

Chapter 499 Missing

Jennifer's POV:

I was in a good mood today because Carl finally agreed to spare some time to take me for a frolic in the garden. On top of that, we were planning to go on a trip soon. What more could I want?

As soon as I stepped into the garden with Carl, I felt as if my bad mood was swept away, outshone by the sunlight and the beautiful greenery. Happy childhood memories rushed back to me, and I asked Carl to play hide-and-seek with me just like we did when we were kids. I was afraid that Carl would turn down such a childish request, but he agreed without hesitation.

Being finally able to get out of that room had already lifted my spirits, but now, getting to play my favorite childhood game left me feeling ecstatic.

But I couldn't find Carl even once. He seemed to be a natural at hiding. Several times, I had the sneaking suspicion that he was cheating at the game; nevertheless, I had a great time playing.

With my eyes closed, I stretched out my arms and fumbled forward. Feeling my fingers finally brush against skin, I shouted excitedly, "Carl, I caught you!"

But when I opened my eyes, it wasn't Carl who I found standing in front of me; instead, it was a tall and dashing man whom I'd never seen before in my life.

My clumsy touch didn't seem to faze him at all. Instead, he stared straight into my eyes as if asking me a silent question I didn't have the answer to. As I looked at his face, my heartbeat raced inexplicably, and I looked away to avoid meeting his eyes.

'Oh my God! Who the hell is this man? He's too good-looking,' I thought.

"Jennifer, this man is so handsome. He is my ideal type. I'm sure that he is your Mr. Right. Carl is nothing compared to him," Eva, my wolf, who had been silent for a long time, suddenly screamed in my mind.

"Eva, don't say such things!" I hissed back at her, feeling a little embarrassed and guilty. After all, I was engaged to Carl.

"Hello, Aurora." The wistfulness in the strange man's eyes disappeared in an instant, almost making me wonder if I had just imagined it. With a warm smile spreading across his face, he took the initiative to greet me. "My name is Anthony Jones. I'm the lycan king."

What? My eyes almost popped out of their sockets, and my breath hitched in my throat. What did he say? The king? It was impossible. How could I just casually run into the king in the garden?

"Oh, yes, Aurora. This is Mr. Jones." Carl quickly walked over and confirmed what the man said.

My jaw dropped in shock. The man in front of me was really the king? In my excitement, I couldn't help but jump up and squeal. "Oh my God! You're really the king! Mr. Jones, can you give me your autograph? I've admired you since I was a child."

It was only those words left my mouth that I realized that the king I'd admired as a child could not be the same man standing in front of me now. But it didn't matter. I was sure that he would understand what I meant. All werewolves admired the lycans, the strongest of all. I had grown up listening to tales of their brave adventures, so naturally, I was enamored of the lycan king.

"I'd be happy to, but I'm afraid I don't have the habit of carrying pen and paper with me." The handsome king's lips curved up into an apologetic smile, filling my heart with warmth.

"It's okay. I'll go and get a pen and paper right now!" Every cell of my body was buzzing with excitement. After all, it was not every day that I got the chance to meet the king, if ever. I rushed back to the house to ask the maids for a pen and paper, my feet moving at lightning speed. Nestled in my heart was the silly fear that the king would disappear before I returned to get his autograph.

"Aurora!" I heard the sound of Carl's voice calling me from behind, but I had no time to stop and respond to him now. The truth was, I hated the name Aurora.

Besides, the man who had just appeared in front of me was the acclaimed king! I was so immersed in the joy of meeting the king that I didn't have the space to think about anything else.

Carl's POV:

I had not heard so much as a peep that Anthony was coming to White Lily Pack.

I had brought Jennifer to the garden only to satisfy her wishes. The two of us were happily playing hide-and-seek. But when I saw Anthony in the garden, all that happiness dissipated in an instant, and my heart almost stopped beating.

Jennifer's husband was here! He must have found out the truth and come here to take her back. He was staring right at Jennifer with an unreadable look in his eyes. Even if he hadn't found out about the deal I had with Larry, he would definitely recognize Jennifer.

As I stared at Anthony, my breath quickened, and the world around me seemed to slow to a stop.

