Irresistible 591

Chapter 591 The Nightmare

Sylvia's POV:

I shot up in a cold sweat. The fear in my nightmare had been so real that I couldn't differentiate between the dream and reality. I involuntarily shuddered.

"What's wrong?" Rufus asked, wrapping his arms around me.

"I had a nightmare." I hadn't returned to my senses yet. I subconsciously grabbed Rufus' hand. It was the only way I could ground myself.

"What was it?" he asked softly.

I dithered for a while. My dream had been so ominous that I didn't give Rufus any details. I just told him that it was too hazy for me to remember.

He wiped the sweat gathered on my forehead with his fingers, pecked me on my lips, and comforted me, "It was just a dream. Don't let it scare you. Do you want to take a shower? You'll feel better."

My body relaxed a little. Leaning against his chest, I acted like a bratty child. "I don't have the energy. I can't walk."

"What will you do then?" Rufus chuckled, held my hand, and kissed its back. "You won't take a shower?"

"No way." I wrinkled my nose and sniffed my clothes in disgust. "I stink of sweat."

He pinched my earlobe and gently asked, "Shall I give you a piggyback ride?"

I kissed him hard on the lips and looked into his deep eyes. "No, I want you to carry me in your arms as if I'm a princess."

Rufus chortled, lowered his head, and kissed me on my lips. His deep intense kiss nearly robbed me of my breath.

I pulled back. Keeping his arms around me, he released my mouth.

The silvery-white thin saliva still connected our lips. It seemed that Rufus wasn't satisfied, so he kept showering me with kisses.

"Ready to take a bath?"

Rufus' voice became hoarse and sexy, dripping with lust.

I nodded and reached out my arms obediently. "Carry me there."

He rubbed my nose and dotingly said, "Yes, my little princess."

It started out as a simple bath, but slowly changed into something else.

I positioned myself on Rufus' belly, letting my wet pussy slowly rub against his penis.

"Honey, do you want this?" I bent over and gently whispered in his ear. I held his thick penis in my hand and arranged it at my opening. Every time it slid in a little, I pulled back.

Rufus' handsome face was already shining with uncontrollable desire. He gasped and held my waist firmly with one hand, trying to enter me.

"No. We still have soap on our bodies." My rosy lips parted gently and put my finger on his lips, my breasts pressed tightly against his chest.

Rufus swallowed hard and his penis doubled in size in my hand. He couldn't stand it anymore. He flipped me over and pinned me with his body, making the water splash around us.

Then he twisted around, picked up the bath towel behind him, and wrapped me with it. "Let's go back to bed."

There was an urgency in his voice.

But when he turned around, my eyes fell on his back.

What was originally a small mole had grown bigger in size.

Under the light, I was finally certain it was not a mole. It looked like some newly sprouted living thing.

My mind suddenly flashed back to the black thorns in my nightmare.

My thoughts terrified me. My stomach churned with uneasiness and my arousal vanished instantly.

Scrambling to find an excuse to refuse Rufus, I just said that I was tired. He kissed me on the lips to show his understanding.

In the end, I helped Rufus come with my hand.

After finishing our bath, we returned to bed.

Rufus held me in his arms and quickly fell asleep.

About ten minutes later, I quietly unwrapped his arms from around me and crept out of bed.

Chapter 592 An Ominous Presentimen

Sylvia's POV:

I ran to the study and locked it behind me. Then, without further delay, I took out a paper and a pen and sat at the desk.

"Sylvia, what are you doing?" Yana asked curiously.

"Drawing."

I closed my eyes and began recalling the thorn pattern I had seen in Noreen's laboratory the other day. Then, I picked up the pen and drew what materialized in my mind.

"Isn't this the pattern we saw the other day?" Yana still remembered the pattern and analyzed it for me. "This pattern looks ominous. It must be some kind of a vicious curse."

I remained silent. As I examined my drawing carefully, I realized it was the blackthorn I had seen in my dream.

