

# The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 2: Chapter 81 - Tips

0 4 minutes read

~DAMON~

"Damon!" I hear someone shouting my name. "Son! Wake up!"

Mother. It was her panicked voice. Every part of my body was in pain, and I couldn't remember anything.

"Damon!"

I slowly open my eyes and find her standing above me with tears in her eyes.

"Mom."

She runs a hand down my face, "You're okay. We are here now."

"What happened?" I ask as I take a look around me.

Most of the beach house was burnt to the ground, and Atticus was unconscious a few feet away from me.

"Don't you remember?" she asks. "Atticus sent us a warning; he told us that Clarissa sent Autumn a message asking for help. When we arrived, we found the house on fire. After searching, we found you and Atticus unconscious on the sand."

At her words, I could feel my mind begin to spin. All of the memories of the fight were returning to me. Clarissa and I were attacked by men I hadn't seen before. I tried to protect her from them, I wanted to prevent them from taking her, but I had failed miserably.

I last remember hearing Clarissa's screams and then a sudden burst of flames. I was knocked out after that.

"Where is Clarissa?" I shouted as I pushed myself off the ground. I wince at the sudden ringing in my head. I ignored the pain as I looked around for her.

Atticus gr0aned as my father tried waking him.

"We didn't see no sign of her or Autumn." She informs me.

"Autumn is missing as well?" I ask her in horror.

What the hell did this mean?

"Why would they take both Autumn and Clarissa?" I demand. "It doesn't make any sense."

Unless. . .

A new fear sinks as I realize something I should have done since I first saw that tattoo on those men.

"What is it?" My mother asks me.

"Where's Autumn?" Atticus demands the second he's awake and back to his senses.

I held my head as everything started to make sense. I saw something before I lost consciousness, something that could change all of our lives for good. It wasn't the first time I'd seen it. It also happened on the same day that Anya's mother was killed. I dismissed it back then, but now I realize I should have looked more into it.

"The dark symbol," I whisper.

"What did you just say?" Atticus demands, he wasn't the only one who's heard me.

"Did you just say the dark symbol?" Griffin asks me.

"I have to be mistaken," I whisper, trying to find the strength now that I know who's taken Clarissa from me.

"What's wrong, Damon?" Atticus growls. "Would you please f\*g explain what is happening here? Where is my wife? Where is my sister? Where the hell are they?"

"I saw the dark symbol." I finally answer him.

"Where did you see it?" He asks. "Who was it on?"

"Clarissa."

There's a moment of silence as my answer reaches the ear of everyone around me.

"Clarissa?" My mother asks in disbelief. "What was the dark symbol doing on Clarissa?"

"The fire in the forest," I say in horror. "An outsider didn't cause it. That was Clarissa's doing. She didn't know it then. She didn't understand it. She was so upset that I was getting engaged to Anya that she'd done that herself. On the day that Anya's mother

died, all of those witches lost their power somehow and gave us the upper hand. It wasn't their mistake; it was Clarissa's power awakening. I'd seen the symbol back then but thought nothing of it; now I realize I should have paid more attention to it. All of the signs have always been around."

"This is insane," Atticus says as he lifts his head towards the sky. "f\*g insane. Does this mean what I think it does?"

I nod, "Clarissa is none other than Azai Reign's daughter. Autumn's sister. They've been sisters, and none of us knew it."

"Actually," Grandfather says as he walks towards us. "Your grandmother and I knew all along who Clarissa was. It's why we convinced your parents to adopt her."

"What?" My mother demands from him. "You knew that Clarissa was a Reign this entire time, and you never once thought we should know this?"

He nods, "I knew you wouldn't have adopted her if you'd known the truth. We made a promise to protect those girls, and it is a promise I intend to keep. I'm glad we accepted Clarissa into our lives; she brought us joy. It doesn't matter who her father is; you're her parents now. You must protect her as well."

"I don't understand." My father says in shock. "You knew the dangers, and you still chose to protect her?"

"Is she not your daughter?" He demands from my father. "Would you not give your life for her even after knowing who her real father is?"

"Of course, I would." My father growls. "But you should not have kept this a secret from the rest of us. We should have known the truth. We have a family to protect. What would be done about the f\*g overlords now that Clarissa is revealed to be a Reign? What are we supposed to do?"

"We don't have time to fight!" I roar. "Clarissa is missing! My mate is missing! I need to get her back before I lose my f\*g mind."

