! Where are you?"

I noticed surprised glances from the people as I shouted her name loudly, but I didn't care because I just wanted to find Amelia.

"Morgan? Is that you?"

Suddenly, I heard a familiar voice and it felt as though the entire world around me had come to a pause. I turned around slowly and as soon as I saw Amelia, tears of joy welled up in my eyes. I had missed her day and night for so many years.

The realization that many years had passed since the last time we were together hit me like a ton of bricks.

Although she looked a little older than she did in my memory, her eyes were still unchanged.

"Amelia!"

My voice trembled as I took her name once again. I walked towards her as muffled sobs wracked against my chest.

"Yes, it's me!"

There was a look of shock and disbelief on Amelia's face.

Her voice rose in excitement which told me that she was happy to see me too.

"Morgan! It's really you. Oh my God! Am I dreaming?"

Amelia walked towards me.

Although we weren't as youthful as we once were, at that moment, not even the crowd could stop us.

We pushed our way through the people and jumped into each other's arms.

"Morgan, what are you doing here?"

Amelia broke into tears as she sobbed and pulled me close.

She held my face in her hands and gave me a kiss on the cheek.

"I thought I would never see you again. I wanted to look for you but I didn't know if you had married someone else and started a new life."

"No, Amelia. I love you. How could I let you go?"

I had dreamt about this moment for many years. I could feel the warmth of her palms on my cheeks.

Time took away her youth, but it did not take away her tenderness.

"Morgan, I've missed you so much. I've thought about you every day since we parted ways."

Amelia cried in my arms.

"Me too, Amelia. I never thought that I would get to hold you in my arms again."

My hands were trembling, but I still managed to compose myself. I was afraid that this was all just a dream and once I let go of you know that I'm here?" Amelia asked after she finally calmed down.

"It was all because of you, Amelia!" I looked at her to spend the rest of my life on the snow mountain. Then, I met Mr. Jones and his mate a few days ago because they were there looking for the divine flower to remove the Love Curse. It was you who helped them find the solution. After the Love Curse was removed, I came back with them to look for you."

"Thank heavens you are here now!"

Amelia wiped her tears and smiled as if she had returned to her youth.

"I can't believe that I am looking at have disappeared now."

"Amelia, what happened all those years ago? Why did you disappear from my life?" I asked in a hurry.

They were questions that had been buried inside my heart for many years.

Anthony had told me that they rescued Amelia from Larry's log cabin, but I didn't understand why Amelia fell into Larry's hands in the first place.

"It was all because of Larry."

Amelia furrowed her eyebrows.

"I remember I told you that I was in a relationship with another wizard before I met his father didn't approve of our relationship. I knew that we weren't destined to be together, so I gradually gave up on our relationship, but he was extremely persistent on me."

Amelia's eyes widened as she tugged at my sleeve.

"You know what, Morgan? He was crazy! He broke in when you were out and subdued me with black magic. I couldn't fight back as I was pregnant at the time. He took me away and locked me up in his log cabin. I spent decades not feeling I couldn't believe my ears. I felt so sorry for Amelia. I held her in my arms after hearing what she said.

"All these years, I thought you stopped loving me. It was actually Larry who had kidnapped you. I should have been there to stop him. I'm sorry, Amelia. It was my fault!"

I was filled with feelings of remorse as I thought of the horrors Amelia had to suffer because of me. I felt extremely guilty because I had failed to protect her.

"Amelia, our child..."

My heart sank at the thought I roughly guessed what fate had befallen our child, a glimmer of hope still lingered in my heart.

Amelia's POV:

I didn't expect to see my husband, Morgan, again.

Decades had passed, and a lot had changed since we had seen each other.

Although I had asked Jennifer to help me find my husband, I wasn't sure if he was still alive or not. I wanted to think that he was married and happy, and so I didn't go looking for him because I didn't want to get in the way of his happiness.

I just wanted him to be alive and well.

If he was no longer alive, then at least I could leave lilies in front of his tombstone as they were his favorite flowers.

However, none of that mattered now that Morgan was standing right before me.

What was important was that he never stopped loving me.

I felt so lucky to have met such a loyal man.

He never gave up on me even after all these years.

As I looked at Morgan's wrinkled face, the love in my heart for him grew stronger than before.

I felt grateful to Anthony and Jennifer for finding him on the snow mountain and reuniting us.

Jennifer was a kind she-wolf and sure enough, they were able to lift the Love Curse because a good deed never went unrewarded.

However, when Morgan asked me about our child, I felt a tight squeeze in my heart.

"Larry forced me to get an abortion!"

I lowered my head in shame as I couldn't look him in the eye. My child! Every night, I would think of my child. I wish Larry had just killed me and spared my child.

How could Larry take the life of an innocent child? Every time I recalled what happened, I felt overwhelmed with guilt and sadness.

"He's a monster! A heartless monster! If I can get my hands on him again, I'm going to strangle him!"

Morgan seemed angered by what I had said.

"Morgan, I know that you're angry, but you can't be so impulsive. Larry is a powerful wizard. Even if we work together, our chances of winning against him are quite slim."

I tried hard to hold back my sadness and comfort Morgan.

"We're finally together now! I don't want to risk losing you again!"

"But, Amelia, I can't let him get away with murder. I can't let all our suffering be for nothing,"

Morgan said angrily, but then his voice became gentle again.

"Don't worry. I'm not going to act impulsively. I just need to come up with an elaborate plan."

I nodded in agreement as I was moved by Morgan's calm-headed disposition.

"Morgan, let's talk about this later. We should express our deepest gratitude to Mr. Jones and Jennifer."

I reminded Morgan as I suddenly saw Jennifer and Anthony standing not too far away.

“Oh, that’s right.I was so happy that I almost forgot about it.”

Morgan burst into laughter before he took me to Anthony and Jennifer.

“Thank you, Mr.Jones.If it weren’t for you and Jennifer, I wouldn’t have seen Amelia again,”

Morgan said to Anthony and Jennifer politely.

“Thank you very much, Mr.Jones and Jennifer.We will never forget your kindness.”

I bowed my head to the both of them.

“There’s no need to be so formal, Amelia.I’m sure you would have done the same to help us if we were in need.” Jennifer quickly helped me up.

“I wish you a happy life together, Amelia.If there’s anything you need, please let us know.”

“You are so kind, Jennifer.You have already blessed me with the most important person in my life.Thanks to you, Morgan and I are together.We will be leaving the royal palace as soon as possible.After all, Morgan and I are wizards.If we stay here for too long, we might bring you trouble,” I replied sincerely.

“Don’t leave in such a hurry, Amelia.We wouldn’t have been able to lift the Love Curse without your help.I want you to stay for the wedding at least, okay?” Jennifer asked.

“Of course! We wish you and Mr.Jones all the happiness in the world.”

As soon as I heard Jennifer’s request, I happily agreed.

“The celebration party is about to begin.Please go to the banquet hall to celebrate,”

Elizabeth came over and said with a smile.

Morgan and I went to the dinner party together.

At the most lively moment of the banquet, I took Morgan’s hand and walked out of the banquet hall.

As we looked at the splendid fireworks in the sky, I couldn’t help but shed tears.

Today was one of the happiest days of my life.I was finally with Morgan again.

“Honey, tell me it’s not a dream,” I hugged Morgan and whispered.

"Of course not, honey," Morgan replied with a smile.

"I'd like to somehow repay Jennifer and her mate for helping us. If they ever need our help, we should do our best to help them," I said, leaning against Morgan's chest.

"Of course, we will," Morgan nodded.

"I have to thank them for making this the happiest day of my life."

Morgan and I held each other in a loving embrace.

Morgan was my one true love. I didn't want to be separated from him again.

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Jennifer's POV:

Anthony and I attended the celebration party together.

As one of the protagonists of the party, I tried my best to look lively and in high spirits, regardless of how exhausted I was feeling.