"Why are you drawing this? Have you seen the same pattern before?" Yana asked.

"Yes, I had a dream. I dreamed of blackthorns, just like the ones I saw in Noreen's lab." My heart sank, and my stomach churned with unease.

Dreaming about the blackthorns didn't really frighten me.

However, I dreamed of the thorns crushing and choking Rufus. It was absolutely terrifying.

I had a hunch that it was definitely not a coincidence.

"Is it possible you had such a dream because you had been thinking about it all day, ever since you saw it in Noreen's lab?" Yana thought my dream was a result of excessive thinking. But I knew there was more to it.

"No." As I examined the pattern, I was more convinced my judgment was right.

The blackthorns in my dream were the same as the ones I saw in Noreen's lab.

An inexplicable emotion arose in my heart. It seemed like an invisible force was drawing me to it.

"If that's the case, why did Rufus appear in your dream too? How is he associated with the ominous thorns?" Yana grew serious and began helping me figure out the meaning of the pattern.

"This is exactly why I feel uneasy." I sighed wearily.

Just then, I recalled the words written beside the pattern on the book and recited them twice.

Not just me. Yana, too, grew uneasy.

"Merely hearing that terrifies me. Souls and lives shall be sacrificed? What is that supposed to mean? And only the most sincere love can grow the complete black thorns? That's bullshit. I think those witches had deliberately made up strange things on purpose."

"Maybe it has something to do with Noreen. Perhaps it's Noreen's curse," I said.

"But Noreen has not appeared, right? How could she have possibly gotten the chance to curse Rufus again?" Yana was confused. She asked me to look on the Internet about the thorn pattern.

I turned on the computer and searched the verse. Hundreds of similar verses popped up on the screen. But none of them was the exact same as the one I saw, let alone the source and explanation.

Then, I searched the patterns of thorns. All the patterns that appeared on the browser looked normal. None of them grew in the reverse direction.

My head whirled with confusion. I sighed and turned off the computer in frustration. I decided to find an excuse and go back to the lab to research it tomorrow.

"That's the vampires' territory. Don't go there," Yana advised. "It was too challenging for us to escape the place last time."

"But if I don't go, I will never have the chance to find out about the truth. Things at the border are about to come to an end and we'll soon be leaving. I won't be able to figure out the meaning of the pattern after returning to the imperial capital city. I think this whole thing is just too ominous."

I didn't care about how dangerous it was. I had to go back there and find out the truth, for the dream continued to haunt me and wreck my peace.

"All right."

Yana couldn't persuade me, so she finally agreed to accompany me.

Chapter 593 Something Wrong With You

Rufus' POV:

When I stirred in the morning, I automatically wanted to wrap my arms around the one beside me, but they met empty air.

I opened my eyes groggily and saw that Sylvia wasn't next to me.

"Sylvia?" I called out to her several times, but got no response.

Had Flora taken her away for some work?

I ran a hand through my messy hair and hauled myself out of bed. Then I casually picked up the pajamas lying on the sofa and put them on.

When I walked out of the room, the clinking sound of plates and bowls reached my ears.

Sylvia was actually cooking breakfast.

I was surprised that she was up so early. Every time she had stayed the night before this, I was the one who woke up first.

I walked to her and snaked my arms around her waist from behind. As the fragrance of her hair tickled my nose, I couldn't stop myself from turning her around and giving her a morning kiss.

Holding a spatula in her hand, Sylvia giggled while kissing me. "If you keep this up, the food is going to be burnt."

I reluctantly released her, taking a moment to tuck a loose strand of her hair behind her ear. "Go ahead. I'm waiting for your food, chef."

Sylvia looked at me with laughing eyes and pouted. "Sit down. Breakfast will be ready soon."

I took a seat at the dining table with a grin and watched her intently. My heart swelled with happiness and satisfaction. The desire to marry her as soon as possible was so strong in me that it made my heart race.

As the thoughts of my future with her crowded my mind, everything around me looked rosy.