"Your mate?" My mother demands. "You don't just love her? She's also your mate?"

I closed my eyes; she was indeed my mate. I hate myself for taking so long to notice who she was to me.

"The moment Anya died, I knew for sure," I answered her. "I always had doubts, but when Anya's spell completely left my body, I knew Clarissa belonged to me."

And after joining with her a few hours ago, I knew that I wasn't f\*g wrong. I was only a few seconds away from marking her before those bastards took her from me.

"They have Autumn. Once again, they have her." Atticus says in disbelief. "How the fuck are we going to find them now?"

## The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 2: Chapter 82 - Tips

0 4 minutes read

~DAMON~

"We can't do this on our own," Atticus says. I knew we couldn't. Of course, we couldn't. Not when we've been failing so far.

It's been a few hours since Autumn and Clarissa have been kidnapped.

We had no leads, and despite the money already spent, no one could help us find them. We'd also been searching within those hours, and I felt restless. I had no idea what those psychopaths were doing with my mate. I've never been away from Clarissa for this long while, not knowing where she was. It was killing me inside.

"You're right." I agree. "You know exactly how I'm feeling. If I don't find her soon, I will lose it."

He nods, "I've called Austin and his family over. I've already informed them of what's happening. They're going to help us."

"Where the hell could he have them?" I ask him. "We'd followed every lead possible, including everything Autumn has told us in the past. Why aren't we finding them?"

"He must have moved," Atticus answers me. "It's the only explanation. But since they love being underground, I assume they are in a different location. That's why it's much harder to find them."

"And what about the overlords?" I ask him. "What are we going to do when they find out that Clarissa is also a Reign?"

Frustrated, he closes his eyes, "I don't know, Damon. I was hoping that Autumn would never find her siblings. I know it's a selfish wish, but I knew that her life would be in more danger once she found them. Now we know that Clarissa was her sister all along. That's insane. Together they're more powerful. Now all that's missing is their last sibling. I don't even want to think about it. All I want to do is find Autumn. We will deal with everything else after."

I nod; I also want Clarissa back quickly. I didn't want to wait longer to have her back in my arms.

"They're here!" My mother informs us.

Austin, Hunter, Isabella, Lucy, Arthur, and Gabriella are the six that I see. Where were the others?

Gabriella runs over to Atticus and hugs him, "Are you okay?" She asks.

He shook his head. "I feel like I'm alive but barely breathing. I don't know where she is. I don't know what to do to find her."

"We're here," Austin tells us. "We will find a way to get them back. One way or another, we will get them both back alive."

Hunter nods at me, and I acknowledge his presence. "What do we know so far?" He asks.

"We know that Skyler is responsible for taking them. He's the leader of Azai's remaining followers." I answer him. "We don't know much about them. They were hidden for so long, and almost all of the information about them has been destroyed."

"How did those men not burn alive?" Austin asks. He already knew of Clarissa's power after Atticus gave him a summary of what had happened over the phone.

"I assume they must possess something that protects them from it," I suggest. "I don't know what it is, but I wish those motherfvckers had died last night in that fire."

"It's possible that they also cannot be harmed by Azai's power; they are considered one. Clarissa and Autumn are both their princesses." Gabriella says. "If Clarissa and Autumn cannot hurt them, we at least can."

It was true. I liked the way she thought. If they couldn't hurt them, we definitely could. And hurt them was exactly what I was planning on doing.

"I have someone who has eyes everywhere," Hunter tells us. "I already got into contact with him. All we have to do now is wait for him to respond."

That's good. We needed someone like that to give us some good news.

"Maya and Kane, along with Eden and James, are already out there looking," Austin tells me. "Lucas is having some marriage problems and sadly could not make it. As you can tell, life with those Blackners isn't exactly easy."

He didn't need to tell me that. I understood how hard it was for them not to be in love and marry someone who wasn't their mate. Their rules were freaking insane.

"What are we waiting for?" I ask them. "We're wasting time just standing here and waiting for someone to tell us where to start looking."

Atticus nods, "Let's get the hell out of here."

"I'm coming with you," Dante tells me, and I'm surprised he even said a word to me. Things weren't exactly good between us.

"I'm coming as well," Willow says.

"No." Dante stops her. "You're not going anywhere."

