

Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved

Chapter 251

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Jennifer's POV:

I had come to the Black Stone Pack solely to uphold justice for Helen. Ever since we met, Helen had always been a kind, emphatic girl. I knew in my heart that she wouldn't do anything to hurt a fly.

Besides, she was about to marry Daniel.

So why on earth would she want to kill Daniel's father? There simply was no reasonable motivation for Helen to kill Marlon.

It was ridiculous to even assume she was the murderer.

This meant that someone had deliberately framed the innocent and kind-hearted Helen. And as a good friend of hers, I couldn't stand by and watch her suffer. I had to help her, support her, and find out the truth for her.

Moreover, I couldn't just let Marlon's murder go unsolved.

"Oh, well, my late husband's death really was strange."

Faced with my direct questioning, Betty was obviously at a loss.

While I didn't want to make things any more difficult for her, I still needed to get to the bottom of things.

"Please tell me everything," I urged.

"Marlon died all of a sudden a couple of days ago. I refused to believe he would just leave me like that, so I asked the forensic doctor to run an autopsy. However, the result of the autopsy revealed that Helen's perfume had poisoned Marlon..."

As she spoke about her husband's death, Betty's eyes were filled with sadness. She took out a handkerchief and dabbed her tears away.

"I wanted to believe that Helen is innocent. But I had no choice but to lock her up before finding evidence to prove it. After all, the perfume was hers. But now that both Elder Simon and Alpha Jerome are willing to swear on Helen's innocence, Helen can be released from prison for the time being. I will wait for the investigation to unfold."

"Okay, I see. Please show us the results of the autopsy and the perfume test. Can I also have a look at the perfume itself?"

After listening to Betty's statement, I felt a little relieved.

Evidence proving Helen's innocence was bound to show up sooner or later.

At least, for now, we could analyze what we had and start from there.

Betty quickly asked her attendant to bring the three things I wanted.

Minutes later, the autopsy report, the perfume test report, and the bottle of perfume were set on the table, one by one.

Anthony and I took a closer look at each of them.

"Jennifer, there's something else. A drug was added into the perfume that killed my father, but I swear to God that Mandy gave Helen the perfume. However, she refuses to admit it!"

Daniel's eyes were red with hatred.

"I see."

After leafing through the autopsy report, Anthony frowned.

"Mandy is the other suspect, am I right? Luna Betty, please call her here. I have something to ask her."

However, before Betty could respond, an attendant entered the room.

"Luna Betty, Devin and Grace are here."

"Devin is my older brother and Grace is his wife," Daniel explained to us.

"Okay, let them in," Anthony ordered.

Devin's POV:

Just now, Grace and I were at the church, paying our respects to my father.

Although my father deserved to die, I was the one who killed him. I was worried he would turn into a ghost and haunt me for the rest of my life, so I had no choice but to go to his coffin and pray for him.

Before I even finished my prayer, I overheard an attendant saying that Helen had been released from prison. How could that be? Shouldn't she have been sentenced to death?!

"Luna Betty and Daniel came to visit Alpha Marlon earlier, along with the Alpha and Luna of the Rainbow Pack, Elder Simon, Helen's father. It is said that they are close to Helen," the attendant said to me upon inquiring.

When I heard this, I couldn't help but feel flustered.

What? How could Helen be so close to the Alpha and Luna of her pack? Why were there so many werewolves backing her up here in person? After mulling it over in my mind, I came to the conclusion that the situation was headed to an unfavorable place.

Just as I was trying to figure out a way to stop the others from helping Helen, another attendant ran in.

"Prince Anthony has arrived with his mate."

Instantly, I perked up.

Prince Anthony? He was the future king! But why was he here? Regardless, I needed to curry favor with the future king.

Only by pleasing him could I have a better future—and maybe I could finally be the Alpha of this pack.

Thinking of this, I took Grace with me to the Black Stone House to greet Anthony personally.

"Ah, it's nice to meet you, Mr. Jones!" I saluted to Anthony flatteringly.

"My God! You look so handsome in person. You truly deserve to be the future king."

"Oh, my God, and you are so elegant and dignified!" Grace praised Anthony's mate.

"Enough! Stop the flattering."

Despite our best efforts to flatter them, Anthony looked unhappy.

"Jennifer and I have some business to deal with. Please don't disturb us."

"Oh, I see. Is there any way I can help, Mr. Jones?" I asked with an apologetic smile, bowing slightly for effect.

"If you really want to help, then fine. Do you know who murdered your father?" Anthony asked calmly, locking eyes with me.

I didn't expect that he would ask me such a pointed question. Did he know that it was me?

"What? No, I don't know anything. Why do you ask, Mr. Jones?" I tried to deny it.

"How would Devin know? Helen is the prime suspect. She must've killed Alpha Marlon!"

Grace hurriedly came to my aid.

"Bullshit!"

Daniel immediately stood up and pointed a finger at Grace.

"Helen is innocent!"

"The perfume was Helen's. Isn't that proof enough that she's the murderer?" Grace retorted.

Daniel glared at Grace but said nothing.

"Be quiet!"

Suddenly, Anthony stood up and shouted, sending a chill down my spine.

"Everyone, calm down. Quarrels won't solve anything."

"Mr. Jones, Mandy is here!"

my mother suddenly announced, pointing at the door.

"What? Mandy is here, too? Shit!" My nerves were getting the better of me.

Mandy was an idiot.

I really didn't believe she was smart enough to wiggle her way out of this sticky situation.

If she said something stupid in front of Anthony, how could I win his favor? Damn it! Damn it all to hell! Why did Anthony have to come at this critical moment? The reason why I framed Helen so was that I thought she had no friends in high places! I didn't expect her to have so many connections.

First, the Alpha of the Rainbow Pack had come.

Now, so did the prince and future king of the Osman Kingdom.

Oh, my God! The Black Stone Pack only lost an Alpha.

Why did the prince have to show up? As a member of the royal family, he didn't have to come here in person.

He could've just sent his attendant here to pay his respects.

Why was he so indecisive? I was exasperated, but I could do nothing but to sit and wait.

Restless and helpless, a cold sweat trickled down my back.

"Mr. Jones, this is Mandy," a guard announced.

I was so anxious beyond belief, but I can't tell her to shut up in front of everyone. I could only look at her, and the stupid woman was also looking at me. I tried my best to wink at her subtly, hoping she would get the message.

"Don't talk nonsense, or we'll both be doomed"

Clenching my teeth, I was so scared that Mandy wouldn't be able to withstand Anthony's interrogation and would cave.

It was only a matter of time before my crime was exposed!

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Mandy's POV:

These days in prison, I had been especially restless.

But Devin had come to see me one day, and he had spoken so confidently, so I decided to trust in him. I had to keep the secret and insist that it was Helen who poisoned Marlon.

But this noon, I was violently woken up by several guards who dragged me out. I was dazed and confused, struggling against them desperately, but it was futile. I had no choice but to follow them to the Black Stone House.

"Where are you taking me? Get your hands off me! I'm not the murderer! I'm innocent!"

Scared to death that they were taking me to the executioner, I shouted like mad until I was brought to the hall.

There, I saw many unfamiliar faces. Did something bad happen? Who were these strangers?

"Hello, Mandy."

The she-wolf sitting in the center of the hall suddenly spoke up.

She pointed at a handsome man next to her and said, "This is Prince Anthony, the future king, and I'm Jennifer, his mate. We caught word that Helen was the prime suspect in Alpha Marlon's murder. Bearing all of that in mind, I have something to ask her."

My jaw nearly dropped at the mention of the prince's name. What on earth was the prince doing here? Could he be here on Helen's behalf?

"I'm Jerome, the Alpha of the Rainbow Pack, and this is my Luna, Skylar. We're all friends of Helen."

Another handsome werewolf spoke up.

Then, he pointed at the old man beside him and said, "This is Elder Simon, Helen's father."

I was absolutely floored.

What the hell? How could Helen have so many friends in high places? And even the future king knew her! How was this possible? I gritted my teeth, seething with jealousy.

"It's an honor to meet you, Mr. Jones. My name is Mandy."

I managed to swallow my jealousy for the meantime and bowed towards the prince and his future queen. I needed to look humble and respectful, hoping they wouldn't make things difficult for me.

"Have you seen this bottle of perfume before? Please tell us the truth, Mandy. Anthony has many wizard friends who know how to detect lies. If you dare lie to us, we will find out sooner or later. Anthony and I never show mercy to liars. I hope you'll do the right thing."

Jennifer held up the bottle of perfume in front of me.

I gulped anxiously.