Maybe it was because of the long and tense journey to the snow mountain that I felt so fatigued, and even a little uncomfortable.

But I didn't want to make Anthony worry about me, so I plastered a smile on my face and hid my weariness from the guests.

"Congratulations to our future king and queen. May you live a healthy life together!"

One of the elders took the lead in proposing a toast to me and Anthony.

"Thank you."

After raising his glass to the elder, Anthony downed the wine in one go.

Standing next to him, I followed suit, but I couldn't bring myself to drink more than a sip of the wine.

For some reason, the wine left a bad taste in my mouth.

"Everyone, we should choose a suitable date for the coronation ceremony of the king and queen," Elizabeth said, looking at all the guests for their opinions.

The crowd launched into a hearty discussion at once. I listened to them somewhat absent-mindedly, still in a daze over Elizabeth's words.

Even after all this time, I couldn't believe that I was actually going to be Anthony's wife, and the queen of the Osman Kingdom.

A year ago, the mere thought that something like this could happen to me would have been ridiculous, to the point of being laughable.

I knew that being the queen was the dream of many, many girls, but somehow, the prospect didn't excite me at all.

In my eyes, being the queen was a heavy responsibility, and not just a noble title to be flaunted.

What I was really excited about was getting to spend the rest of my life with Anthony.

If he didn't ascend the throne, he and I would live as an ordinary but happy couple.

However, being the king was Anthony's destiny.

And since that was the case, to be by his side, I would try my best to be a good queen.

"Then it's settled. The coronation ceremony will be held in ten days,"

Elizabeth announced after discussing the matter with the elders.

"Isn't that great, honey?" Anthony leaned in and whispered in my ear.

"We're finally getting married."

I smiled at Anthony, but the discomfort in my belly became stronger and stronger. I felt a stab of annoyance at myself. I couldn't let him down at this time.

Gritting my teeth secretly, I held on.

More and more people began to propose toasts to me.

"Congratulations, Jennifer."

An elder came over and raised his glass to me.

Just then, the wine I had swallowed churned in my stomach, and a violent bout of dizziness came over me, making my body shake all over.

The elder who was raising a toast to me stopped mid-sentence and looked at me in confusion.

“Jennifer!” Anthony was the first one to react. me from collapsing on the floor.

“What’s wrong? Are you okay?”

I wanted to shake my head at him, but I didn’t even have little dizzy...”

I managed to mumble.

Even my hands felt too heavy for me to lift.

There was a moment of tense silence in the banquet hall before the crowd burst into an uproar.

“What’s wrong with her?”

“The future queen has to be healthy!”

“Is there any curse on her that she hid from us?”

It was only through a haze that I heard all their suspicious questions, but it made me feel flustered. I didn’t want such rumors to affect Anthony.

But Anthony ignored all these gossiping guests.

Holding me banquet hall.

“Everyone, calm down. Jennifer is just too tired. After all, she went to the snow mountain with me to help me get rid of the Love Curse. Guards, call a doctor.”

Anthony’s calm but commanding tone suppressed the voices of the nosy guests.

Several elders followed Anthony as he walked into the lounge.

Soon after he set me down on the bed, the doctor walked in and began to examine my condition.

With so many eyes on me, the pace of my heartbeat inevitably accelerated.

What if there really still be able to marry Anthony?

Anthony’s POV:

Looking at Jennifer’s pale face, I felt guilt wash over me. Why hadn’t I realized earlier that she wasn’t feeling well? Jennifer had always been a strong-willed person.

Even if she was feeling unwell, she wouldn't tell me about it.

Instead, she'd try her best to overcome it on her own.

"Jennifer, don't worry. I'm here with you."

Noticing the flicker of fear in Jennifer's eyes, I quickly bent over to hold her hand. I knew exactly what was going on in her mind.

"She seems too weak to be our future queen,"

Eric muttered loud enough for everyone to hear.

"Eric, Jennifer worked really hard to help me remove the Love Curse. If you don't know what happened, you'd better keep your mouth shut," I snapped.

After hearing me scold Eric, none of the other elders dared to question Jennifer.

The doctor, on the other hand, was carefully examining her without listening to all this unnecessary chatter.

After a while, his face suddenly broke into a smile, much to my surprise.

"Congratulations, Mr. Jones. Jennifer is completely fine," the doctor said.

"If she's completely fine, how come she almost fainted just now?" Eric snorted with disdain.

"Please don't interrupt me, Elder Eric. As I was saying, Mr. Jones, I have great news for you. Jennifer felt dizzy just now because she is pregnant," the doctor said.

For a moment, my mind went blank. I was stunned.

"Anthony!"

The good news seemed to have rejuvenated Jennifer, because she sat up excitedly and threw her arms around me.

"Am I dreaming? I'm really going to be a mother?"

I finally came back to my senses.

Jennifer was pregnant? I was so happy that my heart could barely contain it.

Jennifer was carrying my child.

I was going to be a father!

“Jennifer!”

I was so excited that I didn't know what to say. I just hugged her back tightly, feeling a burst of affection for her.

“God bless us! The future heir of the Osman Kingdom is coming!”

My mother, who had been nervously waiting nearby to find out whether Jennifer was okay, was more ecstatic than the two of us, and could barely catch her breath.

It was only after being patted on the back by the maid a few times that she shouted excitedly, “This is amazing!”

“Great! How wonderful! The future king is coming!”

The elders also cheered. But Eric's face darkened, and he shut up.

“Thank you, doctor,” I told the doctor with a sincere smile on my face.

“You're welcome, Mr. Jones. I am honored to give you the good news. Jennifer is a little weak now. The journey must have taken a toll on her body. From now on, she has to get ample rest and be taken care of. If she weren't so fit and strong, she might have lost the baby,” the doctor told me seriously.

“Okay, I'll be careful.”

I gulped, feeling a stab of guilt.

It was bad enough that Jennifer had risked her life to accompany me to the snow mountain, but I couldn't believe that she had been carrying our baby in her belly during that time.

It was fortunate that Jennifer and the child were strong enough to withstand the harsh journey.

My throat constricted as I thought of all the bad things that could have happened, making me feel like I was suffocating.

I had to take a few deep breaths to calm down.

“Since everything is all right, please go back to the banquet hall and continue with the celebration,”

I urged, turning to look at the elders and my mother.

“Mom, please host the party. Jennifer needs to rest for now, and I want to accompany her.”

"Of course. Don't worry about these trifles, Anthony. I have it covered. Just take good care of Jennifer and my grandchild."

Grinning from ear to ear, my mother beckoned the elders to follow her out of the room.

After everyone left, I asked the doctor about the dos and don'ts that I had to follow to make sure that Jennifer was in a good condition.

I wanted how to take care of a pregnant she-wolf, as well as how to raise a child.

"Come on, Jennifer. Have some porridge. You need nutrition."

After the doctor left, I asked the maid to bring a bowl of light but nutritious vegetable porridge. I held the bowl and spoon, wanting to feed Jennifer myself.

"Anthony, it's okay. I can eat on my own," Jennifer said casually, smiling at me.

"I'm just pregnant, not a fool. I know you're not. I'm the one who's a fool."

I brought Jennifer's delicate hand up to my lips and kissed it.

"You know what? Jennifer, all I'm thinking about now is that I'm going to be a father. I don't know the first thing about taking care of a baby. I'm really a fool."

"Anthony, you're going to be a great father." Jennifer chuckled and touched my hair.

"You're going to be a great mother, too."

I put down the bowl on the bedside table so that I could hold Jennifer in my arms.

"Thank you, Jennifer. Thank you for loving me and carrying my child."

"Anthony, you know I'd do anything for you. Besides, this is our child. I'm so happy that I'm carrying him," Jennifer whispered.

In this moment, I felt an unprecedented fondness for Jennifer.

I leaned over and kissed her carefully, as if she was a flower that I could crush with the slightest misstep.

As I kissed her, I just murmured one thing over and over again.