"Why?" She demands. "Autumn and Clarissa have both been nothing but kind to me. Why can't I help search for them with the rest of you?"

"Because your sister asked me to protect you, and that's exactly what I'm going to f\*g do." He answers her.

She looks disappointed by his words, but she doesn't try to change his mind. She steps back and allows him to move past her.

"We're coming as well." My mother tells me. "They're both our daughters, and we are getting them back."

It felt good to hear her say that. I needed their support. I needed everyone's support to get Clarissa back.

"We got it," Hunter says suddenly.

"Do you know where to find them?" I demand, hopeful.

He nods, "I have information, and it's exactly what we need right now."

"Let's go!" Austin shouts as we all follow him out of the house.

We got into different vehicles while Hunter led in his. I hoped that Hunter knew what he was talking about. He was usually good at finding missing people. They'd helped our family in the past, and I believed I could trust their word. If they said they knew where to look, we would blindly follow.

This was it.

I'm coming for you, Clarissa. I'm coming for you.

## The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 2: Chapter 83 - Tips

0 4 minutes read

~CLARISSA~

“Why isn’t he telling us where our mates are?” I ask Autumn. Skyler refused to tell us what he had done to Damon and Atticus. They were both present when they’d taken us from the beach house. So what did they do to them?

I needed to know the truth and I couldn’t wait any longer.

“It’s okay,” Autumn assured me. “We are going to get out of here, and we will find them. Trust me.”

I force myself to smile. “I can’t believe you’ve been my sister all along. I should have known. You always acted like my long-lost sister.”

She nods, “I should have known as well. I felt a connection with you more than once. Something inside me kept telling me you were my sister, but I ignored that inner voice. I should have listened to it and dug deeper.”

We both get quiet as the reality of our situation begins to sink in.

“They will let us go,” Autumn tells me suddenly.

“Why do you think they will?” I ask her. She seemed confident that these men would somehow free us.

“Because they also let me go.” She answers me. “I didn’t understand why at first, but now I know. They need all three of us together. They need our brother. Only when they have the three of us can they do what they have planned?”

My brother.

I knew him from my nightmares. If those dreams were indeed from my past, his name had to be Ca.ssius. But were those dreams memories from my past? If that was true, where were they now? Why did they put me up for adoption? None of it made sense to me.

If they genuinely needed all three of us, why did they kidnap us now only to let us go again? They had done that to Autumn before; they’d taken her but let her escape. She was the one that freed herself, but she was convinced that they wanted her to flee in the past.

"They must have a reason for taking us only to release us afterward," I tell Autumn.  
"What do you think their reason is?"

She shrugs, "I wish I knew the answer, Clarissa. I wish I had the power to protect you right now. But these men, they know how to stop us from using our power. It must have been something our father taught them in the past. We can't leave here unless they want us to."

We both stopped talking the second Skyler walked back into the room. I don't think it made a difference if he'd heard us; I was sure they had cameras here to spy on us when they weren't around.

"I brought you both some food." He says as he walks in with a syringe in his hand.

"What the hell is that?" Autumn demands. "Aren't you going to let us go like you did last time?"

He chuckles, "I thought you were the one that escaped Autumn. Why do you think I let you go the last time?"

Autumn narrows her eyes, "I'm not playing this game with you. Let us go."

"There's something I want to experiment with first." He tells her as he plays with the syringe in his hand.

"If you hurt my sister. I'm going to klll you!" Autumn threatens him as he nears me.

"I'm not going to hurt her." He promises her. "You know that I need you both alive for my plans. I wouldn't do anything to hurt her intentionally."

"So then, what is that?" I demand from him.

"Just a little booster to help you relax after I give you some depressing news." He answers me.

I freeze.

Depressing news? What the hell did he mean by that?

"What are you talking about?" I demand. "Does this have anything to do with Damon?"

I can feel myself panic at the thought of something happening to him. Skyler had avoided speaking about him before; was this the reason why?



He doesn't answer me, and it only makes the unsettling feeling in my chest worsen.

"Answer me!" I shout.

"She's impatient just like you are." He tells Autumn.

"Where is Atticus?" Autumn asks as I see the same fear reflected in her eyes.

"Don't worry, Atticus is safe and with his family." He answers her.

Why does he only answer Autumn? Why doesn't he answer my question as well? Was he intentionally messing with me so that I would become angry? What evil intentions did he have toward me?