Anthony knew wizards? And these wizards knew how to detect lies? Shit! I was doomed! What on earth was I supposed to do? Should I tell the truth now? But if I told the truth, I would still get into huge trouble.

"I...don't know. Please don't ask me..."

I stammered, clearly not knowing how to answer.

"Ahem."

Just then, I heard Devin loudly clear his throat.

Devin had reassured me that he would solve everything.

But he also said that if I slipped, he too would die alongside me.

Thinking about this, I was left with no choice but to trust in Devin.

"I...have never seen this bottle of perfume before in my life!" I said hurriedly.

"If you say so.Mandy, what's your relationship with Helen and Daniel?" Anthony eyed me coldly.

"Oh, Daniel and I were childhood friends.I met Helen through him.We're also friends."

As I spoke, I forced a smile, hoping to convince him.

"Mandy! If you really view me as a friend, why are you framing me? You gave the perfume to me!" Helen yelled.

"No, I didn't!" I said falteringly.

Fuck this bitch.

She always spoiled my plans! Instantly, my jealousy and rage rose up again.

Gritting my teeth, I pointed at her and cried, "I really don't know anything about it.Helen, why are you trying to sling mud at me?"

Helen's POV:

I used to despise Mandy.

Ever since we arrived at the Black Stone Pack, she had pestered Daniel and tried every means to ruin our relationship.

But sometime later, Mandy had shown remorse for her actions and acted kindly towards me.

I really thought she had changed, so my hatred towards her gradually ebbed.

After all, she had apologized time and time again.

Hence, I thought nothing of it when Mandy gifted me the perfume as a peace offering.

Little did I know that it was a trap! Even to this day, I couldn't figure out why Mandy would do such a thing.

Killing Alpha was an unforgivable crime. Didn't she know that?

"Mandy, I swear with my life that I'm not lying. You gave me that perfume. If this is a lie, then God may punish me!"

Seeing that Mandy kept denying the facts in front of Anthony and Jennifer, I grew so angry that I stepped forward and pointed at the perfume.

"Can you swear to God that you didn't do it, Mandy?"

"Forget it, honey. Don't waste your time on her. She's just an unreasonable she-wolf." Daniel walked over and took my hand to calm me down.

"We'll find out the truth sooner or later. Mandy will get the punishment she deserves."

"Why, you bitch!"

All of a sudden, Mandy lost it and shrieked hysterically.

She pointed a trembling finger at me, eyes wide with rage.

"Fuck you! You're making things up! You slut, you seduced Daniel! I'll kill you! Daniel, what makes you think I'm unreasonable? I didn't lie. Helen's the liar!"

"Mandy, you are crazy!"

I was so offended that I scolded her.

"Mandy, watch your mouth. How dare you insult Helen?"

Daniel stepped in between us, looking at Mandy with disdain.

"Daniel! Why are you on that bitch's side? Why?" Mandy cried crazily.

"I'm just being fair, Mandy." Daniel raised his voice.

"I already told you that I only love Helen. Why are you so stubborn?"

"Bitch! You fucking bitch! You've put Daniel under some sort of curse! Give him back to me!" Mandy shrieked like a madwoman.

Suddenly, she broke free from the guards and rushed at me with her claws out.

“Fine! You’re the awesome she-wolf! You’ve managed to seduce so many men! Even the king is tempted by you! I guess I have no choice but to kill you!”

I was so shocked by her vulgar words that I stood there, paralyzed, as she came straight at me. I didn’t mind so much if she insulted me, but now she dared to slander Anthony, claiming he was only helping me because he liked me.

Mandy’s words humiliated not only Anthony and me, but also marred his relationship with Jennifer.

I was so angry that my whole body trembled. I pointed at Mandy with gritted teeth, unable to find the words to refute.

“You...”

Before I could finish my words, Mandy had already pounced on me. I was caught off guard and received a heavy slap from her.

All chaos broke loose.

“Protect Helen! Put her under control!”

Anthony immediately ordered the guards to stop Mandy, but she was half mad.

She pulled at my hair and scratched at me relentlessly.

I raised my hand to protect my face, but I didn’t want to hurt anyone else, so I didn’t fight back.

“Helen!” Daniel cried and was about to rush to me but Betty stopped him.

“Daniel, don’t. It’s too dangerous. Let the guards handle it!”

Betty shouted worriedly.

“Helen!”

But before the guards could subdue Mandy, Jennifer had rushed over first.

She shoved Mandy away and stepped in between us.

“Mandy, are you crazy? Do you know how serious a crime it is to hurt someone in front of the prince?”

Jennifer tried her best to talk some sense into Mandy, but the latter had gone completely crazy and refused to listen to reason.

Instead, she glowered at Jennifer and shoved her.

Not expecting the sudden attack, Jennifer slipped and fell to the floor.

"Oh, my God! Jennifer!"

I screamed hysterically and rushed to her side, worry written all over my face.

"Are you hurt?"

"Jennifer!"

Anthony hurried to Jennifer in lightning speed and helped her up.

"Are you okay?"

"You're crazy, Mandy! Jennifer is pregnant!"

Anthony turned to glare at Mandy murderously.

"Mandy, if anything bad happens to Jennifer, I'll kill you."

Trembling with unprecedented rage, I turned to lock eyes with Mandy.

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Anthony's POV:

I rushed over to Jennifer and pulled her into my arms before she fell to the floor.

Infuriated, my eyes widened as I glared at Mandy as if I was going to strangle her.

After all, Jennifer was pregnant with our child.

Daniel was right about Mandy being an unhinged she-wolf. She must have lost her mind.

How could she push a pregnant woman like that? Jennifer was trying to protect Helen from Mandy.

I thought that despite her arrogant disposition, Mandy wouldn't be foolish enough to try and hurt Jennifer.

If anything bad happened to Jennifer or our child, I would let Mandy die. I clenched my fists, stifling the urge to strangle Mandy with my own hands.

"Anthony, calm down," Jennifer said as she held my hand.

She seemed to have noticed my anger.

I took a deep breath and looked away from Mandy.

Judging from what had happened just now, I could tell that Mandy was very jealous of Helen.

She was a loud-mouthed, thoughtless she-wolf, who wasn't even worthy of my time.

However, I couldn't let her get away after what she did.

"Catch her and don't let her get away!"

Betty finally came to her senses and shouted at the guards.

The guards rushed forward, pressing Mandy to the floor, and finally subdued her.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Jones! I'm so sorry. I didn't expect her to go crazy all of a sudden!"

Betty's face turned pale. She fell to her knees before me with her head bowed.

"It's my fault for failing to discipline Mandy. I'm sorry, Mr. Jones. This won't happen again!"

"Jennifer, are you okay? How are you feeling now? What about the baby?"

I didn't even look at Betty because I was so angry. She should have known better than to give Mandy a chance to make trouble.

"Call the doctors over."

"I feel a little uncomfortable, but I can't tell where the pain is," Jennifer replied, putting her hands on her belly.

"Anthony, will our baby be okay?"

"Don't be afraid, Jennifer. The doctors will be here soon!"

I held her hand nervously as I didn't know what to do either.

In truth, I was worried sick about her and the baby's health.

Jennifer hadn't fully recovered yet after we came back from the snow mountain. She almost fainted the other day at the banquet.

"Mr. Jones, please bring Jennifer to sit on the sofa!" Simon suggested.

"Anthony, the doctors are on their way!" Skylar and Jerome came with anxious looks on their faces.

"Jennifer, are you okay? Try to sit down first!" I held Jennifer's hand and sat her down on the sofa.

Before long, an entourage of doctors arrived with medical kits and started conducting a full-body examination on Jennifer.

I waited anxiously in the corner, praying for no harm to come to Jennifer or the baby.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Jones. Jennifer was just trying to protect me, but he ended up getting hurt."

Helen looked at me apologetically.

"It's not your fault. You had nothing to do with it. If there's anyone to blame, it should be Mandy."

I tried to make her feel better.

Helen nodded and looked at Jennifer with tears in her eyes, while Daniel stood beside her, soothing her disheveled hair.

We were all anxiously waiting for the results of the doctors' examination.

"Mr. Jones, there's nothing to worry about. Jennifer is fine. We gave her some medicine for the shock, but all she needs is some rest. The baby is also doing well," said one of the doctors.

"Thank you very much."

I finally breathed a sigh of relief. I bent over and grabbed Jennifer's hand.

There was a scratch on her arm, and it was bleeding.

"Please treat the wound for her. By the way, Helen is also injured. Don't forget to check on her," I told the doctors seriously.

Then I looked at Betty, who was fidgeting restlessly.

"Luna Betty, please bring Mandy here."

"All right. Please, don't be mad," Betty replied in a hurry.

