

CHAPTER 38: DEVIN

Claire took the roses and inhaled deeply, the fragrance of fresh roses invading her senses. But along with the fragrance, she sensed another scent that lingered in the flowers. The scent of the man who carried and dropped the flowers. Claire sighed, realising that Devin had come to visit Eunice. He must have heard their conversation and after realising what had happened to Eunice, he ran away instead of facing them.

Claire threw the flowers away with a sigh before going back to the room. She froze when she saw Eunice looking at her with a confused expression. Claire just shook her head, trying to keep her anxiety out of her face as she looked at Eunice.

"I thought I heard some noise, but when I went to check, there was nothing there. It must have been some twigs breaking from the wind," Claire said, deciding to not tell Eunice that Devin was there. She wasn't ready to tell him about what happened to her and if Eunice realises that Devin already knew it, she would not take it well.

As Eunice went back to staring blankly at the wall, her eyes looking dull, Claire thought of Devin. He now knew what had happened to Eunice. This was an opportunity to test Devin's love for her. If he truly cared about Eunice, he wouldn't push her away for something that was not her fault. Instead, he will stand with her and help her heal by showering her with his affection. He would show her she wasn't worthless just because some cruel bastard assaulted her. And he would make her realize that she could have a happy life regardless of what happened. That this was just a scary chapter in her life that she could turn over one day. If he really cared for her, he would know how Eunice is a gem of a woman and he will not miss her just because of

what happened to her. He will not show his frustration on Eunice but the bastard who attacked her. If he truly loved her, he would kill that scum with his bare hands!

Eunice needed his care and support the most during this tough phase of her life, and if he couldn't be there for her now, he didn't deserve to be in her life.

"Claire?" Eunice called out in a voice barely above a whisper, and Claire turned to her.

"Yes, dear?"

"Can I have a few days off, please?" Eunice begged, her eyes wide with fear of hearing a no. How will Claire ever say no to Eunice? That too, when she was in such a fragile condition?

"Oh, Eunice. You don't even have to ask that. Take as long as you can and just come back when you feel you can do it. Just recover for now and if you think you need a distraction, we can decide about you rejoining," Claire said in a soothing tone.

Eunice looked up at Claire, her eyes shining with tears, the grey orbs no longer holding the sparkle they once had.

"Please don't tell anyone about what happened to me. I can't bear to see the pity and judgment of anyone. I just want to forget this ever happened..."

"Of course, darling. It is your decision whether you reveal this to anyone or not. If you ever do it, just know that I will always be there for you. If you don't want to tell anyone, I will never tell a soul about it. Don't you trust me?"

"You are the only one I trust wholeheartedly," Eunice replied, a spark

of fire burning in her eyes for a moment before it fizzled away.

Claire looked back at Eunice, who was still sitting there looking lost. She sighed before walking towards her. Claire gently brushed away the messy hair that was falling into Eunice's forehead. First, she needed to take care of her friend. Then she will think of the rest.

As Claire took a comb and started brushing her hair gently, Eunice sat there silently, her tired eyes full of trust. Even if the whole world turns against her, Claire will always be with her. She believed that with her whole heart.

After brushing Eunice's hair, Claire helped her clean up and once she was dressed in a fresh T-shirt and jeans, Eunice looked more like the girl she was till two days ago even though her eyes were still puffy. Even if it was just an outward appearance, it felt good to see Eunice in a better state. Hopefully, it would help Eunice feel at least a little better.

As Claire tucked Eunice into her bed like she was a little kid, her chest twitched painfully. This was the girl who always took care of everyone else. Never has she ever depended on anyone, and now she has come to this state just because of a miserable excuse of a human. How was this fair?

Eunice looked at Claire, her eyes full of insecurity and fear. Claire gave her a gentle smile before humming a lullaby, making Eunice relax. Slowly her eyes closed, and she fell asleep, her tired body succumbing to exhaustion.