Sylvia placed a plate of eggs and bacon in front of me and kissed the corner of my mouth. "What are you thinking about?"

"Nothing." I caressed her hair. "Why did you get up so early today?"

"I woke up in the middle of the night. I couldn't fall asleep again, so I decided to get out of bed early."

She took out the coffee beans to brew coffee, and then turned to look at me. "Do you have any plans today?"

"I have a meeting later. I have to inspect the city in the afternoon. Too many murders have been happening recently."

After giving a brief rundown of my schedule to her, my attention was instantly snagged by the crispy bacon on the plate. I ate a few bites in quick succession before putting down my fork.

"What about you? What's your plan for the day? Would you like to grab lunch together?"

Sylvia propped her chin on her hand and shook her head. She didn't touch the food in front of her. She just watched me eating, a hint of sadness lurking behind her eyes.

"What's wrong?" I touched her cheek to check her temperature, thinking she wasn't feeling well.

She smiled and said, "Nothing. I can't have lunch with you. Harry is in charge of the stray animals' rescue. He needs some help. I volunteered to assist him."

"Okay." I nodded in understanding. After the wall had been torn down, a large number of stray cats and dogs had infiltrated the city. To solve this problem, several temporary animal relief stations had been set up.

After breakfast, Sylvia and I spent some time making out before we went about our day.

On my way to the city hall, I still couldn't get her off my mind. I couldn't shake the feeling that something was bothering her, as if she was hiding something. She didn't eat anything in the morning, and I had caught her looking distracted several times.

I decided to go to the animal relief station after the meeting to check in on Sylvia, but I bumped into Harry and John on my way to the city hall building.

I walked up to them and greeted them. Then I took Harry aside and said, "Sylvia is coming to your rescue station today. Please keep an eye on her. I feel like something is troubling her today. Call me if anything happens."

Then I took out my phone and exchanged phone numbers with him.

Chapter 594 The Secret Mission

Harry's POV:

"Give me your phone number." Prince Rufus took out his phone and slid it twice to unlock the screen. His voice was as pleasant as the soothing sounds of nature. I took out my phone with trembling hands as my mind screamed.

'Am I dreaming?!' I finally got the number of the strongest man in the empire.

The phone chimed as the friend request got approved.

I tried my best to remain calm and control myself from laughing like a maniac. Prince Rufus' words made me feel like I had taken up a secret mission. My heart soared as excitement bubbled up within me.

"Don't worry. I promise I will fulfill the mission. I won't let Sylvia disappear from my sight." My chest puffed up as I saluted Prince Rufus.

In turn, he smiled, patted my shoulder, and left.

John, that was, Joanna came over and looked at me with wide eyes. "Stop grinning. You look like a fool."

I snorted and carefully slid the phone back into my pocket, ignoring her words.

"What did Prince Rufus ask you to do? Does he want you to keep an eye on Sylvia?" Joanna asked.

"You don't understand the intimate interactions between lovers," I said without looking up. Then, something occurred to me. "How do you know that he wants me to keep an eye on Sylvia?"

Joanna smiled with disdain. "You were so loud. It was impossible not to hear you."

I scoffed at her. Although Joanna always embarrassed me, it usually didn't affect my mood.

Just then, Joanna patted my shoulder.

However, I wriggled back to avoid her touch. "Don't touch me."

Ignoring my words, she grasped my collar, pulled me aside, and hid behind a pillar.

"What are you doing?"

"Shh... Look ahead."

I followed her gaze and saw Sylvia walking at a distance. She was dressed up neatly and was holding a baseball bat in her hand.

It was a pleasant surprise, and I wanted to greet her. However, Joanna stopped me.

"What's wrong?" I was confused.

"Sylvia isn't going to the animal shelter. Didn't Prince Rufus say that Sylvia was going to find us? Why is she heading to the suburb? It looks like she's going out of the city."