"I love you, Jennifer."

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Elizabeth's POV:

After returning to the banquet hall with the elders, I continued to preside over the celebration party.

All of the guests had already learned that the future queen was pregnant, which filled them with joy.

It had been a long time since such a warm and harmonious atmosphere had blessed the royal palace.

The palace had been dull and depressive ever since my husband died and Austin took over the throne.

I was glad to see it in such a lively state again.

And it was all thanks to Anthony and Jennifer.

'Dear husband, are you watching all this? Austin has been punished for his sins, and all of Anthony's sufferings have their reward. He's even about to have a child with his beloved mate. You must be happy looking at it from heaven, right?' The whole time I was sitting in the banquet hall, I couldn't help but worry about Jennifer.

So a while later, I decided to see her.

After telling the guards to keep the order in the banquet hall, I headed to the lounge.

When I opened the door, however, I was greeted by the sight of Anthony and Jennifer kissing.

Oh my God! I was so embarrassed that I hurriedly took a step back, wanting to close the door. Why had I come at such a wrong time?

"Mother, what are you doing here?" Anthony asked before I could leave.

"Oh, it's nothing, Anthony. I was just worried about Jennifer and the baby, so I came here to check if everything was all right," I explained with a resigned sigh.

Since my presence had already been noticed by the two of them, there was no need for me to leave in a hurry. I walked into the room and sat down on the bed, supported by Anthony.

"How are you feeling, Jennifer? Should I find a nutritionist to take care of your diet?" I asked with concern, holding Jennifer's hand.

"Did you drink at the party just now? Are you okay?"

"Don't worry, Mrs. Jones, I barely had a sip of wine. And I feel much better after resting for a while. It's nothing serious. Thank you for coming here to check on me," Jennifer replied with a smile.

"Don't worry, Mom. As Jennifer's mate, I will try my best to protect her and our child," Anthony promised confidently.

I scoffed and shot him a glare.

"Don't think I didn't see what you were doing just now," I scolded Anthony.

"Jennifer's health is the most important right now. She is still in the early stages of pregnancy. You should learn to restrain your desire. Don't keep thinking about those things all the time. Don't force Jennifer, understand? Otherwise, I will be the first to teach you a lesson!"

I punctuated my speech with a slight cough.

In fact, I felt a little embarrassed for losing an open-minded mother, but I was also concerned about my grandchild's well-being.

After all, Anthony and Jennifer were both young and madly in love.

If hurting the child by accident.

To their credit, the two seemed to understand what I was saying, because they smiled sheepishly at me.

"I won't, Mom. I'll take care of her well," Anthony promised.

"Well, let's not talk about this anymore," I said, coolly changing the topic.

I took off the gold bracelet from my wrist and handed it to Jennifer.

"Jennifer, this bracelet has been with me for decades. It was a wedding gift from my mother. Now that you're going to marry my son, I'm giving it to you. It's precious."

Jennifer looked uncertainly at the bracelet in her hand.

"It's not a big deal. We are family now."

I smiled and patted Jennifer's hand to reassure her.

“Yes, Jennifer. From now on, we are family. What is ours is yours,”

Anthony chimed in, holding my hand and Jennifer’s.

“Anthony...”

Tears sprang to Jennifer’s eyes, and her voice trembled with emotion.

I knew that Jennifer had lost her parents when she was just a child.

Thinking of that, I couldn’t help but feel sorry for her.

She was a good girl.

I hoped that we’d be a happy family from now on.

Amelia’s POV:

Morgan and I strolled around the banquet hall holding hands as we savored the delicate food.

“Oh my God! Did you hear that Jennifer is pregnant? She’s going to be a mother soon. Isn’t that great? I’m really happy for her.”

Although I was genuinely excited for her, my face fell as I thought of my own child.

“If our child were still alive, he would have been as old as Jennifer. If only...”

“Don’t worry, Amelia.”

Morgan gave my hand a reassuring squeeze.

“It was all Larry’s fault. I’ll make him pay for it.”

“You’re right. Well, let’s not dwell on such sad things. How about we take a walk outside?”

I suggested, mustering up a smile.

Morgan nodded in agreement and took me to the garden, where the two of us strolled around.

The garden of the royal palace was large, but filled with a serene silence.

As we walked, no one disturbed us.

“You know, all these years, my biggest regret is meeting Larry,” I said with a sigh.

Remembering what Morgan had said about living on the snow mountain for so long, I couldn't help but feel upset.

"Morgan, you are so silly. How could you go to such a cold place like the snow mountain?"

"Honey, for me, living in a world without you is like being the walking dead. I would rather live alone on the snow mountain for the rest of my life," Morgan replied firmly.

I was so touched by these words that I stopped in my tracks and threw my arms around him, holding him for a long time.

After a while, we continued walking down the garden.

Just then, I suddenly saw the flicker of a shadow on the grass not far away. I instinctively took a step back and looked carefully.

In that moment, I saw Larry lurking in the shadows of the trees, sneering at me.

"Oh my God!"

I screamed in fear.

My hand flew to my chest as I tried to still my racing heart.

The painful memories of the past few decades suddenly flooded my mind again.

Without thinking, I hid behind Morgan.

"What's wrong, honey?" Morgan asked nervously.

"Larry's here,"

I stammered in a trembling voice.

"Don't be afraid. I will protect you," Morgan said in a low voice.

"Where is he? Why can't I see him?"

Hearing this, I was stunned. I looked carefully at the grass in front of me, but couldn't see anyone there.

"That's strange. I saw him right there just now."

I shook my head in a daze.

"Was I just imagining things?"

“Well, let’s go back to the banquet hall. There are guards stationed there. Even if Larry really is here, he won’t be able to easily get his way. If he dares to so much as lay a finger on you, I will fight him to the death. I also want to settle accounts with him,” Morgan said, pulling me back to the banquet hall.

I nodded, but I couldn’t quell the uneasy feeling in my heart. Had I really just been imagining things? Whatever the case, fear lingered in my heart. I was afraid that Larry would continue to do evil things like a haunting ghost.

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Jennifer’s POV:

“It looks like the party is over. Honey, let’s go back to our room,”

Anthony said as he stretched his hand out to show me the time on his watch.

I nodded and followed Anthony out of the lounge soon after.

As soon as we stepped out of the lounge, we saw Elizabeth.

“Oh, I see that you’re already leaving. I was just coming over to tell you that the celebration party was over. You should go and get some rest. Anthony, you must take good care of Jennifer.”

Then, she turned to me.

“Jennifer, please be mindful of your health. If you feel even the slightest bit of discomfort, do not hesitate to call me. I know some of the best doctors in the city.”

“I will. Thank you for your kindness, Mrs. Jones.” I smiled at Elizabeth, holding Anthony’s hand.

“Please take care of yourself as well. Try to get some rest as soon as you can. We will see you tomorrow.”

Anthony and I stood waiting as Elizabeth left with the aid of a maid.

Soon, after saying goodbye to the other guests, we finally went back to our room.

I freshened up quickly before lying in the big bed with Anthony.

"Isn't it astonishing how quickly time flies? I didn't expect the coronation ceremony to come so soon. I'm nervous, Anthony. What if I am not fit to be a queen?"

The weight of the title filled me with dread.

In the past, I had spent a big part of my life living in fear of being hunted down by Arthur.

At that time, if someone told me that I was going to become a queen one day, I would call them crazy and laugh at their faces.

It was Anthony who changed my fate completely.

"Jennifer, all you need to do is take care of yourself and the baby. Leave everything else to me. I will always be there to support you. No one will ever disrespect you."

Anthony leaned over and kissed me gently on the forehead.

"You're right. I shouldn't be overthinking. It's not good for the baby."

As I spoke, I got up from the bed to get a glass of water, but Anthony reached out to help me.

"Jennifer, lie down and tell me what you need. I'll get it for you,"

Anthony said as he looked at me with concern.