He inches closer, and I wince when the needle hits my vein.

"Clarissa!" Autumn shouts with horror as she helplessly watches him inject something into my veins.

I felt no pain, none whatsoever. However, there had to be some reaction to it. Maybe the side effects took a while to kick in.

"What are you doing to her?" Autumn demands.

"I told you it's to keep her calm." He answered her, but somehow I knew he was lying. It was probably to do the exact opposite.

"You haven't answered my question," I growl. "Where the hell is my mate?"

His eyes are apologetic as he looks at me, "I regret to inform you that Damon Fawn is no longer on this earth. He's dead."

All of the blood drains from my face at his words.

"You're lying," I whisper. I can barely recognize my voice. Everything was beginning to spin, and it had nothing to do with him sticking a needle into my vein.

"Don't listen to him, Clarissa!" Autumn tried to calm me down. "He did this to me in the past. He told me things about Atticus to make me angrier. I think he's only doing this to do the same to you."

"What I told you about Atticus was the truth," Skyler says, deep in thought. "Was he not back with Anya after you went missing?"

"You failed to tell me key points in that story!" Autumn hissed.

I couldn't listen to their conversation anymore. I was losing my mind.

Damon.

Damon, where are you?

## **The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 2: Chapter 84 - Tips**

0 5 minutes read

~CLARISSA~

"Tell me you're lying!" I scream. "Tell me you're lying to me! Tell me Damon is still alive!"

This couldn't be happening. I've loved him for so long that I can't imagine not having him in my life anymore. Skyler had to be lying to me. He just had to be. I wanted to grab onto his shirt and demand that he tells me the truth.

"I'm sorry, princess." He apologizes. "Damon is dead. You should feel the broken bond by now, you never completed the mate bond with him, but I'm sure you can still feel the loss of him."

"Nooo," I scream as I cover my ears.

"Let me go!" Autumn shouts. "She needs me. Please let me go to her!"

"If you want to go to her, you must find the strength to break free on your own, Autumn. Just like you've done in the past." He answers her. "However, it isn't going to be as easy as before. I've made sure to add a little extra this time."

Something wasn't right. Whatever he'd put inside of me, it was finally beginning to affect me.

"What did you do?" I demand.

"Nothing that won't help you overcome the grief of losing someone you love." He answers me before leaving the room, leaving Autumn and me behind.

"I'm so sorry, Clarissa." Autumn apologizes. Why was she apologizing? She wasn't responsible for any of this.

"What have they done to me?" I cry out.

I was out of control. The fire inside of me was threatening to break free. My veins felt like they were on fire and like they were getting burnt.

The fear of Damon no longer being in my life also sent me insane. If I didn't have him, I would lose all control. But I didn't want to trust Skyler's word. I had to see he was gone for myself before my world flipped upside down.

"I don't know." Autumn shouts as she tries to free herself to get to me.

I gasp when the fire seeps into the room from the outside. It was my doing; I know it was.

"We need to get out of here," Autumn says as she spots it the same time as I do. It was spreading. The fire was spreading everywhere and quickly.

Autumn yells, and the straps around her all snap. She quickly climbs down from the table but pauses when she takes a look between us.

The fire around me was stopping her from reaching me.

"I can't use my power." She gasps. "I was able to break free from the straps, but nothing is happening right now to stop the fire."

She was powerless; they'd also messed with her power. Preventing her from using it. Or was it possible that she couldn't use her power on me? Maybe they didn't work on each other. It could be a possibility. We still didn't know everything about the power within us and we never got the chance to experiment with it.

Was this why they brought us here? To experiment on us?

I can see Damon's image in my mind, him smiling and telling me that I mean the world to him. I can see memories of us being together, and it didn't make any of this easier for me.

I screamed in agony, and the straps around me burst at the impact.

Autumn reaches me just then and helps me down onto the ground.

"Get out of here!" I shout.

"What?" She demands, surprised.

"Go find help, Autumn," I tell her desperately.

"What's going on?" She demands. "What's wrong, Clarissa? Tell me what's happening."

"I'm losing control!" I manage to say before letting out another agonized scream.

"I'm not leaving you." She insists. "I can help you. I'm not going to give up on you. We can get you out of this."

I knew that Autumn wanted to protect me, but she didn't realize how dangerous it was to stay with me. Those bastards had done this to me. Whatever it was they'd injected into me had caused this reaction. Telling me about Damon was used to trigger it off.