"Feel free to do as you wish with her."

Betty winked at the guards and before long they brought Mandy before me.

She was curled up in a fetal position, trembling like a leaf and crying. I hated her, even more, when I saw her like this. Where did all that arrogance go? Was she pretending to be scared now?

"Mandy, do you confess to your crimes?" I stood beside Jennifer and asked coldly.

"Mr. Jones! I... I really didn't mean it! I was just trying to catch Helen, but it was never my intention to hurt your mate!" Mandy cried.

What she said made me angrier than I already was. What gave her the right to think that she could hurt Helen?

"Jennifer is my mate and the future queen. She is pregnant with the future heir of the royal family. You attempted to murder the future queen and royal heir. Treason is a capital crime," I said expressionlessly.

Mandy's POV:

How could it be? I just wanted to teach Helen a lesson.

Admittedly, I shouldn't have lashed out like that, but I couldn't tolerate seeing Daniel stand up for her like that.

How was I supposed to know that Jennifer would get hurt so easily? Damn it! Why were they blaming me? If it weren't for Helen, none of this would have happened in the first place.

If anyone deserved to be blamed, it was Helen.

How was I supposed to know that Jennifer was pregnant with the prince's child? Why was she roaming around with the prince if she was pregnant? What was I going to do? Was I going to be executed? I couldn't go up against the royal family.

The only choice I had was to beg for mercy.

After all, I didn't want to die. I still had a future to look forward to in life.

"Daniel! Please help me. Isn't Mr. Jones your friend? Please talk to him for me."

I threw myself at Daniel's feet and begged him.

"Mandy, I am not going to help you this time." Daniel looked at me coldly.

"Besides, you tried to hurt Helen. Why should I help you?"

"It's no use seeking mercy right now. Stop wasting everyone's time. I just have one question for you, Mandy. Do you plead guilty?" Anthony asked me coldly.

"Mr. Jones, I know I was wrong to behave the way I did. I promise that it will never happen again! Please forgive me, Mr. Jones!"

I cried and desperately begged Anthony to change his mind.

"All right. I'll give you one last chance to make things right." Anthony stared at me.

"I'll ask you one more time. Did you give the perfume to Helen? If you tell me the truth, perhaps I can consider sparing your life. Otherwise, I will sentence you to death for attempting to murder the future heir to the throne."

I was at a loss for words. I glanced at Devin expectantly, only to find him turning his head away from me. I would never forget that Devin did nothing to help me in my time of need.

He promised that I would be fine, but what was going on now? I could tell that Devin was a coward who was just as afraid of Anthony as everyone else.

He wouldn't dare to speak up to the prince for me.

Such being the case, telling the truth was the only way for me to survive.

Much to my chagrin, Helen had the prince's support, but I didn't have anyone to back me up.

I knew that death awaited me once Anthony found out the truth.

It was no use trying to frame Helen anymore.

Thinking of this, I looked up at Anthony.

"I confess. I gave the perfume to Helen!"

As soon as I finished speaking, I pointed at Devin in the crowd.

"But Devin was the one who gave me the perfume and asked me to give it to Helen."

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Devin's POV:

Anthony's presence ruined my plan. I didn't expect that Helen was connected to so many powerful people.

When she was released from prison thanks to them, I felt that things were going downhill— fast. I also knew Mandy was a complete and utter fool.

When I realized that Anthony was going to interrogate her, I was worried that she would say or do something wrong.

Sure enough, this she-wolf met my expectations and actually had the gall to hit Helen.

As if that wasn't bad enough, she had the audacity to shove the future queen to the floor.

Mandy! How could there be such a stupid she-wolf in this world? I nervously watched this scene unfold before me.

Things were quickly getting out of hand, but I had no idea what to do about it.

"He's the murderer!"

Just as I was racking my brains to find a solution, Mandy suddenly pointed an accusatory finger at me.

God damn it! This fucking she-wolf! She was a brainless idiot!

"What?" Helen asked, eyes wide as saucers.

"What did you say?"

"Are you saying Devin killed his own father?" the Luna of the Rainbow Pack chimed in.

Mandy's sudden accusation collapsed my house of cards. The hall broke into an uproar.

"No, no, she's lying!" I hurriedly denied, holding up my hands innocently.

"Devin, what should we do?" Grace asked me point-blank.

"What?" I stared at her, dumbfounded.

Her reaction made me so angry.

How could she be so stupid? She was practically giving us away!

"We didn't do it!" I said again, shoving Grace behind me.

I was surrounded by not just one, but two stupid she-wolves. I wanted to go crazy!

"Devin, please explain yourself."

Anthony's stare was bone-chillingly cold.

"Did you give the perfume to Mandy?"

"I have no idea what you're talking about! Mandy and I aren't that close. Why would I give her a bottle of perfume? She's not my mate! I would only ever give perfume to Grace."

I did my best to disassociate myself with Mandy. If I admitted the truth, I was doomed.

"Please, Mr. Jones. I'm Marlon's son. How could I possibly murder my own father?" I said, forcing a smile.

"He gave me that perfume, saying it would poison Helen. I was so jealous of her relationship with Daniel that I agreed. I had no idea that this bottle of perfume would kill Alpha Marlon!"

Mandy shouted in a shrill voice.

"Mandy, what on earth are you talking about? She is mad!"

I was so angry that I wanted to pounce on her and clamp her mouth shut.

"Stop him."

Seeing that I was slowly backing away, Anthony ordered his guards to subdue me.

Two guards quickly grabbed me and held me in place.

"I thought about it for a long time and figured that Devin was lying to me!" Mandy continued relentlessly.

"When I found out that it was Alpha Marlon who died and not Helen, I guessed that Devin had an ulterior motive. I felt that something was off when Luna Betty started asking me questions. But when I was in prison, Devin came to me personally and threatened to kill me if I told the truth. That was why I lied! Please forgive me, Mr. Jones. I didn't mean to hurt Alpha Marlon! Devin just used me. He wanted Alpha Marlon dead but put the blame on Helen and me!"

Mandy's voice grew louder.

"Moreover, I know that Devin always wanted to be the Alpha! Everyone knew that Daniel was going to become Alpha upon marrying Helen. That must be why

Devin murdered Alpha Marlon! That way, he managed to postpone the wedding and Daniel's ascension to Alpha!"

"What?!"

The hall broke into chaos again as they mulled over Mandy's accusation.

As everyone looked at me with shock and disgust, I was at a loss. What should I do? Mandy told them everything.

And she even managed to put two and two together, deducing that I did all these things to become the next Alpha.

How did she figure it out? Was this she-wolf actually smart? But I couldn't just give up. I had come too far!

Daniel's POV: When Mandy finally admitted the truth and shifted the blame to my brother, I was completely stunned.

The truth was, I had secretly suspected my brother, too.

After all, he had been acting strangely the past few days.

But why? Why would he do such a terrible thing? Our father was dead! My heart was in a mess.

I couldn't bring myself to believe my brother would do such a thing.

But now that Mandy had confirmed my suspicion, I stared at Devin blankly.

Mixed emotions plagued me.

I wanted to hate him, but he was still my brother.

My father had always taught me to respect my brother.

I had tried to get along with him ever since we were kids.

Even though our relationship wasn't great, Devin had always been filial towards our father.

So why would he do such a thing? Would he really have killed our father to become the Alpha? Was it really worth it? "Mr. Jones, she's crazy. I didn't murder my father. I have nothing to do with this bottle of perfume!"

Devin was still trying his best to defend himself.

"He's lying. He's the one who gave it to me!"

Mandy kept insisting that Devin was the real murderer.

“No!”

“It was you!”

For a moment, Devin and Mandy quarreled with each other nonstop. Things were going nowhere.

“Alright, alright! Everyone, be quiet!”

Fortunately, Anthony and Jennifer put an end to their quarrel.

“Right now, we have no way to prove which one of two are telling the truth. We would still need to investigate. But judging from both of your testimonies, Helen wasn’t the murderer, so she should be released without charge. What do you think, Luna Betty?”

Jennifer looked at my mother expectantly.

“I agree. Helen should be released.”

All the color had drained from my mother’s face.

It seemed that, like me, she simply couldn’t believe that my brother had killed my father.

But now that Helen was finally cleared of suspicion, I couldn’t help but feel relieved.

“Ha-ha! Helen, you win—again! You have a solid support system, but I’m fucking helpless. You win. I lose.”

Mandy shouted at Helen hysterically.

I hurriedly pulled Helen behind me, worried that Mandy would do something to hurt her again.

“Mr. Jones, can’t you see? Mandy is insane! She’s not a reliable source. Please don’t believe her words! I’m innocent. I’m innocent!”