"Anthony! Now, you're the one who is overthinking! I just wanted to get a glass of water." I didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

"Just lie down. I'll get it for you."

Anthony turned around and went to fetch me a glass of water.

"Anthony, I'm just pregnant, not disabled. You're being too dramatic." I sighed.

"Honey, you'll have to deal with me acting like this for a few more months. Besides, if I don't take care of you, who will?"

Anthony winked at me playfully as he passed me affectionate side. I smiled back at him and then took a sip from the glass.

"Anthony, I am so lucky to have a mate life with," I said, holding Anthony's hand and peering deep into his eyes.

"Jennifer, how are you feeling now?" Anthony lay down beside me.

'I'll ask the doctor to conduct a comprehensive check-up on you tomorrow, just in case.'

'I'm feeling a lot better now. Don't worry about me. By the way, I have to tell Skylar the good news.'

I grabbed my phone from the bedside table and called Skylar.

'Skylar, how have you been?'

As soon she answered, I couldn't wait to share my joy with Skylar.

'Let me I are going to get married in ten days. Then, Anthony will inherit the position of king, and I will become the queen in a ceremony after our wedding. I hope you two can make it since the coronation and wedding ceremony will be on the same day.'

'Oh my God, Jennifer!'

Skylar shouted excitedly on the other end of the line.

'That's good to hear! I am so happy for you! I would love to be there at your big day, but I'm afraid I'm going that? How could you make trouble for me?'

I sensed a hint of sadness in Skylar's tone, so I comforted her. I surmised that she must have been worried about her special powers again.

'Don't worry about anything else. Anthony and I will visit you two in a few days, okay?'

'Jennifer, you don't have to come all the way over here just to make me feel better. Besides, Jerome takes good care of me. You should only be thinking about yourself and the wedding right now. Please congratulate Mr. Jones a noble king. I hope everything goes well for the both of you,' Skylar said gently.

After a few words with Skylar, I hung up the phone.

Anthony turned off the lights, as he looked ready to go to sleep with me in his arms.

Just then, we heard a knock on the door.

'Who is it?' I asked, and then looked at Anthony in confusion.

'Who could it be at this hour?'

Anthony didn't say anything. He got out of bed with furrowed eyebrows and turned on the lights before he went to open the door.

For some reason, I thought of Larry and so I got up and went after Anthony.

Much to my surprise, as soon as Anthony opened the door, we saw Eric standing at the door.

He was one of the elders who supported Austin's rule.

Anthony's POV:

Eric was the last person I expected to see when I opened the door. I thought it was my mother who might have come to tell me something she had forgotten earlier on.

An impatient frown appeared on my face.

This wasn't the appropriate hour to show up unannounced at someone's door, even if he was an elder.

He should have respected our privacy, especially since Jennifer was pregnant.

When I took a closer look at him, I noticed that his face was unusually red and he reeked of alcohol.

He must have had a lot of drink at the banquet.

"What's the matter, Elder Eric?" I asked patiently.

"Mr. Jones, I'm sorry to bother you and Miss Smith at this late hour,"

Eric apologized, but there was no trace of guilt in his tone.

"I wanted to ask you if you are really sure that the Love Curse has been lifted. As an elder, I have to think about the safety of everyone. You need to prove to me that you are absolutely healthy before I give you my vote to take over the throne."

"Elder Eric, you're being inexcusably rude!"

Jennifer said aggressively from behind me.

"Are trying to imply that Anthony and I lied to everyone? We just got back from the snow mountain and we haven't even been able to rest and recover yet. You should know better than to disturb us at this hour."

"I'm just worried about Mr. Jones' health." Eric belched as he spoke.

Needless to say, he was just messing around.

"Tomorrow I will gather wizards and doctors to the hall to verify the status of my physical condition. I will invite all the elders to bear witness," I said with a straight face.

"I already had it planned. Did you really think that I was going to make such a big claim without giving everyone any proof? I'm sorry to say this, but I think you've wasted enough of our time and you should leave now, Elder Eric."

"Wizards? Are you referring to Roy and his friends? But how is that going to be fair and unbiased? He is your friend. Of course, he will say what you want him to say,"

Eric retorted as he wasn't convinced, which surprised me.

Now I was certain that Eric was here to make trouble.

"The time of the coronation ceremony has already been decided. Why did you wait until now instead of voicing your objection when all the elders were present at that time? You don't want the other elders to know that you are against me taking over the throne, do you?" I looked at him coldly.

"Eric, I have good reason to believe that you are making trouble for me. I would advise you to think carefully."

"No! Mr. Jones, you've misunderstood me!" Eric's face turned redder, but he still didn't want to leave.

"I just want to find out the truth for the sake of Osman Kingdom!"

"The truth is that I am no longer inflicted with the Love Curse," I raised my voice and glared at Eric with sharp eyes.

Time and time again, Eric had been a thorn in my path.

I no longer had the patience to indulge him.

"Please forgive me if I have offended you,"

Eric apologized profusely as took a step back.

"Please don't be angry, Mr. Jones. As long as the doctors and the wizards verify that you are all right, I will not speak of this again."

Eric avoided making eye contact as he said that and then scampered away in a hurry. I shook my head and shut the door behind me.

"Anthony, what should we do? It's obvious that Eric isn't going to stop pestering us. What's to say that he's not going to make trouble after you take the throne?" Jennifer said worriedly.

"Don't worry, Jennifer. I'll take care of him," I answered calmly.

Eric's antics weren't going to catch me by surprise.

"Perhaps, after you become the king, you can gradually strip Eric of his position. We need to be cautious around him,"

Jennifer suggested.

"I think so too. Anyway, go to sleep, honey. It's late,"

I coaxed Jennifer.

"There's one more thing, Anthony. Helen and Daniel's wedding is fast approaching. Now that we're back from the snow mountain, I should call Helen and let her know that we can make it to their wedding," Jennifer said.

"Go to sleep, Jennifer. Don't worry too much. I'll take care of everything."

I got closer to kiss Jennifer's forehead and turned off the lights. I put my hand over Jennifer's belly and gently caressed her while I thought about all the wonderful things we would do together in the future. I firmly believed that our child would be smart and cute.

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Daniel's POV:

After they put Helen in jail, I went to see her quite often because I couldn't help worrying about her.

The pitiful look in her eyes broke my heart. I had to find a way to prove Helen's innocence as soon as possible. I couldn't let her continue to suffer in jail.

Thinking of this, I turned around and walked to the cell where Mandy was being kept. I thought that perhaps she would be able to give me some useful information.

"Daniel! Daniel, you're finally here. I'm so scared. Please don't leave me here!"

As soon as I stood outside her cell, Mandy rushed to me at once, crying and begging desperately.

I was utterly shocked to find her in such a state.

"Mandy."

I frowned as there was nothing I could do for her.

"Daniel, please get me out of here. I don't want to be locked up here!"

Mandy's voice rose to a shrill cry, attracting the attention of the prison guards.

"Mandy, stop whining and listen to me. I need to ask you something. Why did you give the perfume to Helen?"

I looked at Mandy coldly.

"You'd better tell me the truth now because sooner or later it's going to come out. If you help me now, I will plead for you and ask my mother to lessen your sentence."

"I didn't give her any perfume!"

Mandy looked away and refused to admit it.

"If you don't tell me the truth, I can't help you get out of here."

I held the bars of the cell and roared angrily.

"Come on, Daniel. I'm not a fool."

Mandy curled her lips.

"Do you really think that I don't know what you're trying to do? You never cared about me! You just want to save Helen! Well, guess what? I won't help you unless you promise to be with me instead!"

I stared at Mandy in stunned disbelief.

"Ridiculous! Mandy, what are you talking about?"

I clenched my fist to keep my composure.

"Why are you still holding on to that silly dream of yours? We don't love each other. Why would we be together?"