Claire watched Eunice sleep with her eyes full of tears, finally allowing herself to break down. She had tried to stay strong in front of Eunice, to act like it was not a big deal because if she started crying too, Eunice would have broken completely. But now that

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Eunice was sleeping, Claire just couldn't hold on to her grief. Big heaving sobs wracked her body as she kept her hand on her mouth, trying to muffle her sound. How was she going to fix this ever? How could she bring her old Eunice back?

Once she got herself back in control, Claire thought of Devin, who had found out about Eunice's situation. Will he try to avenge her this time too, like he did with Diana? Well, it didn't matter. Claire will wait for no one to avenge her friend. She will find the sadistic bastard who did this to her friend herself. And once she hunts him down, he will die slowly and painfully, regretting all the evil he ever did in his miserable existence!

Devin ran through the forest, his eyes flashing with rage and sadness as the conversation between Claire and Eunice repeated itself on his head as if in a loop. He had been so happy, so full of love and hope when he went there with the flowers, ready to confess his love for her. Her status as a wolfless omega didn't matter to him anymore if it ever did. He knew Eunice was a gem of a woman who was confident and kind at the same time and he couldn't wait to call her his. But all his dreams shattered the moment he heard her tell Claire how she was raped by a stranger in the forest. He stood there frozen with disbelief as he heard her broken sobs, her pleas to not see him. He couldn't process the information that his mate was violated right under his nose and he wasn't there to save her.

With his wolf about to shift and tear the place down, Devin turned back and ran, throwing away the blood roses he had so carefully picked to profess his love. He was dreaming of a happy life with his mate and just like that, everything changed even before he could blink. Just why would this happen to them?

Suddenly Devin came to a halt seeing Sebastian standing there in his path, blocking it.

"Move," Devin growled out angrily and Sebastian just raised his brows, refusing to comply.

Devin let out a growl that sent the birds flying away from the nearby trees, but Sebastian just stood there unfazed.

"What happened?" Sebastian asked finally when Devin let out a defeated sigh and leaned against a tree.

Devin shook his head as a tear slid down his eyes, making Sebastian look at him with worry. Seeing his always carefree friend in this state, Sebastian wondered what happened to make Devin this upset.

"Everything is lost..." Devin cried out suddenly, and Sebastian narrowed his eyes.

"What?"

Devin continued speaking, a lost look in his eyes.

"My Eunice was raped by someone," Devin said in a low voice before he let out a growl. "Someone had the audacity to touch my mate!" He repeated, his voice deeper with anger.

Sebastian froze, his eyes widening with shock. When he found Devin running through the forest, anger emanating off him, he knew that something had happened to him. But he hadn't expected it to be something huge like this. How could any man try to take a woman forcefully? Anyone doing such a heinous act is not worthy of being called human!

Sebastian could only imagine the pain that Devin must be facing after knowing what had happened to his mate. If something like that happened to his Claire, he couldn't even fathom how he would feel. The only thing he knew was that he would always be with his mate, no matter what. He will stay by her side and help her heal from the tragedy. He will let her know he loved her regardless of what happened to her and it was not her fault. Devin needed to do the same. He needed to be with Eunice at this time.

"Right now, the most important thing to do is to stay with your mate. She needs you. You should be by her side to comfort her," Sebastian said, making Devin freeze, his face growing pale.

Devin looked at Sebastian, his eyes full of hesitation.

"I can't go to her now," he said, and Sebastian narrowed his eyes.

"I don't know what to think about what happened to her. I can't see her in such a state. It will kill me. I just can't see her now."

Sebastian stared at him with a torn look and Devin straightened up, anger coursing through his veins. Then Devin growled out in a guttural voice, his wolf joining him.

"But one thing I know for sure. I am going to hunt down that bastard who did this to my mate, and I am going to tear him to pieces with my bare hands. He will regret ever laying his filthy eyes on my mate. I won't breathe peacefully until I have his blood coating my arms!"