

Chapter 428 A Photo Of Skylar's Mother

Aldrich's POV:

Late one night, I was sitting alone in my bedroom and looking through old photos of Daisy.

In one photo, Daisy was smiling sweetly. She was wearing a white dress, looking as beautiful as a dandelion in full bloom. I stroked the photo with my fingers, as though I could touch her soft cheek once more.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door.

"Dad?" It was Skylar.

"Come in, my dear." I immediately put the photos down and went to open the door.

"Hi, Dad! How are you doing today?" Skylar smiled up at me cheerfully when I let her in. "I learned a lot in today's class, and now that I'm done with today's lessons, I decided to come see you."

I felt a little touched, so I patted her on the head gently. "Oh, thank you. I'm having a good day today. And what about you? Aren't you tired of having to study so many things all at once? Are you mad at me? If you really don't like it, you can stop. I will respect your decision and protect you. I won't let anyone gossip about you. I just want you to be happy and carefree. Even if you don't learn those things, to me, you're still the most elegant and lovely princess in the world."

The truth was, I had been thinking about this for a while now. Finding my dear daughter was no easy feat. Did I really have to force her to undergo so many complicated courses just for her to assimilate into the vampire race? Skylar had just come back. She was probably still adjusting.

"Oh, no, Dad. I'm fine. I'm not tired... All right, I am a little tired, but only a little!" Skylar admitted. "But, honestly, I think I ought to learn these things. I'm a princess after all. Fortunately, I like to learn new things, so the courses I've been taking make me feel that my life is very fulfilling!"

I felt relieved to hear that. "Skylar, you are such a good girl, you know that? But I still think that you're taking too many courses right now. If you really want to learn, then take them one at a time. No one will find fault with you. You don't have to stress yourself out over this. My daughter, you're the only princess of the vampires."

"Okay, Dad!" Skylar slipped her arm into mine and smiled. "By the way, Dad, I got a call today. One of my best friends is going to get married. I'm really happy for her."

When Skylar spoke, her eyes were shining with excitement. I could see that she cared about her friend very much.

"Skylar, would you like to attend your friend's wedding?" I asked slowly.

"Yes, Dad!" Skylar nodded adamantly. Her twinkling eyes looked at me expectantly.

I sighed. "Skylar, is your friend a she-wolf?"

Skylar was stunned for a moment, but then she seemed to understand something. In a soft voice, she answered, "Yes, Dad."

"I know what you're thinking, Skylar." I shook my head helplessly. "I want you to be happy, but I can't let you see the werewolves any time soon. If those stubborn elders find out, they won't let me hear the end of it."

Skylar looked disappointed, but then she forced a smile. "It's okay, Dad. I understand. Anyway, my friend already knows that I can't go. I can just call her on her wedding day."

Skylar was always so considerate. I was touched whenever she helped me carry the heavy burden of being king of the vampires. I pulled her into my arms and murmured, "Thank you, Skylar. You don't know how happy that makes me feel. I'm relieved, but at the same time, I don't want to keep disappointing you like this. I always feel like I'm helpless as your father since I can't give you anything."

"What are you talking about, Dad? You've given me a life that most people can only dream of." Skylar patted me on the shoulder comfortingly, as though she was the parent and I was the child. "Don't think like that. Everyone has their own struggles, and a king is no exception. Plus, I'm your daughter, so of course I'm willing to help you in whatever way I can!"

Skylar's answer lifted a weight off of my shoulders, but I still felt conflicted. My dear daughter was so considerate. I was thankful for this.

"So, Dad, what were you up to just now? You didn't answer the door right away." Skylar looked at me inquisitively.

I was stunned. I didn't realize that I was so absorbed in the photos that I didn't notice that Skylar had been knocking.

"Oh, sorry, Skylar. I was just looking at old photos," I apologized, embarrassed-faced.

At the mention of photos, Skylar seemed to notice something and walked over to my desk. She picked up the photos and asked, "Dad, were you looking at these?"

Skylar's POV:

I picked up a photo of a very beautiful woman. She was wearing a white lace dress, which made her look like a white rose in full bloom. Although I had never met this woman before, she seemed kind and loving.

"Skylar..." My father took my hand and held it tightly. To my surprise, his eyes welled up with tears.

A thought occurred to me. "Dad... Is this a photo of my mother?"

Tears rolled down my father's eyes freely now. He nodded and whispered, "Yes. This is your mother, Daisy."

I felt a lump in my throat. Oh, my God! After all these years, I finally knew what my mother looked like.

I looked at the beautiful female in the photo and couldn't help but sigh heavily. This was my mother! She was so beautiful! Sadly, I'd never get the chance to meet her.

I clutched the photo close to my heart and cried, "I finally know what my mother looked like. I wish she was here with me now. I really miss her!"

"Skylar, I'm sorry. This is all my fault! I owe you and Daisy too much!" My father cried bitterly.

We hugged each other and wept freely, our sobs echoing across his room. It took a long time before we calmed down.

"Dad, can you tell me all about her?" I asked softly. "Please tell me everything. I'm not a child anymore. I can take it. I just want to know the truth."

Seeing that I was so determined, my father sighed and gave in. "Well, I suppose it is time to tell you about your mother."

And so, my father began to tell me all about their past.

Years ago, he accidentally broke into werewolves' territory and got seriously injured in the process. It was my mother, Daisy, who saved him. My father was so moved by her kindness and tenderness that he fell in love with her. But this love could not be hidden from the world, and it was soon discovered.

Society did not allow werewolves and vampires be together. My father had no choice but to take my mother back to vampires' territory. But even then, the vampires rejected my mother.

"Later, your mother got pregnant, which was a good thing, but I couldn't let anyone know, so I hid her in a house secretly. Consequently, I couldn't give her the best medical conditions. She was also stressed throughout the whole pregnancy. After all, our love was not accepted by the mortal world, and she worried about your safety. In the end, she went through difficult labor when she gave birth to you and died from massive hemorrhaging." When it came to this point in the story, my father closed his eyes and winced in pain. "At that time, I was a candidate for the throne. To secure my position, I couldn't make Daisy's death known, nor could I keep you. In order to get the support of the elders, I went so far as to abandon you, a helpless newborn baby, in a pack..."

After listening to his story, I felt restless.

It turned out that my parents had experienced a test similar to that of Jerome and me, but my father's situation was even more serious. Neither my mother nor he could hold on to each other... My poor mother...

"I'm sorry, Skylar. I never should've abandoned you. I've regretted it every day since. Now that I've finally found you, I just want to make things up to you. I don't expect you to forgive me." My father apologized to me profusely, and his bloodshot eyes brimmed with tears once more.

I looked at him blankly.

I wanted to tell my father that I didn't blame him. That what had happened between him and my mother was a thing of the past. But when I thought about how bad my mother had it, I just couldn't say it.

"I'm sorry, Dad. My mind is in shambles. I need some time alone." I turned around to leave, tears rolling down my cheeks uncontrollably.