Time passed excruciatingly slowly, and every second seemed to last an eternity. Frozen behind the big tree where I was hiding, I helplessly watched Jennifer and Anthony meet each other.

The two of them looked at each other blankly, but neither of them spoke.

"Who are you?" Jennifer asked after a while.

It was only then that breath returned to my lungs, and I heaved a sigh of relief. If Jennifer didn't recognize Anthony, things would be much easier for me to take care of. With renewed confidence, I walked over to Jennifer and stood next to her, showing Anthony that I was close to her. As expected, Anthony didn't say anything unusual.

Larry's magic was truly beyond my expectations. Anthony didn't realize that Jennifer, the woman he was looking for, was standing right in front of him. After all, Larry's magic had not only transformed Jennifer's appearance, but also her smell. Not even the slightest hint remained for Anthony to suspect that the woman he was looking at was actually Jennifer.

'Calm down, Carl. Calm down! It's all okay,' I told myself, trying my best to regain my composure and act normal.

But the last thing I could have predicted was that Jennifer would excitedly talk to Anthony and ask him for his autograph, as if she was a loyal fan of his. When Anthony told Jennifer that he didn't have any pen and paper with him, she even ran back to the house in a hurry to bring some.

Damn it, it seemed that these two were destined to meet.

"Aurora!" I called out Jennifer's fake name several times, but she continued running towards the house as if she didn't hear me at all. Clucking my tongue in impatience, I finally turned to a nearby maid and ordered, "Hurry up and follow her. Make sure nothing happens to her. She is pregnant now."

"Yes, Alpha Carl," the maid replied, before hastening after Jennifer.

It was only after making sure that the maid caught up with Jennifer that I finally turned to Anthony. Wiping the sweat off my forehead, I said, "Long time no see, Mr. Jones. I'm sorry that I'm not able to welcome you properly. You see, I wasn't expecting you today."

"Don't worry about that. I came here on a spur of the moment. I wanted to try my luck and see if I could get any clue about the queen's whereabouts," Anthony said, shrugging.

Hearing his kind, casual tone, I smiled smugly on the inside. What an idiot! The queen he was looking for was right in front of him just moments ago, but he didn't recognize her. If this was what true love was, then it was nothing but a joke.

"Ah, Mr. Jones, it's a shame about the disappearance of the queen. As her childhood playmate, I pray for her safe return. Unfortunately, as Alpha, I can't go out to look for her. My pack needs me," I sighed, feigning sympathy. "I know how much you love the queen. God must be testing you. I hope you find Jennifer as soon as possible."

"I know. Thank you for your kind words," Anthony said without any change in his expression. "I will find her no matter how long it takes."

I avoided Anthony's sharp eyes and smiled as naturally as I could.

"Where did you meet Aurora?" Anthony suddenly asked.

My heart skipped a beat. What if he suspected something? I had to answer him in a way that would erase all his doubt.

"To be honest, Mr. Jones, it seems that I was destined to meet Aurora. We met not long ago. I was out on business one day when I saw a strange woman in danger. I saved her, and she ended up falling in love with me. But I didn't realize my feelings for her at that time, so I didn't accept her right away." I took a deep breath and told Anthony the lie I had already made up. "After some thought, when I realized that I was sincerely in love with Aurora, I went back to her. We've been happy together ever since. I love Aurora very much. I love her more than anyone else in the world." As I spoke, I stared steadily into Anthony's eyes, a faint sense of provocation rising in my heart.

I was not exaggerating my feelings for Jennifer. If Anthony ever tried to take her away from me, I was prepared to go to war against him. I loved Jennifer more than he did.

"You two haven't been together for long, but you already have a child together," Anthony pointed out in a breezy tone.

"Aurora got pregnant soon after we met, but she didn't want to burden me, so she kept the truth from me and planned to give birth to the baby by herself. When I found out about it, I felt very guilty. I swore that she was the only she-wolf I would marry in my life," I explained, lowering my eyes in a downcast manner as if I could barely bear to talk about it. "Fortunately, it was not too late. Now that I have brought her back here to live with me, I can take care of her myself."

