

## Chapter 181 - The Vampire's Servant

My honeymoon with Gray had been perfect. He rented a beach house for two weeks on the coast. We spent all day playing and exploring the nearby towns.

In the evenings, we would cook together. Sometimes, we would light a fire in the fire pit and roast marshmallows. I liked it when we did that. Gray taught me how to make s'mores, but I preferred the marshmallows on their own.

We made love every night and sometimes during the day. Once we even did it in the ocean, which was scary and amazing all at the same time. We could hardly keep our hands off each other.

He took me to the aquarium and the zoo. In every place we went, he bought me a new stuffed animal. By the time we went home, I had quite a collection to add to Little Remy and Boots.

I found that I didn't miss Victor as much as I thought I would in that two weeks, but, judging by his reaction to us coming home, he certainly missed me. He cleared two nights' worth of work, just so he could hear about everything and take me out for a nice dinner.

Victor made me wait until November for our honeymoon. He said the nights were longer, but the weather not as cold as in December. I was just happy to be with him.

He took me to Europe, well, I took us to Europe. It was easier to travel using my ability than it was using vehicles. We stayed in vampire run hotels which had check in and check out after dark.

For a while, we went to his old territory. His child, Bianca, and her Solus Amor, Gavin, hosted us. They reminded me of Victor when I met them. Both were cool and businesslike.

Gavin didn't really like me, to start. He would call me 'dhampyr' when Victor wasn't around. It never felt like a curse word until he said it.

One day, I found him sitting in the library over a game of chess that he was playing with himself. I asked him to teach me. He didn't really want to, but I told him how much Victor would love it if I learned something new from him. Gavin reluctantly agreed.

He started softening to me a little on the third day, when I made an aggressive move he didn't think I would make in the game. He told me it was a foolish move, but had a hard time telling me why. I never won a game against him, but I made him smile a few times and counted that as my win.

The funniest part was when Marius told me he and Lila were coming for a visit. I was chattering about my papa the entire time I played with Gavin. He kept making comments about how he couldn't believe someone was so foolish as to create a dhampyr against the express ruling of the Council.

I laughed so hard, I fell down when he finally met my papa and managed to go even paler than he'd been before. After that, he treated me with a lot more respect. I was the daughter of Death, after all.

The last place we visited was Marius' territory. He was throwing a ball to introduce me to the powerful vampires of the world. Masters from all over accepted his invitation.

Lila took me to purchase a ball gown at a local shop. They were beside themselves wanting to help the mate and daughter of the Master of their territory. I smiled and was polite to everyone I met.

We found a dress that was a lovely shade of blue. It had no straps to hold it up, but came off the shoulder. It was full length and we found some lovely white silk gloves to go with it. Lila said it was required. Unlike the ball we'd had in Victor's territory, all women would be wearing their hair up and off their shoulders. No one was hunting for a mate at this event.

The night of the ball, I entered the ballroom of Marius' estate. There were hundreds of vampires. Talia and the rest of the council were standing with Marius and Lila. I saw a beautiful young woman with dark skin standing next to Talia.

"Master Victor Nightshade, The Hunter, and his Solus Amor, Mistress Echo Aconitum Nightshade." The man at the top of the stairs announced.

The whole room went still and turned their attention to us. The attention alone would have made me nervous in the past, now, I was more confident in myself. Plus, I was on the arm of the most handsome man there.

Victor was wearing a tuxedo with tails and a cummerbund that matched the shade of my dress. I didn't know how he managed to find one so fast, but I was impressed. The stately air around him made me feel even more confident.

When we reached the bottom of the stairs, Marius took my hand and kissed it. Whispers swept through the room. He bowed to Victor, inciting even more whispers. Victor released me with a polite smile and bowed back to Marius.

Marius led me to a raised platform where musicians sat in formal attire with their instruments. He had them stop playing and was handed a microphone by someone near the stage.

"Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please." He stated firmly.

We already had everyone's attention, but they all went silent. I stood next to Marius confidently. If he was going to announce me as his daughter, then I needed to not back down or seem easily frightened.

"Some of you may have heard rumors of a past dalliance I had creating a line of dhampyrs. That is true. The descendants of that encounter have reached out to me and I have accepted them as my children. Though all three are important to me, I am presenting only one to you tonight. My daughter, Echo.

Echo is the most vampiric of her siblings. She holds the most of my power and other powers that are rare and unique. Earlier this year, she found her Solus Amor, Victor Nightshade and they had their bonding ceremony, which was attended by the Vampire High Council.

There has been a long history of dhampyrs being mistreated and abused by vampires. I am making you all aware now, any mistreatment of my child or her siblings will be punishable by a slow and painful death.