Devin raised his voice.

To Mandy, he spat, “You vicious she-wolf!”

“Me? Vicious? Are you kidding me, Devin? You’re the one who killed your own father! You’re a fucking hypocrite! How dare you kill Alpha Marlon and blame me? Devin, you’re worse than the devil himself!” Mandy yelled.

I took Helen's hand and held it tightly as the two quarreled.

Seeing things go south so quickly, I felt incredibly upset.

"Enough! Stop arguing!" My mother shouted.

Then, she turned and bowed to Anthony.

"Mr. Jones, with all due respect, I don't think we will find out the truth today. How about we continue the interrogation another day? You and Jennifer must be tired, too. Why don't you two get some rest first?"

I immediately understood what my mother was really saying.

The sudden shift in Mandy's testimony turned my brother into the prime suspect, thus complicating things even further.

If we kept at it, Mandy and my brother would fight endlessly.

Our chances at finding out the truth were slim.

Plus, we didn't have any evidence to determine which one of them was telling the truth. And I didn't know whom to believe.

Devin was my brother. I didn't want to believe he was the one who murdered our father.

My mind was in shambles.

"Okay, let's continue this some other time. Jennifer and I will get some rest." Anthony agreed with my mother.

I looked at Devin and Mandy and sighed heavily. If my brother was the real murderer, my father in heaven would be crushed!

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Betty's POV:

My husband was an excellent Alpha, but I didn't expect that Prince Anthony would personally come here to attend his funeral.

The future king's presence in our pack was an honor.

But when Jennifer explained that she and Anthony had actually come for Helen, I was shocked.

I had no idea that Helen was good friends with Anthony's mate—the future queen of the Osman Kingdom.

Helen's friends were all big shots.

This only made me believe more in the fact that Helen was innocent.

When Anthony started to question Mandy, I watched quietly by the sidelines, waiting to see how the prince would pass judgment.

I was quite satisfied with how decisively he and Jennifer acted.

It took them but a few words to convince Mandy to tell the truth.

It turned out that Helen truly had no intention of killing my husband.

'Marlon, we didn't misjudge Helen! I thought with relief. But just as I was about to feel excited, Mandy suddenly pointed a finger at my eldest son, Devin.

I felt my heart stop in my chest. I simply couldn't believe it.

It's true that Devin was always selfish. I was always painfully aware of this fatal flaw, which was why Marlon and I decided to put our hope in our youngest son, Daniel.

Although we thought Daniel was the best choice for the Alpha position, Devin was still our son.

It was impossible for us not to love him, despite his stubbornness.

Now, Mandy was accusing my son of murdering my husband.

Although we had no way of proving this yet, I still felt as though I was shoved into an icy lake.

How could it be? Surely, it wasn't true! Devin was our child.

How could he poison his own father? It was a heavy blow to me.

I couldn't wrap my head around the possibility that Devin was the murderer.

Before I knew it, my knees buckled from underneath me and I collapsed to the floor.

"Mom! Are you okay?" Daniel rushed to my side and helped me up.

Looking at Daniel, I managed to force a smile and looked at Anthony and Jennifer with embarrassment.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Jones. I suddenly feel weak. I think I'll head to my room and rest. Daniel, please take good care of our guests."

"Of course, Mom."

But Daniel was still looking at me worriedly. After everything was settled, I let out a long sigh and J] went back to my room alone.

I didn't allow any attendant or maid to follow me. As soon as I closed the door behind me, my gaze landed on the family photo sitting on the bedside table.

Marlon and our two sons were all smiling up at me.

Thinking about what Mandy said just now, I couldn't help but burst into tears, clutching the photo close to my heart.

"Marlon, they say Devin is behind all of this. It can't be true! He's our child!"

I felt my heart shatter into countless pieces as I recalled the time our family still got along well with each other.

Devin was once an innocent child, too. He used to excitedly talk to me and I Marlon about his day. When did he become like this?

"Luna Betty, is it okay if I come in?"

Just as grief was about to overtake me, there was a knock on the door.

Helen? I looked to the door with surprise. I wasn't expecting anyone, let alone Helen.

After all, I had locked her up based on Mandy's testimony. Shouldn't she be holding a grudge against me?

"Luna Betty, how are you holding up? Don't worry about Daniel, by the way. I've already told him that I would come here to check on you."

Helen took my hand, her eyes full of concern.

"I figured you must've been very sad now that Devin's become a suspect."

Tears welled up in my eyes.

I didn't expect Helen to forgive me so soon, let alone comfort me in my darkest hour. I also felt so guilty for suspecting her, even if it was just for a little while.

"Helen, thank you. I'm sorry. I should've believed you"

"Please don't apologize, Luna Betty. It wasn't your fault. This is all Mandy's doing. If she didn't insist that she hadn't given me the perfume, you wouldn't have doubted me."

Helen hugged me tightly and spoke in a soothing voice.

"Helen, you're so kind."

I hugged her back and burst into tears. I was so happy Daniel had her. I wished them the best in my heart.

Anthony's POV:

"Lock up Mandy and Devin. Keep a close eye on them, especially now that the investigation is shifting focus. Make any mistake, and I won't spare you,"

I ordered my guards after Betty left.

Because the interrogation had been suspended for now, there was nothing we could do but contain the two suspects until further notice.

The guards nodded in unison and dispersed to capture Mandy and Devin.

Mandy didn't even bother to resist and simply let them cuff her.

"Mr. Jones, I admit my fault. I thought that the perfume would kill Helen. But my crime is nothing compared to Devin's. He killed Alpha Marlon! Mr. Jones, you must bring justice to the murderer!"

Mandy shouted at me as she was being taken away.

"If you are telling the truth, then I will give you a light sentence," I replied flatly.

"Don't listen to that bitch, Mr. Jones! She's lying!"

Devin, on the other hand, was not as submissive as Mandy. He struggled as the guards grabbed him.

"I'm Alpha Marlon's son! I haven't committed any crimes! Why are you taking me away? I would never hurt my own father!"

"Even if you're telling me the truth, both you and Mandy, as suspects in this case, must be locked up before the truth is found out. As the son of an Alpha, don't you know that?"

This idiot was wasting my time. I turned away and looked to Jennifer.

"I didn't kill anyone! I swear! Let go of me, you bastards!"

Devin cursed and tried to fight, but to no avail.

The guards took him out of our sight. As soon as they were gone, a hush fell over the hall.

"Daniel, what do you make of what Mandy said?" I asked, looking at Daniel, who was frowning deeply.

After all, Devin was Daniel's elder brother.

Surely, he would know his own brother.

"Mr. Jones, the truth is, I think Mandy's telling the truth. I've also suspected Devin for a while now. But he's my brother. I really can't believe that he would kill our father!" Daniel looked pained as he spoke. He sank into the sofa dejectedly.

"Daniel, Austin is also Anthony's brother, but he still killed their father and even attempted to kill Anthony for his own selfish gain. Maybe Devin is as crazy for power as Austin was."

Jennifer sat down next to Daniel and patted him on the shoulder comfortingly. Daniel took a deep breath and looked up at us gratefully.

"My father died because he inhaled a large amount of ephedrine hydrochloride, which is an illicit drug and can only be bought through some illegal means, such as the black market. Now my people are investigating those who have bought it. If they find any clue, I will report it to you immediately, Mr. Jones," Daniel said seriously.

"Don't worry, Daniel. I'll also have the matter investigated thoroughly. I won't let Alpha Marlon die in vain." I nodded and clasped him by the shoulder.

"Daniel, you look tired. You should get some rest," Jennifer suggested kindly.

"No, I'm fine. Thanks for your concern, Jennifer, but I'm not in the mood to rest."

Daniel shook his head and smiled wryly.

Jennifer and I exchanged glances, knowing there was nothing we could say to change his mind.

Soon, Daniel made arrangements for our accommodations and led us out of the hall.

"Call me if you need anything, okay? I'm going to find Helen now. She should be with my mother. We're going to the church to be with my father tonight. See you guys later," said Daniel.

"See you. And again, I'm deeply sorry for what happened to Marlon," I replied gravely.

"Daniel, we'll find out the truth as soon as possible so that your father can rest in peace in heaven," Jennifer added with a look of determination.

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Jennifer's POV:

After saying goodbye to Daniel, Anthony and I went back to the presidential suite that Daniel had arranged for us.

Once we were settled down, Anthony called a doctor to check on me and the baby to make absolutely sure that we were okay. After examining me for a while, the doctor looked up and gave us a reassuring smile.

"It's nothing serious. The baby is all right."

It was only then that the two of us could breathe a sigh of relief.

After the doctor left, I turned to Anthony..