Her words made me nervous. She was right; Prince Rufus had indeed said that. The work at the animal shelter seemed easy now. We didn't really need extra help. I couldn't understand why Sylvia wanted to offer help all of a sudden. Besides, she didn't inform me in advance.

The more I thought about it, the more I sensed something was wrong. 'Is Sylvia trying to deceive Prince Rufus? Oh, no!'

If so, then it was terrible.

How could Sylvia lie to Prince Rufus?

"Shall we contact Prince Rufus?" Joanna asked.

I shook my head fiercely. Although I admired the prince, I was still on my friend's side.

Sylvia was an enigma; she even used me as a shield, which meant it was something important.

'Is she secretly meeting another man?'

I clamped my mouth in shock. If Sylvia had an affair, Prince Rufus would lose his mind.

"What do we do now? Pretend like we never saw her?" Joanna asked, frowning.

My heart sank as I watched Sylvia's receding figure. I knew Prince Rufus would torture himself in a thousand ways if he found that Sylvia was having an affair.

"Let's follow her secretly. It's not safe to leave the city now. I'm afraid Sylvia will be in danger."

I sighed and kept reminding myself to calm down no matter what I saw later. I had to find an opportunity and somehow change Sylvia's mind. After all, passion was only temporary. Only true love lasted, and Sylvia belonged to Prince Rufus.

Chapter 595 The Roller Coaster Ride

Harry's POV:

After making up our minds, Joanna and I secretly followed Sylvia.

Sylvia went to the camp at the city's gate and borrowed a military car.

Since the construction work was going on, everyone needed a car to traverse in and out of the city. We could borrow a military car if we showed our military ID cards.

Fortunately, Joanna and I carried our ID cards.

Once Sylvia was out of sight, Joanna and I immediately borrowed a military car to follow her.

Joanna drove the car. I took out a small pair of binoculars and peered out of the window.

Sylvia was driving at jet speed, and the car almost disappeared from my sight. But Joanna continued to drive at the same speed.

"Can't you drive faster? It looks like I would have a better chance catching up with her if I walked," I turned around and complained.

Joanna rolled her eyes. "Sylvia is very vigilant. We need to maintain a safe distance from her. Otherwise, she will see us."

I pursed my lips, leaned against the window, and began observing what was going through the binoculars.

However, in the blink of an eye, Sylvia was out of sight.

"Hurry up! Even a vintage car will go faster than yours. We will lose track of her if you drive at this speed," I complained again.

To my surprise, the next second, Joanna stepped on the gas, and the car propelled forward.

I was thrown back to the seat, and the binoculars almost slipped out of my hands.

Joanna turned to look at me and grinned wildly. "Fasten your seatbelt. We're about to go on a roller coaster ride!"

"What the fuck ... "

Before I could finish speaking, Joanna made a sharp turn. My body was pressed against the door like a leech as I swayed around like a pendulum.

I quickly grasped my seatbelt for dear life. Just then, I spotted a steep slope ahead of us. But Joanna didn't intend to slow down. She seemed excited. She stepped on the gas as the car jerked forward again and peeled forward like the wind.

I was scared out of my wits. "Fuck! Slow down!"

"What are you afraid of?"

I heard Joanna's voice through the howling winds. She calmly gripped the steering wheel and drove to the slope. As soon as we reached the top of the slope, it felt as if the car had become weightless as it jerked forward in midair.

Then with the engine roaring, it plunged forward and bounced twice, before it smoothly landed on the flat surface.

My eyes widened in horror, and I felt dizzy.

Before I could recover, the car started to sway again. It really felt like she was driving a bumper car.

I was too horrified to even scream or shout at her. Unable to take it anymore, I stuck my head out the window and retched wildly.

Finally, we arrived at a dense forest. Joanna didn't stop until we spotted Sylvia's car.

I frantically looked around and found that we were already in the vampires' territory.

"Let's get out of the car and look around." Joanna got out of the car first with a stern look on her face.

I followed suit and slowly limped out of the car.

My legs grew wobbly, and couldn't carry my weight. So I slumped to the floor.