I thank you all for coming to this celebration of finding my missing child. Please enjoy yourselves and make sure to greet my daughter properly when you see her." Marius announced. "Echo, is there anything you'd like to say to everyone?"

He handed me the microphone, even though I hadn't agreed. I took it and looked around the room. Victor was standing with the members of the Council still. He had a very proud expression on his face.

"Thank you all, very much, for coming to our ball. I look forward to meeting you all individually." I said with a small blush creeping into my cheeks.

There was a smattering of applause after I handed the microphone back. I really didn't know what else to say. He led me off the platform and the music started again.

When I returned to where Victor was, he kissed me on the cheek. Phoebe smiled at me.

"You looked so sweet up there. A total contrast to your sire." She chuckled. "Everyone will be wondering how Marius sired such a pretty young thing as you."

"You're hilarious, Phoebe." Marius replied coldly.

"I never actually realized the physical resemblance between the two of you until you were up there together. Mari totally looks like her father." Felix said.

"Echo, I want you to meet my Solus Amor, Zendaya." Talia smiled, changing the subject.

"It's nice to meet you." I said to the woman next to her.

“You as well. It’s wonderful to see our Victor so happy. He’s been rather sad or angry for most of his second life.” Zendaya said. “Now, when will we get grandchildren? I want you to bring them to my territory two to three times a year. I fully intend to spoil them beyond belief.”

I blushed hard and looked at the floor. No one had talked about babies in a while. I knew that Victor and Gray had been told I couldn’t have any until I was closer to nineteen, so we’d not been making any plans for them.

“Once Echo is old enough, we’ll let you know if we end up pregnant. Until that time, we’re just letting Echo relax and enjoy being pampered and cared for.” Victor answered with a slight smile. “Mistress Zendaya.”

“You know you’re allowed to call me by my name, Victor. You’re practically my childe as well. Who knew your little temper tantrum would lead you to such a blessing? I’m proud of you for taking something negative and turning it into a positive.” She told him.

He rolled his eyes. “I’m taking Echo around to meet people. No one will approach the High Council or anyone near them.”

Victor took my hand and led me around the room. He took me to meet other children of Talia. I saw Rosalyn there and she grinned widely at me.

Her Solus Amor was a fairly cheerful man. He made sure her glass was always full and doted on her. He tried joking with Victor and looked truly shocked when Victor joked back.

The rest of the night, I met more vampires than I think I even realized existed. Men danced with me and tried to get me to promise an alliance with them. They wanted to be allied with Death’s daughter and the Traveler’s childe. They all believed we had more power over our sires than we did.

I directed each of them to Victor. He made decisions about who would be good and bad to ally with. We came out of it with several good alliances which he said would benefit our territory.

We fell into bed that morning, exhausted. Victor had helped me undress and we curled up together. He wasn’t the vigorous, constant, lover that Gray was.

Victor never ushered me into dark corners in public to do things with me. He didn’t randomly place my hand on his erection while we were sitting together or slide his hand under my skirt. He wouldn’t suddenly pick me up and carry me to the nearest flat surface, like Gray did.

Instead, Victor was a more romantic lover. He nibbled my ear as we watched plays. He sucked sweet sauces off of my fingers. He would kiss me all over until I was begging for him, then make love to me slowly and languorously. It was always a passionate play on the senses and not a carnal rush.

I loved both of them so much and, by the end of our time in Europe, I came to miss being with both of them. My fiery wolf and my cool vampire. Apart, they were wonderful, but together, they were amazing.

It wasn't that I didn't like being alone with them. I loved all the time I spent with them individually, but, when we were all together, I felt complete and whole. Everyone seemed to expect us all to be together as well.

Gray's family started holding all holiday meals after sunset so Victor could join. Thanksgiving was the first time I ever got to have a fresh Thanksgiving meal. When I said that, it made all the ex-Lunas start piling even more food on my plate.

I was able to spend a lot more time with Val and Harmony, too. Uncle Preston brought his family to visit for Christmas and we spent all day with them.

Lisa and her mate, Neil, moved into the guest house. Wendell got a room in the main house. And we had guest cottages built for the rogues who moved to our property to protect it. They were all retired males who didn't want to go fight in the wilds, but wanted something to do while they aged. They were all very kind to me.

It was New Year's Eve the next time I was at a party with Victor. This time Gray and my siblings came. It was a black tie event at the more upscale club Dennis owned. I was starting to get used to events like this. Vampires did them a lot.

I had just finished a chat with one of the vampires in the territory who was having issues with a rogue family who was living on his land. We set an appointment for him to come see Victor and get it resolved with Bellamy, when Val came up to me.