"Daniel, we have been in love for many years, but Helen took you away from me. You're the one who is being ridiculous! I'm so much better love her, but won't even look at me,"

Mandy screamed and her eyes looked like they were about to pop out from their sockets. "I have feelings for Devin, even though you two grew up together?"

I shook my head in disapproval.

“How can you have romantic feelings for a friend? Mandy, please stop pursuing me. I’m already in love with Helen and I don’t need anyone else in my life.”

“Ha-ha!”

Mandy burst into laughter.

“All right, if that’s what you want. Since you’re not going to change your mind, I might as well drag Helen down to hell with me!”

What an unreasonable woman! I slammed my clenched fist at the wall in with her nonsense, so I turned around and walked away.

The shrill sound of her laughter echoed in my ears, making me angrier.

After I went back to my room, I racked my brain to come up with a solution, but I couldn’t think of anything. I felt utterly useless. I sat on the bed and pulled my hair in exasperation.

After a while, I decided to ask my friends for help.

I grabbed my phone to call Jennifer and Jerome, but after checking the time, I decided to disturb them at such a late hour. I let out a deep sigh and slumped on the bed. I couldn’t let anything bad happen to Helen.

And I couldn’t let my dead father die for nothing.

Mandy’s POV:

After Daniel left, I began to regret what I had said to him.

Why did I say such horrible things to him? It was foolish of me to get on his bad side. I should have played nice and begged him to get me out first. I fell on the floor helplessly, I going to do? No one would help me.

If the truth came out and the others found out that I gave the perfume to Helen, she would be released without charge, while I would be executed for the murderer of Alpha. I didn’t want to die.

The mere thought of this brought tears to my eyes.

If I had known that this would happen, I wouldn’t have cooperated with Devin.

Admittedly, I wanted to stop Helen and Daniel from getting married, but poisoning her wasn’t the only solution.

I realized that perhaps it would be a good idea to contact Devin.

I searched for my cell phone in my pockets, but then I suddenly remembered that my cell phone was taken away by the guards at the prison.

"Damn it!" I growled in anger.

"Mandy!"

At this moment, I suddenly heard Devin's voice.

"Devin!"

When I raised my head, I saw him standing outside the cell and looking at me with a smile.

I rushed over to him and said, "You're finally here. Let me out!"

"I can't do that."

Devin looked at me calmly.

"Helen is still locked up. Just stay put and try not to get too excited."

Devin was such a bastard.

He gave me the perfume to frame Helen with.

Why was he running around willy-nilly while I was locked up in here? I tried hard to hold back my anger because he was the only one who could help me.

I remained calm and asked, "Devin, what was in that bottle of perfume? How did it cause Alpha Marlon to die?"

When Devin gave me the perfume back then, he told me that it was to poison Helen.

"Shh!"

Devin's face changed as he turned to look at the guards.

"Keep your voice down. Do you want to expose me? If you get me in trouble, I won't let you go no matter what happens. I'll watch you die before me."

Devin's voice was low, but his tone was cold and indifferent. I took a few steps back as I realized that he wasn't joking.

At that time, I had no choice but to listen to Devin.

"I'm sorry. I won't tell anyone. Please, Devin, tell me what happened,"

I begged him.

"Oh, it was just an accident."

Devin shrugged his shoulders.

"I didn't expect such a thing to happen. I had no intentions of hurting my father. But since that's how it panned out in the end, I decided to play along and let Helen take the fall for it. Stay here for now. Don't be impulsive. And, if anyone asks, just tell them you didn't give the perfume to Helen."

"I didn't want to kill Alpha Marlon! I'm not guilty! Find a way to get me out of here!"

I burst into tears.

"As long as you do as I say, you will be out of here in no time. Remember, just keep your mouth shut," Devin said seriously.

"All right! I promise I'll do as you say!" I wiped my tears.

"Devin, what are you going to do now?"

"I've made some arrangements. Helen will be your scapegoat. Don't worry. Don't ask anything else."

Devin turned around and left with a sneer.

I called out to him a few times, but he didn't respond to me. I sat back on the bed dejectedly and wondered if Devin would keep his promise to me.

However, the more I thought about how much Daniel loved Helen, my heart burned with jealousy.

How could he love that bitch so much? Why? After all, Daniel and I met each other before he met Helen! Suddenly, I felt a strong urge to laugh out loud.

After all, Helen was going to be my scapegoat.

Soon, she would be sentenced to death for murdering the Alpha.

Nothing would stop Daniel from being mine after that.

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Jerome's POV:

Early one morning, I received a call from Daniel.

"Jerome, I have bad news. Helen's in trouble. I don't know what to do. I can only ask you for help," Daniel said breathlessly.

Stunned, I glanced at Skylar, who was still sleeping soundly.

Worried I would wake her up, I got out of bed and walked to the balcony.

"What happened? Tell me everything."

Last time we saw Daniel and Helen, they were fine.

We even heard that they were planning to get married soon. What on earth could've happened to Helen?

"Here's the thing. My father was murdered. Unexpectedly, Helen has become the prime suspect," Daniel said angrily.

"The only witness who can clear Helen's name is unwilling to tell the truth. Now, Helen and I can't prove that she didn't poison my father. I'm at wit's end, Jerome!"

"Oh, my God! How could this have happened?"

I was shocked. But I quickly tried to mask my surprise and tried to comfort him.

"I'll talk to Elder Simon. Don't worry. We won't let anything bad happen to Helen. If you need anything, just let me know. We're here to help."

Daniel gradually calmed down and managed to tell me the whole story.

After hanging up, I immediately went to find Simon.

"Elder Simon, something bad happened to Helen."

As soon as Simon's door swung open, I told him the news I had just heard.

"What should we do, Elder Simon?"

"What? Oh, Helen! She would never hurt a fly!"

As soon as Simon heard what I said, his eyes widened with shock.

But soon, he managed to calm himself down.

"I'm sorry, Alpha Jerome, but this news is too distressing. I need to go to the Black Stone Pack right away. I hope this sits well with you."

"Of course. You should be with your daughter."

I agreed without hesitation.

"Helen and Daniel are also my friends. If you encounter any difficulties, please contact me anytime."

After making sure the pack affairs would be looked after, Simon hurriedly left the Rainbow Pack.

I too rushed back to tell Skylar what had happened.

When I got back to our room, I found that Skylar was milk.

"Honey, where have you been? Did you have breakfast already? Did something happen in the pack?" Skylar asked me worriedly, handing me to tell you, but promise me you won't get too worked up over it." I really didn't want Skylar to worry, but it was a matter of great importance.

Helen was a good friend of ours, so she had the right to know.

I helped her to the sofa and took her hand in mine.

"Helen's in trouble. She was framed for the murder of Alpha Marlon of Black Stone Pack, Daniel's father."

At first, Skylar stared at me blankly.

But after a few seconds, she gasped and cried anxiously.

"Honey, that's terrible! No, no—I have to go to the Black Stone Pack!"

"Don't worry, honey. Elder Simon has already gone ahead. Plus, we were planning to go to the Black Stone Pack to attend Daniel and Helen's wedding, right? Let's get ready to leave as soon as possible."

I wrapped my arms around Skylar comfortingly.

"Helen will be fine. Daniel is with her."

In that moment, I felt very grateful towards Anthony for blocking the news about Skylar's special powers.

Otherwise, if the Black Stone Pack caught word, their territory.

Skylar's secret was still safe and sound, thanks to Anthony.

After properly turning over the pack affairs to Tony, Skylar and I headed to the Black Stone Pack.

Jennifer's POV:

Upon waking up, I checked my phone and saw that I had missed a call from Daniel, so I called him back immediately.

"Hello, Daniel. It's Jennifer. What's up?" I asked casually.

I figured he was calling to invite me and Anthony to their wedding.

"Jennifer, Helen's in trouble," Daniel said in a sad voice, which took me aback.

"She was framed for the murder of my father, the Alpha of Black Stone Pack. I've just informed Jerome and Skylar. They and Helen's father, Elder Simon, are on their way here."