They knew exactly what they were doing; this was planned long before.

Autumn tries to hug me, but I push her away. "I don't want to hurt you, sister," I shout. "Please leave while I'm still aware of what I'm doing. I'm holding onto everything to protect you from me."

"Clarissa, please," she cries. "I'm your sister. I need to stay and protect you."

"And I need to protect you!" I insist. "Go, Autumn. GO!"

She wasn't listening to me. She was being stubborn, and I didn't blame her. If I were in her situation, I would have done the same.

"You can bring the others to me." I try another approach. "If you stay here, we're both going to suffer. If you leave and find the others, we have a better chance."

I see the determination in her eyes as she steps closer to me, despite the fire getting closer to her. She did not look scared of it. Instead, she looked terrified of losing me.

"I'm going to find the others, and when I do, I'm coming back for you." She promises me. "I'm not leaving you; I'm just getting help. Before this darkness overcomes you, remember that you have people who would die for you."

I fought back the tears as I watched her turn and run out the door.

When she leaves, I drop to the ground in emotional pain.

"Damon." I cry. "Please be alive, my love. Please tell me that you're still alive."

I can feel the darkness get stronger. Was this what my father faced daily in his life? The darkness inside him taking over his body and trying to control it.

Was there a chance that he was once a good person before the darkness destroyed him?

Those are my lost thoughts before everything turns blank.

The darkness had won.

It had finally taken over me, and now, nothing could stop it from doing what it wanted.

It was too late.

Too late.

They knew exactly what they were doing; this was planned long before.

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Those are my last thoughts before everything turns blank.

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It had finally taken over me, and now, nothing could stop it from doing what it wanted.

It was too late.

Too late.

## The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 2: Chapter 85 - Tips

0 6 minutes read

~DAMON~

"I'm telling you, they must be somewhere close," Hunter says as he looks around us. "The information I've gotten from my trusted source has to be true. He's never let me down in the past."

We've been searching for hours. f\*g hours. According to Hunter, someone had seen those damn men taking Autumn and Clarissa along this path. Yet, there were still no signs of them.

"If they did anything to Autumn or Clarissa, they would never live to see another f\*g day." Atticus growls.

I couldn't believe I'd let them take her. I couldn't believe that I was not strong enough to protect her.

It bothered me that I'd failed her not once but multiple times. How was I such a horrible mate?

Atticus suddenly stops walking, and I turn to look at him.

"What's wrong?" I ask.

Could he sense that Autumn was in pain?

"I sense her." He whispers as he looks around him, searching the woods for her.

"You're sure?" Austin asks him as he also tries to search his surrounding for her.

"I'm certain." He answers him. "I would know Autumn's scent anywhere."

This was a good sign. We were heading in the right direction. It turns out that Hunter's source was reliable indeed.

"Let's move faster!" I tell the others.

"ATTICUS!"

It was Autumn's voice.

We turned toward the sound, and she was indeed here. I looked behind her, hoping to see Clarissa, but there was still no sign of her.

She runs straight into Atticus's arms as he meets her halfway. He picks her up and kisses her roughly.

I rush over to them, "Where is Clarissa?" I demand.

Her cheeks were wet, and she'd been crying.

"I begged her to let me stay." She tells me. "I begged her to let me help her."

"What do you mean?" I demand. "Did they do something to her? Where the hell is she?"

"They injected her with something."

My blood runs cold at her words.

"I don't know what it did to her, but then they lied and told her you were dead. I think she needed to feel the pain to activate it." She continues. "She's losing control of herself. The darkness is slowly consuming her, and there's nothing that we can do."

"Where is she?" I demand. "Take me to her."

"The place is on fire." She informs me. "Everything is burning down."

"I don't care. Please take me to her."

She nodded, and I ran behind her, letting her lead me to my mate. It took us a few minutes, but I knew we were at our destination when I saw the raging fire before me.

"Are those bastards inside there with her?" I demand. I couldn't wait to sink my teeth into them and rip their heads out.

"No." She answers me. "I looked around for them, hoping to get my revenge for what they'd done to my sister, but they were nowhere around. I think this was their plan all along. They wanted Clarissa to lose control. I'm not sure why he didn't do the same to me. I think they were experimenting and wasn't sure how well it would work on us; that's why they chose to do it to one of us and not both."