Joanna walked to me in disgust and helped me stand up.

A blush flamed my cheeks. "I haven't recovered yet."

"I see." Joanna grabbed my hand and led me forward.

Soon, we followed the traces on the ground and found where Sylvia was headed.

A sinking feeling settled in the pit of my stomach. 'Is Sylvia having an affair with a vampire?'

However, werewolves and vampires had an intense hatred for each other.

How could Sylvia be so irrational?

I sighed and followed Joanna. After a long while, we finally found the traces of Sylvia.

Chapter 596 A Colorful Wolf

Joanna's POV:

I walked ahead and finally caught Sylvia's trail through some footprints she had left in the sand and soil.

Harry followed me. He sighed periodically, but I didn't know what was running through his mind.

He wasn't going to tell me if I asked him anyway. It was better for me to hold my tongue.

Soon, we followed Sylvia to a vast open grassland. We had to move forward in a half-crouch through the sparse grass.

"Hold on for a minute. My shoelaces have come loose."

Harry's hurried whisper came from behind.

I reluctantly turned around and saw him crouched on the ground trying to tie his shoelaces.

Even though he usually dressed smartly and always tried to be the best at everything, he was, in fact, a fool who didn't even know how to tie his shoelaces properly.

I supposed this was normal though. Almost everyone had something in their life that they just couldn't master. Warren, for example, was an excellent cook, but he was still a messy man who was unable to fold his clothes neatly. When he would get bored of folding them, he would simply ball them up and toss them in the closet.

As for Harry, he was good with his hands. However, when it came to tying his shoelaces, even though he must have practiced it several hundred times, his fingers still moved clumsily.

I sighed and got closer to him. Batting his hand away, I tied his laces for him.

"I want a bowknot."

This man had so many demands.

I didn't say anything. I held the shoelaces with both hands and made two turns. A bowknot took shape easily.

It was not until I fulfilled Harry's demand that he graced me with a smile for the first time today.

"You are really good at tying shoelaces."

He was such a fool!

I shot him a glance and realized that even if he was bent low, he was still likely to be noticed. He was too tall.

"Turn into your wolf form and follow me." After giving him that instruction, I spun around and continued

following Sylvia.

He obediently replied, "Okay."

Ignoring him, I focused all my attention on Sylvia. In a low voice, I told him, "It seems like Sylvia is looking for something."

Harry didn't respond, but I wasn't bothered.

About a minute later, Sylvia reached a clearing and stopped walking.

I instantly froze as well and gestured at Harry to conceal himself.

Sylvia wandered around in the clearing for a while. I couldn't figure out what she was looking for. There was an eerie silence around us, further driving home the point that she was acting weirdly.

My face was serious and I began to worry inwardly. So far, every move of hers had been strange. Had she been cursed?

At this moment, she abruptly stretched her arm out and the next second, a black fog slowly began to rise around her.

I was stunned. When I turned around and was about to talk to Harry, I saw some quick movement from the corner of my eye.

I looked carefully and realized that it was a colorful wolf in the tall green grass.

It had just rained and the grass was still wet. To my horror, when Harry's fur touched any of the surrounding flowers and plants, they just got stained.

I could make out that this wolf had dyed its hair colorfully, and it had faded out now.

I was so shocked that my mind went blank. I was speechless.

I was seriously wondering what this creature in front of me was.

I truly suspected that it was an idiot wolf with a retarded brain.

"Owoo..."

The colorful wolf tilted its head and gave me a smile.

I was at an even bigger loss for words.

It was definitely an insensible idiot wolf.

Chapter 597 Entering For The Second Time

Sylvia's POV:

I arrived at the place where the stone chamber had appeared the last time. But the pendant was missing, and I couldn't seem to find a way to get inside.

After circling for a while, I suddenly remembered my blood was special, for it could temporarily relieve the curse on Rufus and Blair.

After thinking for a while, I took out the dagger and slashed my fingertip. The blood gushed out and trickled on the ground.