Daniel's news brought me to a loss.

Speechless for a while, I took a deep breath and willed myself to think rationally.

"How could this be? Daniel's father was murdered? And Helen was thought to be the one behind it?" I realized very quickly that the situation was very serious, so I coaxed Daniel into telling me all the details.

"Don't worry, Daniel. Helen is our friend. We won't just sit by and do nothing. Just hold on. We'll go to the Black Stone Pack as soon as possible."

After exchanging a few more words, I hung up the phone and rushed to the office to look for Anthony, but it was empty.

I glanced at the wall clock and remembered how Eric had stirred trouble for us last night.

That probably meant that, at this time, Anthony was meeting the elders at the hall.

Anthony had told Eric the previous night that he was willing to have his body examined by wizards and doctors in front of everyone to prove that the Love Curse had been completely removed.

After changing into a formal dress, I rushed to the hall.

On my way there, I bumped into Anthony.

"Jennifer, what's the rush?" Anthony asked with a chuckle.

"Anthony, something bad happened to Helen!" I grabbed Anthony's arm anxiously.

"Daniel just called. He said that his father was murdered and Helen is locked up because of it."

"Jennifer, take a deep breath first. Tell me everything."

Anthony's expression grew serious.

He wrapped his arms around me to calm me down.

I did as I was told and took a deep breath.

Then I relayed everything Daniel had told me on the phone.

"Actually, I just heard about Alpha Marlon's death," Anthony said with a frown.

"But I never thought the situation surrounding his death was so complicated"

"Anthony, I need to see Helen. I'm worried about her."

I tugged at his sleeve anxiously.

"Okay. I'll go with you," Anthony replied resolutely.

"You will? But what about Elder Eric?" I gnawed my lower lip.

"Don't worry, honey. I've already proven to the elders that I'm fine, and they support my ascension to the throne. Austin and Caroline will be sent to the island this afternoon. We can head to the Black Stone Pack after we see them off," Anthony said, gently tucking my hair behind my ear.

"Sounds like a plan. Let's go and tell the elders about this."

I started pulling Anthony towards the hall. I was worried about Helen.

What if she was sentenced before Anthony and I arrived? No, Daniel would protect her.

I tried not to overthink and focused on taking things one step at a time.

When we got to the hall, we found that the elders hadn't left yet, thankfully.

"I just heard the news that Alpha Marlon of the Black Stone Pack has passed away. Jennifer and I are going to attend his funeral. My mother will temporarily take charge of the kingdom's affairs in the next few days. Please assist her."

As Anthony spoke, he walked onstage so that everyone could focus on him.

Sure enough, all the elders stopped what they were doing and looked at him.

“Yes, we truly felt sorry when we heard about Alpha Marlon’s death. Mr. Jones, we know that the Black Stone Pack would be honored to have you attend their late Alpha’s funeral. But we also hope you can come back as soon as possible. The coronation ceremony is fast approaching.”

The elders all lowered their heads in respectful mourning.

Now that the elders were on board, our plan to go to the Black Stone Pack was finalized.

While we would officially be there for Alpha Marlon’s funeral, we could investigate on the side and find out who the real murderer was, effectively proving Helen’s innocence.

I held Anthony’s hand tightly, my heart beating faster and faster.

“Wait for me, Helen. We’re coming to help you!”

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Anthony’s POV:

At five fifteen in the afternoon, Jennifer and I went to the prison to personally release Austin and Caroline.

Escorted by guards, Austin and Caroline followed us out of the prison in silence.

“Is everything ready?” Jennifer turned to me.

“My men have prepared a plane to fly them to the deserted island on the border. There, the guards can keep watch through satellite imagery. Unmanned aerial vehicles will drop supplies onto the island on a weekly basis,” I replied as we walked.

The truth was, Austin and Caroline didn’t deserve those supplies, given the gravity of their crimes.

We had originally sentenced them to a life of exile on the deserted island, where they were to fend for themselves.

However, now that they had shown deep regret for their actions, both my mother and I couldn't bear to give them such a harsh punishment.

My mother and I had held lengthy discussions on numerous occasions before finally deciding to send them supplies on a regular basis.

When we made it out of the prison, we found my mother outside waiting for us, along with Dana and Gary.

Before Austin and Caroline could leave for the island, there was one more thing Austin needed to do.

He had to apologize to our deceased father in front of all the kingdom's subjects.

"Well done, Anthony. This chapter of our lives is finally coming to a close."

My mother sighed and patted me on the shoulder encouragingly.

Soon, Austin and Caroline were handcuffed and the guards led them to the capital square.

A crowd had already gathered there, waiting.

When Austin was in sight, they immediately burst into curses.

Despite this, Austin didn't show any resentment on his face. He simply knelt down in the center of the square and repented in front of them.

"I have committed unforgivable crimes. I killed the former king. I deserve to die. Alas, I will spend the rest of my life repenting!"

Austin shouted loudly for everyone to hear.

"He killed our king!"

"Damn him! He doesn't deserve forgiveness!"

As soon as Austin finished speaking, the members of the kingdom began to scold him fiercely.

"Our late king would have been relieved to see this, I think."

Dana, who was standing beside me, sighed heavily.

Gary also sighed and drew a cross on his chest with his fingers, offering a prayer for my father.

As the crowd booed and jeered, the guards took Austin and led him and Caroline away.

Jennifer, my mother and I followed them to the tarmac.

Before they got on the plane, my mother took Caroline's child from a maid and held her in front of her mother.

"Caroline, you must reflect on your actions on take her to see you."

As my mother spoke, she looked lovingly at the healthy baby in her arms.

This was another matter we finally decided to let my mother raise Caroline's child.

After all, the child was innocent.

She didn't deserve to suffer on a deserted island with her parents.

It seemed like the best choice to leave the child to my mother.

Her maids would take good care of the child, and my mother would love her as though she was her own.

"Thank you, Mom. Anthony, Jennifer, please take good care of my child!"

Caroline said in a shaky voice, tears streaming down her cheeks.

Naturally, she was reluctant to be it was for the best.

"It's okay, honey. Don't cry. Mrs. Jones will take good care of our baby,"

Austin whispered as he wrapped his arms around her to comfort her.

"Don't worry, Caroline. Jennifer and I will take good care of your child," I vowed.

"Thank you, Anthony." Austin nodded at me.

Alas, time was up.

Austin and Caroline boarded the plane.

They turned to look at us one more time before the plane took off.

Jennifer and I watched until the plane was out of our sight.

Then we said goodbye to my Stone Pack.

Daniel's POV:

I waited in the airport for Simon, Jerome, and Skylar to arrive.

When everyone was here, we all piled into the car and headed back to the Black Stone House.

"Thank you for coming to help. I really don't know how to thank you. If I knew what to do, I wouldn't have bothered you."

Sitting in the car, I couldn't help but express my gratitude to Skylar, Jerome, and Simon over and over again.

"Don't say that, Daniel. What are friends for? We couldn't just sit and watch you guys get into trouble. Plus, as the Alpha of the Rainbow Pack, it's my duty to attend the funeral of the Black Stone Pack's late Alpha."

Jerome patted me on the shoulder.

"Daniel, I'm sorry for your loss."

"I'm sorry, Elder Simon. This is all my fault. I failed to protect Helen!" I said guiltily, averting my gaze.

"It's not your fault, Daniel. I know you tried your best. Someone must have plotted this meticulously. I want to see Helen as soon as we get to the Black Stone House."

Simon shook his head and sighed.

"Daniel, we all know that you truly love Helen. Don't be sad. We'll figure out a solution together!"

Skylar chimed in encouragingly.

"Thank you so much."

I tried to be strong for them and for Helen.

"I need to cheer up. Helen needs me."

Taking a deep breath, I told them the whole story, from the beginning.