"Anthony, I want to go and see Elder Simon. He must be really worried about Helen," I told him.

Our whole accommodation had been arranged by Daniel, so Skylar and Jerome were staying next door, while Simon was staying in another suite.

"Sure, let's go."

Anthony accompanied me out of our suite.

Soon after we knocked on the door of Simon's suite, he opened it and invited us in.

"Elder Simon, Helen has been proved innocent, so you don't have to worry about her anymore," I said, trying to comfort him.

"Thank you for your concern, Miss Smith."

Simon forced a smile at me, but he still looked troubled.

"I'm beginning to wonder whether it's the right decision for Helen to marry Daniel. After all, Daniel is the son of an Alpha. I don't want Helen to get involved in any power struggles. She is simple-minded."

I fully understood how concerned Simon must be for his daughter. Just like he said, Helen was an innocent girl incapable of scheming and suspicion.

That was why she had been set up by someone like Mandy.

But I also knew how much she and Daniel loved each other. If she couldn't marry Daniel, she would be heartbroken.

"Elder Simon, I know you're saying this out of love for your daughter. But the truth is, Helen and Daniel can't live without each other. They have a deep relationship. I don't think either of them will be able to fall in love with someone else. Anyway, I believe that in the future, Daniel will protect Helen well. And if Helen is in trouble, Anthony and I won't stand by without helping her either," I said earnestly.

"Yes, I know. Anyway, whatever decision Helen takes, I'll respect it. Thank you, Miss Smith and Mr. Jones. I will never forget your kindness to Helen."

Simon bowed deeply to me and Anthony.

"Don't mention it. Helen is our friend, and friends should help each other," I answered with a smile.

After saying goodbye to Simon, Anthony and I went to see Skylar.

It had been a long time since I last saw her, and I missed her very much.

"Oh my God, Jennifer, we finally have the chance to talk!"

As soon as Skylar saw me, she hugged me excitedly.

"I know, right? I really missed you, Skylar."

As I spoke, I took Skylar's hand.

"Jerome, Skylar, let's go to my room and have a chat." Skylar and Jerome followed me to the room that Anthony and I were staying in.

I ordered room service to bring us some beverages and desserts.

Over a glass of milk, I told Skylar about what had happened over the past few days.

The two of us chatted happily.

"When your child is born, I will be its godmother," I said excitedly, touching Skylar's bulging belly.

"Of course. And I'll be the godmother of your child!" Skylar giggled.

"By the way, Skylar, have you been able to control your special powers? Have you used them recently?" I asked with concern.

"Oh, speaking of that, I almost forgot to tell you. Jennifer, look!"

Skylar thrust her hand in front of me.

After taking a confused glance at her, I looked down at her hand, where I found a strange mark on her wrist.

"Jennifer, this mark suddenly appeared on my wrist recently. And the weird thing is, it glows sometimes. Every time it glows, my special powers will grow and almost get out of control. What should I do, Jennifer?" Skylar asked in frustration.

Looking at how crestfallen she was, my brother quickly shifted closer to her and hugged her.

"Skylar, this mark may be the symbol of a vampire family. I've heard that the vampires of some noble families would have a specific totem on their bodies, which is a symbol of their noble identities," Anthony said, narrowing his eyes at the mark on Skylar's wrist.

Skylar's POV:

Looking at the mark on my wrist, I felt very uneasy. I didn't know why this mark had appeared on my wrist all of a sudden, but Anthony's words filled me with anxiety.

It seemed that there really was a link between me and vampires.

What was more, not only did I somehow have the blood of a vampire, but it was possible that I had the blood of a noble one.

"I suspect that Skylar is a descendant of a noble vampire family,"

Anthony continued with a frown, looking at me.

"Skylar, do you remember anything from your childhood?"

"Well...as far as I remember, I was an orphan. I didn't have any food to eat, and often slept on the streets. I didn't have a home until the Black Stone Pack took me in," I said slowly, biting my lip as I tried to recall the past.

"Skylar, you must hide this mark well. Don't let anyone else see it!" Jennifer said firmly, holding my hand.

"Don't worry, Jennifer. I will," I replied seriously.

"But what if my identity is exposed somehow? Jerome will get into trouble too because of me."

This conversation only made me even more determined to put my past and true heritage behind me. I didn't want to look for my family who had abandoned me, nor did I want to be a vampire aristocrat. I just wanted to be an ordinary she-wolf and spend the rest of my life with the man I loved.

"Don't worry, honey. Everything is going well now, isn't it?" Jerome said soothingly, squeezing my hand.

"Don't think too much."

"Okay," I whispered, forcing a smile at him.

"Jennifer, Mr. Jones, it's getting late. We'll get going. Skylar needs to go to bed early since she's pregnant," Jerome said to Jennifer and Anthony, standing up and holding his hand out to me.

"Sure. Skylar, keep in touch, okay? Don't worry. We'll find a way."

With a confident smile, Jennifer walked me and Jerome to the door. After saying good night to Jennifer and Anthony, Jerome and I returned to our room.

Sitting on the bed, I held my wrist and stared at the mark.

Despite everyone's words of reassurance, I couldn't calm down.

"Jerome, I can't stop thinking about this. I'm so scared. I wish I could just wipe out this mark. Is there a way we can make it disappear?" I asked Jerome in a trembling voice.

"Skylar, it's okay. No one can hurt you when I'm here. We can find a way to make it disappear after we return to our pack, okay? Maybe a wizard can remove it with a spell," Jerome comforted me softly, holding me in his embrace and stroking my hair.

"What if it can't be removed? I have a mark of the vampires on my bare wrist. Sooner or later, someone will find out my true identity. And once the news spreads, everyone will want to kill me, and our poor child will be at the center of this tragedy..."

As I spoke out my worst fears, I felt my throat constricting, and I couldn't finish my sentence. The consequences that I would have to face were bad enough, but I didn't want my child to suffer.

“Honey, I promise that that day will never come.”

Jerome planted a gentle kiss on my forehead.

“As long as I’m alive, I will protect you, and so will Jennifer and Anthony. They are the future king and queen. Nothing will happen to you.”

“But I keep having this feeling that something bad is going to happen to us soon.”

I squeezed my eyes shut, buried my head in Jerome’s arms, and sobbed.

“Skylar, you’re thinking too much. It’s just your imagination. For your sake, and for the sake of our child, please let yourself relax and have positive thoughts. Be good.”

Jerome gently patted on my back and shifted me towards the pillow.

“Lie down and get some rest, honey. I’ll go get you a cup of warm milk. Taking a deep breath, I reluctantly closed my eyes and lay down on the bed. Of course I didn’t want to worry about all these things. I knew that being under stress was bad for the baby. But no matter how hard I tried, I couldn’t calm down. It was like a grey cloud looming over me, making me restless. How would my future turn out to be? Could I really be with Jerome forever?”

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Anthony’s POV:

Jerome and Skylar went back to their suite.

Jennifer and I were also about to go to bed, too.

After a long and busy day, we were finally going to get some rest. A thin crescent moon hung in starlit skies.

Jennifer and I cuddled together in each other’s arms and turned off the light.

“Honey, who do you think killed Alpha Marlon? Do you have any leads on the murderer?” Jennifer suddenly asked.

I couldn’t see her face clearly in the dark, but I could feel the warmth of her breath on my neck.

"What do you think, Jennifer?" I responded with a question because I wanted to hear Jennifer's opinion.

"I have a strong feeling that Mandy wasn't lying about Devin. He certainly had the motive to kill Alpha Marlon," Jennifer explained.

"When Mandy mentioned Devin's name, I carefully observed him and noticed that he looked very flustered as if he was guilty. Besides, Daniel also suspected Devin, which means that Mandy wasn't making a groundless accusation." I smiled in amusement.

Indeed, Jennifer lived up to my expectations. She was witty and as sharp as a tack.

"I'm glad to see that we share the same opinion on this matter. It is very likely that Devin is the culprit. In fact, he reminds me of Austin. But Austin is more conniving than he is."

"Anthony, I'm afraid that Devin won't admit to it. I think you need to be careful of him because you never know what a cornered animal can do to defend itself," Jennifer reminded me.

"Don't worry. I've already asked my men to keep a close eye on Devin. If he does anything unusual, I'm going to find out about it immediately," I whispered in Jennifer's ear.

"That's very wise of you, Anthony. I'm glad to hear that," Jennifer praised me.

"By the way, honey, how are you feeling? Is the baby fine?" I reached out and gently caressed Jennifer's belly.

"I was so scared for you and the baby when Mandy attacked you. I don't think I could handle anything bad happening to you or the baby."