A few seconds later, the black mist rose, and the ground began to burn.

A sense of unease settled in the pit of my stomach as I witnessed it. Both my mother's pendant and my blood were coincidentally involved with Noreen in some way.

Just then, I remembered the blackthorns I saw in my dream. They all seemed like signs of warning.

However, I had no idea how to connect them. It felt like a kite dangling in the air, and the one holding the string had been hiding in the dark, confusing me.

The gathering speed of the black mist wasn't as swift as the last time -- perhaps because the opening mechanism of the stone chamber was different. The pendant seemed more unrestrained.

I stood there and silently waited for the black mist to envelop me.

Just then, I heard someone exclaim, "What is it?"

My heart leaped to my throat. Thinking the vampires had found me, I quickly squatted. However, the space around me was empty and barren. People could see me even if I squatted.

I never expected that vampires would notice me this soon. This place was in the middle of a dense forest, and I thought I would have time before they found me.

The silent forest broke into an uproar, and strange sounds came from every direction.

I grew more vigilant and looked around for a place to hide.

Just then, something colorful flew over the grass in the distance. It was swift and dazzling. Several vampires followed it.

"Stop! What's that? Look! It's running!"

"It looks like a colorful wild boar."

"Damn it! Can a wild boar run at that speed?"

"There are many mutants in this forest."

The noises seemed to grow louder with every passing minute as the vampires continued to shout and swear. Fortunately, no one noticed me.

I breathed a sigh of relief and thanked the unknown creature for attracting the vampires' attention.

Moments later, the black mist fully enveloped me, and the noises faded away. I closed my eyes and pictured myself walking out of the black mist.

As expected, I came to the stone chamber again.

Strangely, the stone wall on the other side was open this time, revealing a magnificent bedroom.

The room was covered with mirrors, and the lights were dim.

I grew more alert, fearing it was just an illusion like the last time.

"Sylvia, I'm a little scared. This place looks so weird. Last time, we were in a lab, and this time... well, this place looks like a bedroom," Yana said in a tremulous voice.

Just as I was about to speak, a strange figure flashed past the bedroom at lightning speed.

"Who's there?" I could feel the adrenaline pumping in my body as I chased it.

Hesitant to step in, I stopped at the door and peeked inside.

However, the figure had vanished, and the place fell silent again.

"Damn it! Was it a ghost?" Yana screamed.

"Shh... no! Maybe Noreen had created an illusion again," I softly comforted Yana. Then, I squatted to pick up a small stone and threw it into the bedroom.

The stone didn't disappear nor did the bedroom floor collapsed.

Once sure everything was fine, I stepped inside.

Chapter 598 A Hidden Serpen

Sylvia's POV:

Although no one was in the bedroom, I knew someone must be lurking in the dark, most likely, Noreen herself.

I looked around and found no other exit in the bedroom. 'Then where did the figure disappear to?'

"Sylvia! Look at the mirror on your right. The scene on it doesn't seem to belong to this room," Yana exclaimed.

I looked up and saw a picture of barren land in the mirror. About two seconds later, my face materialized in the mirror. I was wearing a white veil and a wedding dress, which looked strange.

Thinking it was an illusion, I squeezed my eyes shut and opened them again. By then, the scene disappeared, and the mirror went blank again.

I quickly stepped forward and picked up the strange mirror. I examined it carefully but couldn't find anything unusual, so I put it down.

At that moment, I heard a faint sound. It was from the wardrobe.

My body was on high alert. I slowly walked to the wardrobe, took a deep breath, and pried it open.

A hidden door carved with complicated runes came to my view.

A startled gasp escaped my lips as I cautiously opened the door. Inside was a small hidden room filled with bright champagne roses.

My eyes widened in surprise. 'How could someone plant roses indoors?'

Without thinking, I slowly stepped into the hidden room.

My breath caught in my throat as I saw pictures of me hanging in every corner of the room.