"I had grown up with a girl named Mandy. But ever since I got together with Helen, she has been acting strange. She kept asking me to leave Helen and be with her. Of course, I didn't agree. So she was always against Helen. But suddenly, her attitude changed and she tried to make friends with Helen. Because Helen is such a kind and trusting girl, she didn't suspect Mandy and accepted a gift from her—a bottle of perfume. A few days later, my father suddenly died. The doctor declared

that his death was caused by Helen's perfume. Now, Mandy refuses to admit that she was the one who gifted it to Helen. We don't have any evidence to prove otherwise, so now both girls are in prison until we prove who the real murderer is."

I told them everything in one breath.

Thinking about my father's death and the situation Helen was in, my heart ached painfully.

"Oh, my God! How on earth did it come to this?"

Skylar was so sad that she burst into tears. She buried her face in Jerome's arms and cried.

"Jerome, it's just like what happened with Linda..."

"It's all in the past, honey."

Despite his comforting words, Jerome's expression also darkened.

He turned to me and said seriously, "I was in a similar situation not too long ago. A woman called Linda claimed she loved me, and did everything to sabotage my relationship with Skylar. Although she's been punished gravely, every time I think of it, I can't help but feel bad. Skylar suffered a lot from that experience, and Linda ended up killing her innocent son, Andy. It was a mess. Daniel, you must be careful. Don't let Helen get hurt. At the time, I had almost lost Skylar. I don't want you to experience the same pain."

Seeing the seriousness in Jerome's eyes, I nodded in understanding.

This was my fault.

I had failed to notice the trouble Mandy posed before it was too late.

Just then, the car stopped.

We had made it to the Black Stone House.

"Hello, I'm Luna Betty of the Black Stone Pack. Come on in. Thank you for coming to pay your respects to my late husband."

As soon as we got out of the car, my mother received us warmly.

"Jerome, Skylar, this is my mother, Luna Betty. Mom, this is Rainbow Pack's Alpha, Jerome, and his Luna, Skylar."

I introduced them to each other.

“And this is Elder Simon from Rainbow Pack. He is Helen’s father.”

“Hello, Luna Betty. I heard about what happened here from Daniel on our way over. Can I see my daughter now?”

Simon asked politely, but it was obvious he was unhappy.

“Oh, of course.”

I could tell that my mother was a little embarrassed.

She coughed awkwardly and asked the attendants to lead us to the cell where Helen was being held prisoner.

As soon as we arrived at her cell, I saw Helen sitting dejectedly on the small, shabby bed.

Her face was tired and haggard, her hair unkempt and tangled.

My heart ached so much in my chest that I found I had no words.

“Helen! My daughter, you have suffered a lot!” Simon cried out, rushing to the prison bars.

“Open the door,” my mother ordered her attendants.

“Dad!”

Helen was so excited to see Simon that she pounced on him the second the iron door swung open.

Father and daughter hugged each other tightly, tears pouring down both of their faces. I felt a lump in my throat when I saw this scene.

It was my fault that Helen was in this situation.

I needed to make things right.

Outcast: The Alpha King’s Beloved

Chapter 249

[/ Outcast: The Alpha King’s Beloved](#)
Helen’s POV:

As soon as I saw my father’s face, I felt a lump in my throat. All of a sudden, I couldn’t bear the suffering I had been going through these past few days. I threw myself into his arms and cried bitterly.

"Dad! Dad, I missed you so much!"

My tears soaked my father's shirtsleeve as I buried my face in his arms.

"I'm sorry. I must've worried you."

"Silly girl, don't apologize."

My father hugged me back.

With tears in his eyes, he looked at me sadly.

"My dear, you have suffered a lot, haven't you?"

"Helen! How are you feeling? Are you okay?"

Skylar approached, her voice filled with concern.

Only then did I notice that she and Jerome had also come.

"Skylar, you and Jerome are here!" I exclaimed happily, throwing my arms around her.

"I'm fine, thanks for asking. You're too kind."

"Daniel told us everything. He's been so worried!" Skylar hugged me back.

"You're my good friend. Of course we'll be here for you in times of trouble!"

"She's right, Helen. We know you'd never do such an evil thing, and we'll do everything in our power to find out the truth and prove your innocence,"

Jerome chimed in with a smile.

My friends' encouraging words enveloped me in a nice, warm feeling, boosting my confidence greatly.

"Luna Betty, with all due respect, this cell looks terrible. I think it will affect Helen's health."

My father suddenly spoke up.

"Oh, no, Elder Simon, you misunderstand my intentions. It's not that I want to hurt Helen. It's just that she is a prime suspect. I have no choice but to lock her up."

Betty smiled awkwardly as she hastily explained the situation.

"As an elder of the Rainbow Pack, I swear on my honor that my daughter is not the murderer. Despite her being a suspect, she will not run away."

My father stood out and made his declaration firmly.

"Yes, Luna Betty. As Alpha of the Rainbow Pack, I, too, can guarantee that Helen is not that kind of girl. Can you release her from prison at least, temporarily?" Jerome asked.

"Well, since both an elder and an Alpha are willing to swear on Helen's innocence, I her attendants.

I couldn't believe my ears! I felt so lucky that I didn't have to stay in the cold prison cell anymore.

"Let's hand in to mine and kissed me on the forehead affectionately.

In a daze, I followed everyone out of my cell.

As we were passing by another cell, a shrill voice suddenly sounded.

"Helen! Why are you outside your cell? Luna Betty, how dare you cover up for this criminal? Helen, you bitch! How come she gets to go out but I can't?"

Mandy shouted and cursed like a madwoman.

"What's the matter with her?"

My father glared at Betty, demanding an explanation.

"I'm sorry. I didn't expect her to Mandy's sudden outburst.

With a long face, she ordered a guard behind her to gag her.

"That's Mandy," Daniel whispered to my father.

At the mention of that name, my father's expression darkened.

It looked like he knew the story behind all of this.

"Don't be mad, Dad. She's all talk. She can't do anything to me from inside her cell."

I hurried to comfort my father, whose face was turning purple from rage.

Skylar's POV:

I instinctively grabbed Jerome's hand when that crazy woman started cursing at Helen.

Hearing all the vile couldn't help but feel angry for my friend.

How unfortunate for her to have crossed paths with such a bitch! I took deep breaths, lowering my head to conceal the anger on my face.

But the woman's shrill voice was echoed in my ears incessantly; I could feel my wrist burning, almost aching to teach that bitch a lesson.

Fortunately, I managed to sober myself up in time.

If I used my special powers in front of so many people, I would be doomed.

Not only would Jerome be implicated by me, but also Anthony and Jennifer.

After the guard tied that crazy woman's mouth, I finally felt much calmer.

I patted Helen on the back to comfort her, and we all hurried out of that depressing prison.

"Let's have dinner,"

Betty suggested, smiling politely at us.

So we all filed into the dining room to eat.

"Helen, have some apple pie."

At the dinner table, Daniel picked up a plate of apple pie and placed it in front of Helen.

"I know how much you like apple pie."

"Thank you, Daniel."

Helen grinned happily.

Seeing the interaction between Daniel and Helen made me exchange knowing smiles with Jerome.

I couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief now that I knew that Helen didn't blame Daniel for her suffering.

"Helen, did you get thinner? Eat some more."

Simon frowned, but we knew he was just being considerate of his daughter.

I smiled and decided to dote on Helen, too.

"Helen, did you ever go hungry in prison?" I asked with concern.

"No, I was well taken care of," Helen replied, her eyes brimming with tears.

"Skylar, Jerome, thank you for everything. I'm really happy that you trust me."

Everyone ate, drank, and chatted merrily over dinner.

Suddenly, an attendant hurried in with a stack of documents and handed them to Betty. I was keenly aware of the change in Betty's expression when her eyes landed on the documents in her hands.

"Luna Betty, these are the results of the autopsy. Please have a look," the attendant reported to Betty.

"Oh, my God!"