"Don't worry, Anthony. The doctor said I'm fine," Jennifer said in a reassuring way.

"I may be pregnant, but I'm still quite strong."

"I know, but I can't help worrying about you." I gently kissed Jennifer's forehead.

"Alright, get some sleep. Good night, Jennifer and our baby."

"Good night, Anthony," Jennifer replied in a low voice.

Then, we both drifted off to sleep together in each other's loving arms.

Early in the next morning, Jennifer and I were awakened by an unexpected knock on the door.

"Mr.Jones, this is an emergency!" someone shouted outside the door.

Jennifer and I sat up on the bed and looked at each other tacitly.

"I'll bet that this has something to do with Devin," Jennifer said.

I nodded knowingly and got out of bed to open the door.

The attendant stood at attention and gave me a salute.

"Mr.Jones, Devin's wife went to the prison to visit him this morning.They talked with each other for a while, but their voices were too low for us to hear what they were saying," the attendant reported to me.

"Good.Continue to keep an eye on Devin.Have someone follow Grace and see what she is up to.Contact me as soon as something new comes up," I ordered the attendant.

"Yes, Mr.Jones." The attendant courteously bowed his head and then left.

"Apparently, Devin's wife went to visit him in prison.I have a feeling they are plotting something," I said to Jennifer as I closed the door behind me.

"I wouldn't be surprised if they were cooking up something devious." Jennifer got out of bed and sat in front of the mirror, combing her long hair.

There was another unexpected knock on the door.

"Hey, Jennifer, are you awake yet?" Skylar knocked on the door again.

"Jerome made pancakes. Come and join us for breakfast, okay?"

Jennifer would never refuse Skylar's invitation.

After freshening up, I went with Jennifer to have breakfast with Jerome and Skylar.

When we arrived at the dining room, Skylar and Jerome were already waiting for us at the table, and Simon was also there.

After we finished eating a hearty breakfast, Daniel came with Helen.

"Hello, Mr.Jones, Jennifer, Skylar, Jerome, and ElderSimon.Have you all had breakfast yet?"

Daniel greeted us with a smile.

"Yes, we have. Jerome made delicious pancakes for us," Jennifer replied with a smile.

"Great!" Daniel smiled, pointing at the window.

"It's a nice day today. It has been a while since we gathered at the Black Stone Pack. Why don't we go somewhere nearby to relax?"

"Good idea. Jennifer and I would like to learn about the local customs of the Black Stone Pack," I answered with a smile.

Daniel's POV:

I had been looking forward to being a good host and taking my friends around to learn more about my pack.

After all, I couldn't miss out on such a rare opportunity because even Anthony was here.

My father had a lot of respect for the king and the prince, Anthony, when he was still alive. I'm sure he would have been happy and honored to see Anthony here.

"This is the largest commercial street in the pack. If we go further, we will see the newly built cinema, and the residential area is just behind it."

I led the way, while Skylar followed me and introduced the street division of the pack to everyone.

Skylar knew all the places as well because she was also from Black Stone Pack.

I watched happily when the werewolves of the pack paid their respects to Anthony as he walked down the street. I couldn't be more proud of my pack.

"The werewolves in Black Stone Pack are all very friendly, and the crime rate is very low. It seems that the late Alpha Marlon was good at keeping order, and the pack has been very prosperous under his leadership," Anthony praised with a smile.

"Yes. Alpha Marlon had always been dutiful to his subjects. He loved his pack," Skylar said with a smile.

"Thank you. I think Dad would be very happy to hear that," I sincerely thanked them.

"Alpha Marlon was nice to me when he was alive. He was really a good werewolf. He shouldn't have encountered such a disaster," Helen said with tears in her eyes.

"It was all my fault. I shouldn't have been so stupid as to accept the perfume from Mandy."

"Don't be sad, Helen. It was not your fault!" Simon tried to comfort her.

"Elder Simon is right, Helen. We can't bring back the deceased, but you and Daniel should be optimistic about life. I think that would be the best way to honor the memory of Alpha Marlon," Jennifer hugged Helen and comforted her gently.

"Thank you, everyone. Helen and I will protect Black Stone Pack with everything we've got. We will continue to lead the pack to further prosperity."

I was deeply touched by the kindness of my friends. While we were talking, I received a call from my mother.

"Daniel, are you with Mr. Jones? I would like to invite your friends to Black Stone House for dinner," my mother said to me.

"No problem, Mom. I'll tell him right now."

After I hung up the phone, I looked at everyone and said, "My mother wants to invite you all to the Black Stone House for lunch."

Everyone accepted my mother's invitation happily and I took them to the Black Stone House soon after.

My mother had prepared a bountiful feast for our guests and many werewolves came with flowers to show their respect to Anthony and Jennifer.

"Mr. Jones will surely make a good king just like his father."

Jerome sighed with emotion when he saw that Anthony was loved by many werewolves.

"Yes."

I nodded in agreement.

Just after lunch, an attendant suddenly rushed into the hall.

"Mr. Jones! Luna Betty! Devin is making trouble in prison!" the attendant reported.

"What happened?" my mother frowned and asked the attendant.

"Half an hour ago, Devin demanded to be released from prison, so he could go to the church and guard Alpha Marlon's body. We didn't know what to do," the attendant explained.

"Mr. Jones, what should we do?" My mother turned to look at Anthony.

A frown of exasperation appeared on my face. What on earth did my brother want now?

"I'm going to the prison to check on Devin right now," Anthony replied calmly.

Eventually, everyone followed Anthony to the prison.

My mother came along as well and I could tell by the pale expression on her face that her heart was heavy with sadness.

I was confused by Devin's actions. What did he seek to achieve by creating chaos?

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Devin's POV:

I couldn't stop panicking after I got thrown into prison because of Mandy's confession. What was I going to do? I had become the prime suspect for the murder of my father.

Although it was true that I was behind the death of my father, this wasn't how I had expected things to turn out.

After all, I had planned everything down to the smallest detail. I wouldn't even be here if Mandy hadn't betrayed me. I should have known that she was too loose-lipped to be trusted.

Besides, why the hell was the prince here? Despite my curiosity, I surmised that now wasn't the best time to think about it. I had to find a way to get out of prison first. I wasn't going to die in such a filthy place. I gripped the prison bars and racked my brains for some profound idea that was going to help me.

Grace came to see me in the morning.

I told her to look for Adonis, the doctor who sold me the ephedrine hydrochloride.

If I could get him to testify that Mandy was the one who had bought the illicit drug from him, then perhaps my name would be cleared.

When Helen was put away in prison, I made Adonis a generous and lucrative offer he couldn't refuse, and in exchange, he was to identify Helen as the person who bought the illicit drug from him.

Little did I know that Mandy was going to betray me and foil all my plans. I had no choice but to hope that Adonis would do exactly as I had asked.

After all, I had given him a large sum of money to buy the illicit drug from him.

Damn it! I was so sure of my plans, especially since I had spent so much time plotting it.

Now because of the prince, everything was in disarray.

Since my back was against the wall, I had no choice but to put on an act so that everyone would think that I hadn't killed my father. I wailed as loud as I could, forcing out tears from my eyes.

"Let me out! I want to see my father! I have to see him before they bury him!" I wrapped my fingers around the bars tightly.

"I don't care what you think of me, I have to see my father one last time."

"Be quiet!"

The prison guard scolded me, but I carried on shouting, like a desperate son wishing to see his father again. I made sure that everyone could hear me.

"Let me out! I want to see my father! You can't keep me from seeing him! Please, I beg you! Why won't you let me see my father?"

My voice was shrill and it rang through the entire prison like a birdsong. After a long time, I finally heard footsteps outside my cell.

I raised my voice as I felt hopeful.

"Please, let me see my father one last time! How can you keep a son from seeing his deceased father?"

I fell to my knees and pounded my chest as if the sadness was too painful to bear.

"I'll do anything, just let me see him again."

Sure enough, Anthony and his mate arrived and he ordered the guard to open the door.

"Mr. Jones!"

Without any hesitation, I crawled to his feet and groveled desperately.

"Please, let me out. I want to see my father for the last time and I want to stay with him until the burial. I will do anything you want, just please grant me this wish!"

Anthony's POV:

When Devin grabbed my feet and started begging, I couldn't help but feel sorry for him. Seeing him in such a vulnerable state made me question if he really was the killer of his own father.

However, I couldn't erase the image of him looking guilty when Mandy made those allegations against him.

Perhaps he was playing a trick, pretending to be pitiful to win everyone's sympathy.

If he really wanted to guard Marlon's dead body, he could have said that before he was put in prison.

Thinking of this, I kept staring at Devin at my feet.