I narrowed my eyes; they'd done their parts and left before we could reach them. They must have known we would be here for Clarissa and Autumn.

"What are you doing?" Atticus demands as he grabs my shoulder. "That house is burning down. You can't go in there. We can find another way to get her out. Clarissa controls that fire, it would not harm her, but it will harm you."

"I don't f\*g care!" I roar.

I pushed his hand away and ran into the house despite my mother's screams.

"Clarissa!" I shouted as I shielded my face from the fire with my hand.

I wasn't sure where to look for her, but I wouldn't give up until I had her in my arms.

"CLARISSA!"

I can't believe those bastards told her that I was dead. I can't imagine the pain she'd felt from that one lie.

"Where are you?" I shout. "Say something! Please!"

Still, there was no response. I gr0aned as a wooden board fell on top of me. I kick it away and ignore the pain in my shoulder.

"Clorisso," I whisper when I finolly see her in front of me. She wosn't looking ot me. Her eyes seemed distont ond cold. She looked nothing like whot I remembered. She hod the some features, but there was o dorkness about her thot mode me uncomfortable. Autumn was right; the dorkness was consuming her.

"Clorisso," I soy louder os I wolk closer to her.

Thot gets her ottention, ond she slowly lifts her foce to get o good look ot me.

"Don't come ony closer." She hissed.

I poused; it wos hord to stoy o few feet owoy when oll I wonted to do wos pull her into my orms ond bury my foce in her hoir.

"It's me," I tell her colmly. "Your mote. Domon. I'm here. I'm not deod. I'm in front of you, sweetheart."

She norrows her eyes, "Lies. You're lying to me. My mote is deod."

My eyes widen, "con't you see me, Clorisso?" I demond. "I'm right in front of you. Let me come to you. If you touch me, you con see I'm reol ond in front of you."

"No!" She shouts. "You're messing with me. Do you toke me for o fool?"



"Clarissa, please," I beg. "It's me."

I took one step forward, and she flinched like she expected me to hurt her. It pained me to see her like this.

"Stay back!" She shouts. "I'm warning you to stay back."

I don't listen to her. I'm a few inches away from her, close enough to touch her, but it doesn't happen. Before I can wrap her into my arms, I'm flown backward into the air.

My eyes widen when my back hits the door, and my body is thrown onto the ground. She'd just thrown me out of the burning building without even putting her hands on me. I couldn't believe it.

"Damon!" My mother screams my name.

She isn't the only one shouting my name.

I look up and see Clarissa standing before me with soulless eyes.

"Clarissa," Autumn shouts behind me. "Don't do it! Don't hurt him!"

Would she really hurt me? Did I completely lose her?

"Clarissa," I whisper when I finally see her in front of me. She wasn't looking at me. Her eyes seemed distant and cold. She looked nothing like what I remembered. She had the same features, but there was a darkness about her that made me uncomfortable. Autumn was right; the darkness was consuming her.

"Clarissa," I say louder as I walk closer to her.

That gets her attention, and she slowly lifts her face to get a good look at me.

"Don't come any closer." She hissed.

I paused; it was hard to stay a few feet away when all I wanted to do was pull her into my arms and bury my face in her hair.

"It's me," I tell her calmly. "Your mate. Damon. I'm here. I'm not dead. I'm in front of you, sweetheart."

She narrows her eyes, "Lies. You're lying to me. My mate is dead."

My eyes widen, "can't you see me, Clarissa?" I demand. "I'm right in front of you. Let me come to you. If you touch me, you can see I'm real and in front of you."

"No!" She shouts. "You're messing with me. Do you take me for a fool?"

"Clarissa, please," I beg. "It's me."

I took one step forward, and she flinched like she expected me to hurt her. It pained me to see her like this.

"Stay back!" She shouts. "I'm warning you to stay back."

I don't listen to her. I'm a few inches away from her, close enough to touch her, but it doesn't happen. Before I can wrap her into my arms, I'm flown backward into the air.

My eyes widen when my back hits the door, and my body is thrown onto the ground. She'd just thrown me out of the burning building without even putting her hands on me. I couldn't believe it.

"Damon!" My mother screams my name.

She isn't the only one shouting my name.

I look up and see Clarissa standing before me with soulless eyes.

"Clarissa," Autumn shouts behind me. "Don't do it! Don't hurt him!"

Would she really hurt me? Did I completely lose her?