I broke into a cold sweat. Yana was also dumbfounded.

I stepped forward and carefully observed the pictures. Something seemed wrong.

That was when it dawned on me that the woman in the photo was not me but my mother. These pictures were taken before I was born when my mother was still young.

"Wow! These photos have been well preserved," Yana exclaimed.

"Yes. My mom looks so happy in these pictures. Look at the way she's smiling," I said.

Judging from my mother's gesture and expression, I guessed someone close to her must have taken these pictures.

I gradually revived from the shock. At this point, I realized my mother must have shared some sort of a relationship with Noreen.

Otherwise, there wouldn't be so many photos of my mother in Noreen's secret room.

I knew this wasn't just an illusion, for all the pictures looked so real. Only the things I had seen and witnessed would form an illusion in my mind.

I hadn't seen my mother when she was young. Besides, there were pictures of her wearing her school uniform.

So I concluded it was neither an illusion nor a mystery. It was real. The secret room, the roses and the pictures were all real. It looked like someone wanted me to see all these pictures.

"Who the hell are you? Come out! Stop hiding in the dark and playing tricks," I shouted at the empty hidden room.

Although there was no response, I believed the one behind all this must be listening to me.

"Why do you have photos of my mother? Why do you have my mother's pendant? Don't you have the guts to show yourself to me? Why are you being such a coward?"

My questions reverberated in the air.

Suddenly, the wind blew again, and the serpent hiding in the dark could no longer seem to conceal itself.

Just then, I sensed a strange aura around me.

Just as I was about to turn around, I felt strong hands pressing my shoulders, arresting me in place.

Then, a loud cackle filled the air.

It looked like they were laughing at me. I tried moving but had no strength to struggle or escape the vice-like grip.

Chapter 599 Noreen Showed Up

Sylvia's POV:

I couldn't struggle or break free from the grip. The one behind me was clinging to me with all their weight. My skin broke into goosebumps as the person's smooth, icy skin touched mine.

"Sweetheart, it's not good to run around this way."

The hoarse voice of a woman rang in my ears.

Hearing that, I broke into a cold sweat.

I clenched my fists, trying to remain calm. "Are you Noreen?"

The woman responded with maniacal laughter. She neither denied it nor gave me a direct answer.

However, I wasn't willing to give up. "Why do you have my mother's photos? And what about the pendant?"

The woman didn't answer my question. Instead, she called my mother's name in a strange tone that sounded sweet and intimate, which only seemed to increase my suspicion.

'Is she probably my mother's sister?'

"Why are you silent? Tell me!" I wasn't in the mood for her silly games, so I demanded to hear the truth.

The woman laughed again. "Since Olivia hasn't told you anything, I guess it's still not the time for you to hear the truth."

Her words infuriated me. The woman had been mysterious right from the beginning and testing my patience.

Judging from her attitude, I could tell she wasn't going to tell me anything.

Therefore, I decided to ask her about the blackthorn pattern I had seen in the book. "Can you tell me about this? You wanted me to see this, didn't you? Are you trying to remind me of something?"

The woman remained silent for a while and suddenly burst out laughing. "No wonder you are Olivia's daughter. You are as smart as her."

Then, her laughter ceased abruptly. "What do you want to know? Tell me," she asked solemnly.

"Is that thing on Rufus' back the blackthorns? Did you do it?" I asked. Bile rose in my throat as I recalled the dream where I saw Rufus ensnared by the blackthorns. I realized it was perhaps this evil witch's trick.

I heard her sigh as she gently stroked my neck. "Don't be anxious, Sylvia. Everything will be the same as

you saw. Your dream will come true. What you believe is real."

Her words enraged me even though I couldn't understand what she meant.

'My dream would come true? Does she mean Rufus would die?'

"Nonsense!" I struggled to escape her hold. "What on earth do you want to do?"

The woman loosened her grip on my shoulders and continued to hum without answering my questions.

I quickly turned around in a desperate attempt to see her face.