"Please, Mr. Jones!" Devin bowed down and touched his forehead to the ground.

"Please, let me see my father again. You can interrogate me as you like after that."

His actions perplexed me and I found myself wondering what to do.

"Mr. Jones, please let Devin go. I will keep an eye on him. After all, he is Marlon's son."

Betty, who was standing behind me, suddenly spoke up. I couldn't turn down a request from the Luna of the pack.

"All right. Bring him to the church and keep an eye on him at all times," I ordered the guards.

Devin was temporarily released from prison under my orders. He was escorted to the church with us.

"Dad!"

As soon as Devin arrived at the church, he rushed to Marlon's coffin with a tearful face and began to cry.

"I am sorry for not being there for you when you needed me. I give you my word that I will bring the murderer to justice, so your soul can rest peacefully."

Devin's loud voice attracted the attention of the werewolves around him.

The first victim of his spectacular performance seemed to be Betty as she began to wail bitterly.

"Isn't that amazing? If Devin is faking it, he should win the title of best actor next year," Jennifer whispered in my ear when she saw what Devin was doing.

"What if he is actually innocent? We need to watch him closely. Besides, we don't have to make a judgment too soon," I replied with a smile.

"Even if he is acting, he can't keep it up forever."

After crying in front of the coffin for some time, Devin turned his head around and looked at me and Jennifer.

"Thank you for being so generous, Mr. Jones!"

Devin's eyes were red and his voice was hoarse.

"I'm very grateful to you for letting me see my father for the last time. I appreciate your kindness. I believe that you will make a virtuous king in the future!"

"I only agreed to let you come to the church for the sake of your mother. You don't have to thank me." I had heard too many flattering words like his, so I knew not to take them seriously.

"Mr. Jones, I have one more request. I would like to guard my father's dead body until he is buried," Devin pleaded with tearful eyes.

"Sure. Since you're here, you might as well make yourself useful." I nodded.

"Guards, don't take your eyes off of him even for a moment and don't let him go out of the church."

"Thank you, Mr. Jones!" Devin kowtowed.

"I assure you that I won't go anywhere until we find out the truth about what really happened."

For some reason, his words gave me grounds to suspect that someone else might have been involved in the death of Marlon.

However, every time I looked at his conniving face, Austin's face would appear in my mind.

I couldn't let my guard down. I didn't come to such a conclusion without good reason.

After all, I couldn't read other people's minds." Jennifer, let's go and leave their family alone for a while," I whispered in her ear and held Jennifer's hand.

"Okay," Jennifer said before she followed me and the guards out of the church, while Skylar and Jerome trailed behind us.

I stood outside and turned around to get another good look at the church.

The sound of doves flapping their wings and the faint weeping voice from inside the church entered my ears. I prayed for Marlon and I sincerely hoped that he could find peace at last.

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Jennifer's POV:

After leaving the church, Anthony and I headed back to the hotel. Skylar seemed a little tired, so Jerome took her back to their room to rest. "I honestly don't know where I stand on Devin now."

I sat on the sofa and poured myself a glass of water.

"He cried so hard in front of the coffin. It was as though he really loved his father. I simply cannot tell if he's the murderer."

"Maybe it was just a trick he played to save himself. Remember? That's what Austin did, too." Anthony shook his head.

"Don't draw any conclusions just yet. I sighed. I knew he was right. If someone had buried the truth intentionally, it was our responsibility to keep digging." "You should get some rest, Anthony." I reached for his hand and led him to the sofa to sit down.

"You've been so busy the past few days. I can't help but feel sorry for you."

"When I become the king, it will be nothing but a daily routine." Anthony stroked my hair.

"Do you think you'll get used to this kind of life?"

"By then, you'll have a queen to help you deal with these problems, so you won't have to be so busy." I smiled at him teasingly.

But Anthony didn't say anything. He held my hand silently. I closed my eyes, savoring the warm moment. Just then, we heard a knock on the door.

"Come in," Anthony said loudly.

"Mr.Jones, I have some news!" An attendant burst inside.

"The guards who were investigating Grace found that she had been acting suspicious, so they began to trail her.She met up with a doctor named Adonis."

"Doctor? Why's she seeing a doctor? Is she sick?" I asked with a frown.

"They met up in secret.Fortunately, we caught them on video." As he spoke, he fished out his phone from his pocket and handed it to Anthony.

"See for yourself, Mr.Jones." Anthony and I looked at the phone's screen.On it played a video depicting Grace meeting up with a strange man in a grove.

"You have to say that it was Mandy who bought the ephedrine hydrochloride from you, got it?" While the voices in the video were a bit muffled, I could still recognize that it was Grace talking.

"Okay, but why? Didn't you ask me to put the blame on Helen? What's with the change of plans?" asked the doctor.

"Helen was proven innocent, so we need to shift the blame.We have to frame Mandy now.Anyway, quit asking me questions.Just do as I say!" Grace ordered.

When the video ended, I clenched my fists and gritted my teeth angrily.I understood everything now.

"It was Devin," I growled in a low voice.

I thought about Marlon, who was lying lifeless in a coffin.

"What a vicious son! We almost fell for his lies!"

"Sure enough, he turns out to be another wolf in sheep's clothing." Anthony frowned with disgust.

"Anthony, what should we do next?"

I knew that rushing into things in a fit of rage would solve nothing, so I forced myself to calm down.

"Should we show Betty the video right now?"

"No.Let's go and meet Adonis." Anthony rubbed his chin.

"We need to secure a trump card that can pin Devin down."

Anthony's POV:

The attendant gave us an address. Jennifer and I set 4 out to look for the doctor named Adonis.

According to his report, there was nothing about this doctor that was out of the ordinary.

He used to work at a small clinic and had no special background or anything.

After reading the report, I had but a rough understanding of him.

When we arrived at the address, Jennifer and I exchanged glances before knocking on the door firmly.

"Hello, how can I help you?"

Soon, the door swung open, revealing a lazy-looking man. He looked at us, puzzled.

"Are you Dr. Adonis?" Jennifer asked pointedly.

"Eh... Yes, that'd be me. What can I do for you?" The man yawned.

"We are investigating Alpha Marlon's sudden death. Do you know Devin?" I asked, cutting straight to the chase.

"What?"

At the mention of Devin's name, Adonis visibly went stiff. Panicked, he averted his gaze.

"Eh, I... I don't know him. Why would I? Oh, I mean, I've heard of him. After all, he's the son of the Alpha. But we don't know each other personally."

Seeing the way Adonis reacted, I knew what to say next.

"Adonis, I'm Anthony, prince of the Osman Kingdom. This is my mate."

I gestured at Jennifer while looking at Adonis coldly.

"The sudden death of Alpha Marton is of great importance to me, so I'm investigating it myself. Now, I want you to tell me the truth. Dare lie to me and you will receive the severest punishment. Do you understand?"

"Yes, every word you say from now on will be used as a testimony in court."

As Jennifer spoke, she pulled out her phone to record this.

After revealing my true identity, all the color drained from Adonis's face.

Seeing the phone in Jennifer's hand, he grew even more frightened.

His legs went weak and he collapsed to the ground, kneeling before us in a heap.

"I tell the truth!" Adonis stammered.

"Mr. Jones, please believe me. I have nothing to do with Alpha Marlon's death. I swear to God!"

"What the hell happened? Make it clear! Do you know that Alpha Marlon died from ephedrine hydrochloride?"

Seeing Jennifer's tough act, I honestly found her so cute.

On the contrary, Adonis looked frightened to death.

"It was Devin who bought the ephedrine hydrochloride from me. I didn't know why he bought it. It wasn't until I heard the news of Alpha Marlon's death that I realized that something was wrong..."

As Adonis spoke, he burst into tears and clutched at my pant leg pleadingly.

"Mr. Jones, I swear I didn't know he was going to do that. I would never want to hurt the Alpha. Why would I? I'm innocent!"

"Ephedrine hydrochloride is illegal," Jennifer said coldly.

"You committed a crime just by selling it!"

"Yes, okay—it was wrong of me to sell the drug."

Adonis sobbed and begged for mercy.

"I'm sorry. I never meant to kill anyone. I'll never do it again, I promise!"

"In that case, we can give you a lighter sentencing," I said.

"But you have to testify and tell everyone the truth."

"Of course, I'll do anything, Mr. Jones. I'll say whatever you want me to say!" Adonis clasped his hands gratefully.

"Devin's behind all of this. He was the one who forced me to sell some ephedrine hydrochloride to him. He also asked me to say that it was Helen who had bought it. But just today, his wife, Grace, came to me and asked me to testify against Mandy instead. I don't even know her! Mr. Jones, I really know it was wrong of me to sell illegal drugs, but I needed the money. I'm so sorry."