Betty quickly leafed through the report, studying it vigorously.

Gradually, all the color drained from her face.

"Is that Dad's autopsy report, Mom?" Daniel asked sadly when he saw Betty's reaction.

At the same time, all of us quieted down and looked at Betty with concern.

Marlon had died a miserable death.

Even though I never met him personally, I still felt sorry for Betty.

If something like this had happened to Jerome...

I probably wouldn't be as calm as she was now.

"Yes. The report shows that your father died of myocardial infarction due to inhalation of too much ephedrine hydrochloride!" Betty answered in a low voice.

"Oh my God! Alpha Marlon was really killed by that bottle of perfume. The report on the perfume showed that a lot of ephedrine hydrochloride was added to that bottle!" Helen burst into tears.

"But you have to believe me, Luna Betty! Mandy was the one who gave me that bottle of perfume!"

"Everyone, please rest assured that I will investigate the matter thoroughly."

Betty took a deep breath and spoke in a trembling but firm voice.

"They have just laid Alpha Marlon's body inside the coffin. Will you go there now?" the attendant asked Betty.

"Okay, I'll head there right now."

Betty stood up from the table and smiled at us apologetically.

"I'm sorry. I have to, make preparations for my late husband's funeral."

"Let's go to the church together. I also want to see Alpha Marlon for the last time," Helen suggested tearfully.

Everyone nodded in agreement and we all went to the church together.

Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved

Chapter 250

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

When Daniel first introduced Helen to us, I heard about her background. I heard that the future Alpha and Luna of the Rainbow Pack were good friends of hers.

Now, I knew that this rumor was true, because they had come running to help Helen personally in her time of trouble.

Moreover, Helen's father was an elder of the very same pack.

I knew that I needed to deal with this matter cautiously and stop at nothing to find the truth.

Recalling what had happened on the day that Marlon died, I couldn't help but feel guilty.

I had doubted Helen at the time, which must've hurt her.

Now that I calmed down, I found myself believing in Helen.

After all, she had no reason to murder my husband.

Even if she really wanted to kill Marlon, she wouldn't have used such a stupid method.

As for Mandy, she might've grown up with Daniel, but I still didn't know much about her.

Plus, thinking about how she had cursed Helen earlier, I couldn't help but feel dubious.

How could she have acted so uneducated? Her behavior was truly strange.

Unfortunately, there was no evidence to prove that Helen was innocent, so I could do nothing to comfort her.

With a sigh, I decided to put these worries aside first.

I had to prioritize dealing with my poor husband's funeral.

When we arrived at the church, I looked at Marion's body lying in the coffin.

"Honey, I came to see you" I said softly, trying to hold back my tears.

I stroked the coffin gently.

It was as cold as my heart.

"How are you? I miss you so much, Marlon. I miss you more each day."

God, just half a month ago, he was still alive and well.

Now, he was a cold, lifeless corpse lying in a coffin.

Thinking about this, I could feel my heart shattering into a million pieces.

"Alpha Marlon, rest in peace."

Skylar sighed heavily.

"Alpha Marlon, you were a fair and kind Alpha. We will always remember you."

Helen prayed beside her with her hands clasped together.

"Daniel, have you made your father's death public?" I turned to ask my son.

"Yes, Mom," Daniel replied without hesitation.

"The memorial service will be held in two days. Daniel, please send out the invitations to the funeral before then."

The truth was, I could do those things myself.

But Alpha of our pack, I decided he could use the training.

"Sure, Mom," Daniel answered respectfully.

I looked at him.

His eyes were red, but good that he was able to deal with these trifles calmly.

I couldn't help but feel a little relieved.

It seemed that my son had become more mature overnight.

Just then, an attendant ran to us in a hurry.

"Luna Betty, Prince Anthony from the Osman Kingdom and his mate have arrived," the attendant announced breathlessly.

"Oh, my God!" I didn't think the prince would hear about Marlon's death, let alone come here personally to pay his respects!

"Everyone, come with me to receive the prince. Our welcome ceremony anything!"

As soon as I was done giving orders, I rushed to the gate in a panic.

For some reason, Skylar and Jerome seemed unfazed.

They simply followed me with Daniel and Helen.

Jerome's POV:

I was expecting Anthony and my sister to come to the Black Stone Pack.

After all, Helen was also their friend.

But when I heard that they had already arrived, I couldn't help but feel excited. I hadn't seen my sister for a long time.

She had been busy and stressed, dealing with Anthony's Love Curse.

Now be at ease.

I took Skylar's hand and together, we walked out of the church and headed to the Black Stone House.

From afar, I could see Anthony's private plane landing on the tarmac.

Anthony and Jennifer disembarked.

They looked good beaming, even.

“Good day, Mr. Jones. It’s nice to meet you.”

Betty took the lead and bowed respectfully to Anthony.

“Jennifer!”

After saluting Anthony, Skylar rushed over to Jennifer excitedly and practically pounced on her.

“Be careful, Skylar!” I hurried to follow her.

“You could’ve fallen. You’re pregnant, remember?”

“Skylar, how have you been?”

Jennifer threw her arms around Skylar and stuck out her tongue at me.

“I’m fine. I heard you’re pregnant, too. Congratulations, Jennifer! The Osman Kingdom is about to have an heir!” Skylar answered, taking Jennifer’s hands in hers.

I chuckled softly. I knew she missed her friend very much.

“Congratulations, Jennifer. I’m glad you and Mr. Jones can finally get married without worries. I wish happiness for the both of you.”

“I was really hoping everyone could come to the wedding, but I don’t think that’ll be the case.” Jennifer sighed sadly.

“Yeah, we still need to figure out Helen’s predicament, and I doubt Skylar can go back anytime soon...”

Thinking of everything that had happened, I sighed alongside Jennifer.

I understood what my sister meant.

Although she really hoped that Skylar could be there at her wedding, she was more worried about exposing Skylar’s special powers, which would put Skylar in danger.

After all, Skylar had revealed her special power in the royal palace’s banquet hall last time, and many had witnessed it.

She couldn’t afford another mistake. “Don’t worry.

Everything will turn out fine.

Anthony and I will do everything in our power to make things work.”

Jennifer smiled at me encouragingly. She was still so optimistic.

"Mr. Jones, please come in and have a seat. You must be tired from your flight,"

Betty cut in with a sheepish smile.

"Thank you." Anthony nodded.

Together, we all filed into the hall and got settled.

"Care for a drink? Juice? Coffee?" Daniel asked, enthusiastically playing his role as tonight's host.

"I'm pregnant so I can't drink coffee. I'm good with anything else other than that." Skylar chuckled.

To me, she winked.

"He will make a good husband in the future."

"You're right, honey." I laughed with Skylar.

"I'll have some juice," Jennifer told Daniel.

"Then, I want juice, too." Anthony sat down next to Jennifer and held her hand.

The two exchanged glances and smiled.

Seeing the way they interacted with each other made me grin from ear to ear.

I was just so happy that they could finally be together, after everything that they had been through.

"Okay, please feel at home. I'll be right back."

Daniel scurried off with an armful of cups.

"Let me help, Daniel."

Helen stood up to follow after him.

"Don't. It's no big deal, I can handle a few cups of drinks. Stay here and talk to our friends."

Daniel smiled at Helen.

With all of us together again after so long, the depressing atmosphere from earlier dissipated almost completely.

“Helen, sit here!”

Jennifer smiled at Helen and patted the seat next to her.

“Sure!”

Helen agreed without hesitation and sat down next to Jennifer.

Just then, Daniel returned to the hall with a tray full of drinks.

He distributed the cups of juice to everyone before finally settling down next to Helen.

“Now that everyone’s here, let’s get down to business.

“As Jennifer spoke, she gave a meaningful look at Anthony, who nodded. Then, she turned to Betty seriously.”

“Luna Betty, I heard that Helen was accused of murdering Alpha Marlon. What on earth happened? Tell me everything.”