He handed me a glass of champagne and we had a little toast. Harmony glared at us from across the room. She was pregnant and couldn't sneak any drinks. We wouldn't let her.

"I'm doing my soulmate search on our nineteenth birthday. Uncle Preston says he's going to come up to help me with the spell. It's usually prepared by an older family member." Val explained.

"Are you excited to finally find your mate?" I asked.

"After seeing how happy you and Harmony are, more excited than anything. There's someone out there who is a perfect match for me and she's just waiting to be found, Echo." He smiled.

"I'm sure you will find the perfect girl. She'll be exactly what you need, though, not necessarily what you want. I don't want you to write her off if she's not perfect in every way." I warned.

"As long as she's not an actual goblin or troll, I'll be fine." Val laughed.

"Trolls can be very nice people. You're going to regret saying that one day." I said.

“No stealing all of Echo’s time, Val. I need to dance with my wife before the new year comes.” Gray chided, walking over to us.

He was in a very nice suit, but looked terribly uncomfortable. Gray hated these black tie events. He would try to get out of them if he could.

I saw Sean and Rosario come into the room and waved them over. They were looking handsome, healthy, and happy. We had game nights every Friday night at Maeve’s house. Sean taught me how to play his game and I had a lot of fun with it.

“Are you ready for your first New Year’s Eve, Echo?” Sean asked with a grin.

“I’m still confused about the traditions.” I sighed.

“What’s confusing? When the clock strikes midnight, you kiss someone. You have two whole men to choose from.” Rosario laughed.

“But you said it’s for good luck and I want them both to have good luck this year. Do you think I can kiss them both in enough time?” I asked.

“There’s no real magic to it. I think you can definitely kiss them both in enough time.” Sean told me.

We hung out and talked, while we sipped on our drinks. Harmony and Cam came over to join us. They both sipped sparkling apple cider. Harmony told him if she couldn’t drink, he couldn’t drink.

When time came for the countdown, Victor found his way to my side. We counted down the seconds to the new year and I gave each of them a peck on the lips before turning to someone who had tapped me on the shoulder for a picture.

What I hadn’t realized at the time, was that Victor and Gray both decided to kiss me back and, instead of kissing my cheeks, they ended up kissing each other. And I missed it! They refused to do it again for me.

Luckily, I still had the picture, which the lady gladly sent to me before disappearing and never revealing it again. I made sure she understood the danger. I planned to have it blown up for our anniversary and framed. It was a great shot of me looking cute and them making out behind me.

I couldn’t wait to see what the next year would bring. I was finally free, finally loved, and finally happy. There was nothing more that I could possibly want.

Sneak Peek: [The Witch's Temptation](#)

## Chapter 182 - The Vampire's Servant

It was early February and Stanton was resting in Bellamy's office. He liked how soothing the room was. Even with her pups in it, the room seemed calm. There were no paintings or pictures on the walls and the windows were tinted so no one outside could see in.

He was holding little Helene as Elisabeth was being fed. Lunette and Étienne were in a playpen with some toys. They talked to each other in gibberish. It made him smile.

Even though he wasn't thirty yet, he longed to find his mate, like his cousin Randy had. Becky, Randy's mate, was away at college learning to design clothes. She wanted to be a designer of clothing made for shapeshifters. Things that were easy to get in and out of and was easy to carry in animal form.

Stanton was proud of her. She would be an amazing leader of Randy's sleuth. Randy was searching out territory for them to occupy. He was starting his sleuth young.

"You have that far off look again, Stanny-bear." Bellamy said.

"You got me, baby Belle. Just thinking about cubs. Maybe waiting until I'm thirty is silly. Randy found Becky young. I could start setting up my sleuth nearby. There are some bears in your collective. I could have them join." He replied.

"They're mostly black bears. Would they be okay with being in a grizzly sleuth?" She asked.

"I don't mind having a mixed sleuth. If your collective has taught me anything, it's that combining species might be the healthiest idea." Stanton chuckled.

"Is it being surrounded by all the babies that's getting your biological clock ticking?"

"I wouldn't mind a cub or two. I certainly wouldn't keep my mate pregnant like Lucien seems to be doing with you." He winked.

"So you caught the scent?"

"You always smell sweeter when you're pregnant. I think it's your happiness. With your luck it's going to be another set of twins." Stanton laughed.

"Probably. They run in the family. I don't mind it, though. Want to trade babies?" She asked.

He stood up and carried Helene over. Bellamy finished burping Elisabeth and he easily handed one off and took the other. Stanton looked at the tiny baby in his arms. She cooed and reached up. He wasn't falling for that one again. Last time, she grabbed his hair and slobbered all over his nose.

