

Chapter 378 A Difficult Decision

Jennifer's POV:

The meeting finally came to an end.

I held Caroline's hand and walked out of the meeting room. Her face had been pale since she found out that Austin had been captured by the vampires.

"Are you okay, Caroline?" I asked with concern.

"Jennifer..." Caroline suddenly grabbed my sleeve and pleaded, "Please, please, tell Anthony to bring Austin back home. You must find the daughter of the vampire king!"

Before I could reply, Anthony's voice took me by surprise from behind.

"Don't worry, Caroline. You have my word." Anthony looked at the maid and added, "Take my mother and Caroline to back to their rooms."

"Anthony, are you sure you can find the daughter of the vampire king?" Elizabeth's voice trembled with concern.

"Don't worry, Mom. I know what to do," Anthony replied.

"Mom, leave it to Anthony. You should take Caroline and get some rest," I said. "Anthony will let you know as soon as he brings back some good news."

"Thank you very much, Anthony and Jennifer." Caroline gave me a forced smile before she left with Elizabeth.

I didn't dare to waste any more time. I dragged Anthony back to our room as quickly as I could. After all, only we knew who the daughter of the vampire king was. This secret was directly related to the safety of Skylar and Austin. Therefore, we had to come up with a solution as soon as possible.

"Honey, show me the letter," I said to Anthony as soon as we got back to our room.

"Here you are." Anthony took out the folded letter and handed it to me. "In truth, the vampire king wrote in the letter that he had left his daughter to the Black Stone Pack, but I didn't mention it at the meeting to stop the others from getting suspicious."

I took the letter and read it carefully. "Well done, Anthony. When I winked at you back then, I was afraid that you wouldn't understand what I meant."

"I already knew that I couldn't mention Skylar's name at the meeting as it would put her life in danger," Anthony said with a smile.

Judging from the wording of the letter, I could tell that the vampire king was not only being sincere, but he was also making a threat. I shook my head and said, "I guess we have no choice but to let the vampire king meet his daughter."

"Jennifer, both you and I know that Skylar is very likely to be the daughter of the vampire king. She's the only one we know who has the features of both werewolves and vampires. She has special powers and can transform into a wolf. Obviously, she is mixed-blood. Moreover, she has the totem of the vampire royal family. All this evidence shows her identity. It can't be a coincidence."

I looked down and sighed. "I know, Anthony."

"Well, what are you going to do? Are you going to talk to Skylar?" Anthony asked.

"What choice do we have? We can't hide such a big problem from Skylar," I said helplessly. "I just don't know how to tell her and my brother yet."

"I know it's a big problem, but I believe that we can always reach an agreement if we put our heads together. I think Jerome and Skylar have the right to know the truth. Let's tell them first and then decide what to do next," Anthony encouraged me.

I took out my phone with the intention of calling my brother.

"Anthony, I really wished we have another way. If we let Skylar meet with the vampire king, he will surely object to her being with my brother, even if he doesn't hurt her."

"I know, honey, but we have no other choice." Anthony's face darkened. "At least, we can be certain that the vampire king will not hurt his own daughter. We can be there when they meet to ensure Skylar's safety, but at least, Austin will be out of harm's way by then."

"I understand your concern, Anthony." Without further ado, I took a deep breath and called Jerome.

Jerome's POV:

When I received Jennifer's call, Skylar and I were taking a brisk stroll on the beach. We had spent our carefree days, patiently waiting for our child to be born, as Skylar was due in a few days.

"Hello, Jennifer. It's good to hear from you. What's up?" I asked.

"Jerome, I have some bad news to tell you," Jennifer said in a serious tone. "Try not to be nervous."

My eyes widened with apprehension as I asked, "What is it?"

"What's wrong, honey? Who are you talking to?" Skylar held my hand and asked in confusion.

"It's Jennifer, honey," I answered. Then I said to Jennifer, "Go ahead."

"Austin got captured by vampires after the battle. They have kept him alive for now. The vampire king wrote a letter to Anthony, asking us to hand over his daughter in exchange for Austin's life." I could sense the hesitation in Jennifer's tone as she spoke.

"What did you say?" The moment my brain processed Jennifer's words, I felt like lightning passed through my body and I almost dropped my phone.

"Jerome, what happened? Is something wrong with Jennifer?" Skylar was surprised by my reaction and she grabbed my hand anxiously.

"Jerome, Skylar is next to you, right?" Jennifer asked.

"Yes." I somehow managed to calm down. "Jennifer, thank you for telling me. Skylar and I are heading back home. I'll call you back later."

This was a matter of great importance and it needed to be discussed at home.

"Okay." Jennifer understood me. "I'll wait for your call, Jerome."

I put the phone down after Jennifer hung up.

I took a deep breath as I looked into Skylar's nervous eyes and grabbed her wrist. "Honey, I have something to tell you, but let's go home first."

"What happened, Jerome? Does it have anything to do with me?" Skylar's voice trembled.

"Let's go back first, honey," I said gently. Then, we stood at the side of the road and hailed a taxi before heading home as quickly as we could.

"Jerome, can you tell me what's going on?" As soon as we got home, Skylar looked at me with bewildered eyes.

"I'll let Jennifer explain." I dialed Jennifer's number and put it on speaker. Jennifer answered as soon as the call was connected. She must have been waiting for my call.

"Jennifer, is that you? It's me, Skylar," Skylar asked anxiously.

"Yes, it's me," Jennifer said.

"What on earth is happening? Jennifer, please tell me what's going on. Jerome has been acting strange ever since he got off the phone with you," Skylar said, biting her lip.

"I'm sorry for making your worry, Skylar," Jennifer said slowly. "Something happened to Austin."

Jennifer slowly explained everything starting from Austin's capture and then the letter from the vampire king.

I turned my head away as I couldn't look at Skylar's sad face. "Skylar..."

"Jennifer, it's all my fault!" Skylar's voice rose. "Jerome, I need to save Austin. I can't just stand by and let a hero like him die."

I knew Skylar would react like this, so I held her in my arms and said, "Honey, calm down. Let's listen to what Jennifer has to say first. Perhaps, there's another way to solve this problem, right, Jennifer?"

I put my hope on Jennifer and my voice trembled when I spoke.

"Jerome... Anthony and I read the letter from the vampire king," Jennifer said. "The matter is more serious than we had thought. The vampire king seems to have made up his mind to get his daughter back this time. If Skylar doesn't show up, they will kill Austin. Anthony and I have thought about sending some men to rescue him secretly, but it's too risky. One small mistake could result in Austin's death. I'm sorry, Jerome."

Jennifer's words dripped with shame and guilt.

I clenched my fists without conscious thought as I felt my heart slowly sinking.