But all I could see was a figure in a black cloak retreating swiftly.

I tried to catch up with her but couldn't.

The stone chamber turned into an endless path. It looked like the figure in the black cloak was mocking me, since every time I was about to catch up with her, she suddenly stepped back, maintaining a safe distance from me.

All of a sudden, the wind stopped. The figure in the black cloak teleported to behind me and gently patted my shoulder. She let out a weary sigh as if she was tired of playing this cat-and-mouse game with me.

"It's time to say goodbye."

"How can I remove that thing on Rufus' back?" I asked anxiously.

Just then, I heard faint laughter. "You already have everything you need to remove the curse."

As soon as she said that, the black mist grew thicker, and darkness consumed me. I couldn't see anything. The dangerous aura soon disappeared altogether with the stone chamber.

All I could hear was the sound of my heavy breathing.

Chapter 600 Escape

Sylvia's POV:

The black mist grew thicker and began blocking my vision. I knew I was slowly leaving the stone chamber.

As expected, when the black mist vanished, I found myself in a strange place. The same thing happened when I came out of the chamber last time as well. I realized the exit and entrance were not in the same

place.

I was more sure than ever that the woman I had met just now was Noreen.

But I still couldn't understand what she said to me.

"Noreen said you already have the thing needed to remove the curse. Could it be something you had taken back from the stone chamber last time?" asked Yana.

I wracked my brains for a while and soon remembered the potted flower I had taken back last time. 'Did Noreen mean that?' Apart from the pot of flowers, the rest of the things we brought back were gemstones or some potions.

"Wasn't that pot of flower nourished with Noreen's blood? Isn't that supposed to remove all the curses she has cast?" Yana understood what I was thinking and began helping me figure things out.

"I hope the flower can remove the curse on Rufus. But we can't be sure yet. Let's wait for the flower to bloom first."

If it didn't work, I had to think of other ways.

At that moment, a group of vampires came from afar.

Only then did I realize Noreen had teleported me to the center of the vampires' territory.

'What a vicious woman!'

I hurriedly hid before they saw me.

After the group of vampires left, I heard sudden noises and screams.

Once sure I was safely concealed in the dark, I poked my head and frantically looked around. To my surprise, I saw Harry running for dear life. Someone was chasing him.

I couldn't believe my eyes. I squinted to have a closer look and realized it was indeed Harry.

I could spot his hair even from a distance.

Although Harry had dyed his hair back to a normal color after joining the army, his brush cut only lasted for a short period. He had dyed his hair again after coming to the border.

Without thinking much, I hurried to help. I sneaked to a corner in a dark alley. Just as the vampires were about to catch Harry, I pulled him into the alley.

Harry was startled. He thought someone was attacking him and tried punching me.

I quickly blocked his fist and shouted, "It's me, Sylvia."

Harry came to his senses, his eyes widening in surprise. "I've finally found you, Sylvia! Why are you here?"

"Let's talk about it later. Run fast now!"

More vampires gathered, and a weird symphony reverberated in the air. Several major roads were blocked, so we could only take the small paths.

I grabbed Harry's hand and ran as fast as my legs could carry. "Why are you here?" I asked breathlessly.

Harry glanced at me cautiously and said, "John and I followed you all the way here. Then, we suddenly lost track of you. I tried to make some noise so you'd probably notice, but didn't expect these vampires would find us first and be insanely difficult to deal with. They have been chasing me the entire time."

"What about John? Where is he now?" I asked curiously.

Harry pursed his lips and snorted. I was worried to see the aggrieved look on his face.

Just as I was about to ask what had happened, the whooshing of the crossbow arrows flying toward us caught my attention.

I turned around but saw something tearing the air and knocking out a vampire, who was about to attack me with his special power.

"It's John!" Harry cried, waving his hand excitedly. "We're here!"

No wonder the vampires hadn't caught up with us. It turned out that John had been silently following and protecting us from behind.

"Come here." John quickly jumped to another tree and signaled Harry and me to join him.