Now that he was putting all the blame on Devin, he stopped stammering and became eloquent. I sneered internally, but remained calm on the outside.

"Well, quit groveling and get up. I want you to testify in court. Do you know what to say?" I asked, narrowing my eyes at him.

"Yes, yes. You can count on me, Mr. Jones!" Adonis stood up and bowed to me respectfully.

Jennifer tapped a button on her phone to stop recording.

Smiling at me, she said, "I got it!"

"Alright, then. Let's go." I took Jennifer's hand, ignoring the panic on Adonis's face.

My attendants would monitor his every move from now on; he wouldn't have a chance to escape, even if he wanted to.

Although he wasn't the mastermind who had killed Marlon, he was an inadvertent accomplice.

Fortunately, he knew the situation and revealed the truth in time. With the evidence we just gathered, Devin couldn't escape now.

Outcast: The Alpha King's Beloved

Chapter 260

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

Now that we had Adonis's testimony on video, Anthony and I headed back to our hotel room.

"Oh, my God! Devin is so good at acting. What a sly werewolf!" I said to Anthony as I whipped out my phone and copied the recording into the U disk.

"He almost had me. I was convinced he might not be the murderer after all."

"He's a threat to Daniel. We need to make sure we expose his crimes thoroughly so that Daniel will become the Alpha smoothly," Anthony said seriously.

"Anthony, what're you going to do?" I asked worriedly "We don't have to expose Devin's true colors right now. We can deliver the fatal blow when he is off-guard."

With a sly smile, Anthony rapped on the table with his knuckles.

"Just when he starts to relax, that's when we'll strike."

"Good idea, Anthony!" I clapped my hands with satisfaction.

"We can expose him at the funeral! That way, everyone will know what kind of a werewolf Devin is, and the late Alpha Marlon will have closure. Oh, this is good!"

"Exactly. I'll make arrangements in advance, lest he try to escape from his punishment."

Anthony strode over and sat next to me, slipping his arms around my waist lovingly.

"Many werewolves will attend the funeral. Everyone will be there when we reveal who the true murderer is. I can tell that Devin's a proud man. The look of disgust on everyone's face will be enough to destroy him."

"You're right." I chuckled, leaning on Anthony's shoulder.

"By the way, Jennifer, keep the evidence to yourself. Don't tell anyone else about it, lest anything unexpected happen," Anthony instructed me.

"Don't worry. I'm way ahead of you."

I winked at him and was about to say more, but all of a sudden, I felt sick and started to retch.

"What's wrong?" Anthony held me worriedly.

"It's probably just morning sickness. Skylar said it's normal for pregnant women." I sank into the sofa and closed my eyes.

A little while later, the dizziness faded. But now, I was faced with a new problem.

"I'm craving something sour...like a yogurt cake."

I didn't know why, but I felt as though I wouldn't be satiated until I had a yogurt cake.

"Okay, I'll make one right now."

Without hesitation, Anthony got up and went to the kitchen to bake a cake.

A half-hour later, a yogurt cake decorated with colorful fruits was laid out in front of me.

"Oh, my God! Anthony, you made this?"

I took the plate of cake and examined it carefully.

"It's too beautiful for me to eat!"

"Don't worry. If you like it, I'll make it for you every day." Anthony winked at me charmingly.

"Come on, babe. I made it just for you. Try it."

"Okay, okay, fine."

With a wide grin, I took my fork and was about to dig in when Anthony stopped me.

"Let me feed you. You can just lie on the sofa and enjoy it, my queen."

Anthony leaned over, scooped up a spoonful of cake and put it to my mouth.

Seeing the smile on his face, I felt very happy. It felt so good to be taken good care of.

"Wow!" I chewed on the sweet, moist cake thoughtfully, savoring its sweetness.

With Anthony's help, I finished the whole cake in no time.

"Babe, your mouth has cream on it!"

Chuckling, Anthony suddenly leaned over and licked my lips. I was stunned for a moment, flustered by his sudden gesture.

"You taste sweeter than the cake, honey." Anthony smiled, wrapping his arms around me.

"Now, isn't it your turn to satisfy me? I'm not interested in yogurt cake. I just want to eat you."

"You're so annoying." I rolled my eyes, smirking.

Finally, I leaned forward and pressed my lips against his.

After sharing a passionate kiss, I climbed onto his lap and looked at him seriously. I suddenly remembered Skylar's situation, which depressed me.

"Anthony, even if Skylar manages to keep her special power a secret, I don't want her to keep hiding her true self. It must be really difficult." I sighed heavily, voicing out my concerns.

"You're right." Anthony echoed my sentiments, frowning slightly.

"I don't think Skylar should do that to herself. If her identity ends up being exposed, Jerome can just take her away. I know he'll be able to protect her."

"Actually, Jerome's been thinking about this." I sighed again.

"But as an Alpha, he's responsible for the members of his pack. There's nothing he can do about it. By the way, Anthony, can you send your men to check on the totems of the vampire families? I want to know where Skylar came from. Maybe we can find a way for her to control her special power. There's a hexagram mark on her wrist, right? You mentioned that it might be the symbol of a noble vampire family."

"Okay, I'll look into it. Leave it to me." Anthony smiled, giving me a peck on the forehead.

Skylar's POV:

That night, I couldn't fall asleep. I tossed and turned in bed restlessly. I tried to calm myself down, but I couldn't get rid of the images in my head. I couldn't help but fret that, if my vampire bloodline was discovered by others, they would try to kill me.

Plus, what if my child also had special power? What would I do then? The more I thought about it, the more anxious I felt.

My heart started to race like a drum.

"Skylar, what's the matter?" Jerome seemed to notice how restless I was.

He hugged me from behind.

"Are you feeling uncomfortable?"

"Jerome, my heart is beating so fast. I don't feel so good. There are scenes in my mind that I can't get rid of."

I threw myself into Jerome's arms and burst into tears.

"Do you think it's because of your special power?" Jerome looked at me worriedly and then helped me up.

"Don't panic, honey. Let's go see Jennifer and her mate. They must have a solution!" He then scooped me up into his arms carefully.

At a loss, I buried my head into his arms as he carried me out of our room.

"Jennifer, it's me, Jerome. Please open the door. Skylar's unwell!" Jerome cried anxiously as soon as we reached their room.

“What’s wrong, Jerome? Skylar, are you okay? What happened?”

As soon as the door swung open, Jennifer bombarded us with questions. When she saw me, her eyes went as wide as saucers.

“Oh, my God! You don’t look so good. Come inside!”

Jerome carried me into the room, and Anthony closed the door behind us. I asked Jerome to put me down.

Then, I threw myself into Jennifer’s arms.

“What should I do? I feel like my special power is getting out of control. I’m so worried that everyone will find out and that they’ll try to hunt me down. My child won’t be able to grow up safely.”

As I rambled, tears streamed down my cheeks.

“Jennifer, I really can’t bear to see Skylar suffer like this. I need to take her away to someplace safe. We can go to a place where no one knows us. Skylar can then give birth to the baby and live a happy and carefree life with me.”

Jerome looked at Jennifer gravely, and I knew what he was about to ask.

“Please take my place as Alpha.”

“I knew this day would come.” Jennifer sighed heavily.

Hugging me, she rubbed my back comfortingly.

“If you’ve decided, then I’ll take over the position. But Skylar, I don’t want you two to leave. Who knows when we’ll be able to see each other again?”

Hearing Jennifer’s words, I was choked with sobs.

“I don’t want to leave either, Jennifer. But I don’t know what else to do.”

We hugged each other tightly.

Suddenly, I felt my shirtsleeve moisten.

Jennifer was crying, too.

“We should stop crying; it’s not good for the babies.” Jennifer coaxed me softly.

“Maybe things won’t be that bad. After all, no one in the Rainbow Pack has discovered that you have the special power, right?” Jennifer’s words made sense.

I tried my best to calm down and wiped away my tears." Jerome, please think twice. You need to make a careful decision. Are you sure you want to give up the position of Alpha?"

Jennifer asked Jerome.

"Trust me, Jennifer. I've been thinking about this for a long time. But I don't want to force you to take over my responsibilities. If you don't want to become an Alpha, just tell me. I'll try to come up with another solution."

Jerome held my hand and we both smiled at Jennifer.

"Okay, I'll think it over." Jennifer smiled back at us.

Being surrounded by the people closest to me, I gradually calmed down.

After saying goodbye to Jennifer, Jerome and I went back to our room.

It was quite late at night and I needed to get some rest. Sinking into my bed, I rubbed the hexagram mark on my wrist and closed my eyes.