Stanton had his long black hair pulled back in a ponytail. He let her creamy tiny hand grab his dark finger. She gurgled at him and squealed a little. He walked her back to the couch and sat.

“You should go with Richard to see the witches.” Bellamy said, pulling Stanton’s attention from the chubby little girl in his arms.

“Is he still doing that?” Stanton sighed.

A few months earlier, Richard felt the pain of his destined mate dying. They hadn’t met, so it wasn’t as bad as it could have been. He was hopeful that there was a new mate for him.

Bellamy had been watching him for a new connection to a mate, but none had formed yet. It was understandable, though. It could take a while for the goddess to find just the right girl for him.

Richard wanted desperately to find his mate and start his family. The pack house was filling up with babies. Not just Bellamy’s, Cara just had her first pup and was making plans for a second.

Soon, Bellamy would be up to numbers five and six. Jean-Claude and Dillon were in the process of adopting a few orphaned ex-packs from the collective’s orphanage. His little sisters were babysitting a lot and talking about when they found their mates, since they were getting ever closer to seventeen.

Talia came into the room. She had a big smile as she swooped in and took Elisabeth from Stanton. She danced the baby around the room.

“What’s going on, Tallie?” He asked.

“I’m going to be a grandmother. Victor left a message while I slept. Echo’s pregnant!” She replied cheerfully.

“Congrats! I thought she was waiting.” Stanton smiled.

“Accidents happen. How long before you’re ready to find your mate and make me an auntie? I’m not getting any younger, you know.” Talia scolded. A familiar question from her.

“To answer your question, Stanton, he is still doing that. Richard gets grilled about as much as you do. I think Talia stays here for all the babies.” Bellamy chuckled.

“I just love babies. They grow into such interesting people.” Talia sighed happily.

“Maybe I should go with him. I think I might be ready to settle down early. I’ve been running my business out of your collective for long enough. It’s time to make my own permanent territory, find my mate, and start a family of my own. So Talia can have some cubs to play with.” He laughed.



“All my little pets. I’m so happy. To think we’d all end up in a place like this, surrounded by love. I should have my Zendaya come visit. She isn’t as fond of shapeshifters as I am, but she would love all the babies. We’ve raised our share of orphans after several of the major wars.” Talia said.

“She is welcome. The usual rules apply.” Bellamy stated.

Stanton stood. He towered over Talia at his full height of 6’8”. It made him smile that the deadliest adult in the room was the tiniest one. Even Bellamy had grown stronger than he could have imagined when he was just a boy taking care of the tiny wolf girl.

“I think I actually will go see the witches. It will give me a head start on finding my future Ursa.” Stanton said.

“Good. Tell Tonya I’ll see her on the next vampire night.” Talia told him.

“Will do.” He nodded and headed out.

It didn’t take much searching to find Richard. He was in his office, reading through files that were neatly stacked on his desk. Stanton knocked briefly and was called in. He sat in one of the guest chairs.

Richard looked up with a smile. He had the same eyes as Bellamy with copper colored hair, like his brother, and an elegant build. Stanton knew he was a keen fighter and a hard worker.

“How’s it going?” Stanton asked.

“Good. Just getting used to the Gamma’s duties. My dad is bumping me up to three days a week. I think he’s just trying to find more time for all of Bellamy’s babies.” Richard sighed.

“Bellamy suggested I go with you to see the witches. I was wondering when you were going next.”

“Looking to know your future? I get that.” He got a distant look in his eye.

“Still no news on your mate?” Stanton asked.

Richard shook his head. “I wish I had found her before she passed. Maybe I could have saved her. I wonder what she was like. I bet she was amazing.”

“If she was supposed to be one of Bellamy’s supports, you know she was. The moon goddess is working some sort of design with your cousin.”

“Let’s go now. I’ve finished everything important for today. Come on.” Richard smiled and stood.

Stanton pretended he didn't see the tears that were forming in Richard's eyes. He couldn't imagine living through losing a mate. He wouldn't judge the young wolf for his feelings. It was enough to make anyone tear up a little.

They grabbed their light jackets, went downstairs, and left the pack house. Richard led him over to some SUVs and pulled out his keys. A light layer of snow covered the vehicles.

"I have the keys to the Gamma's transport. They won't mind when I tell them I was driving you. You don't exactly fit in my car." Richard chuckled.

"I don't fit in most cars." Stanton snorted.

After they pulled out, they headed from the pack lands and toward the city. Richard explained that they were going to the old downtown area. He went on about how good the tea was at the witch's teahouse. They did tealeaf readings for customers who requested it.

Stanton didn't really like to have things floating in his drink, but he wanted to know if there was anything that could help him find his mate sooner. The city felt nice. He'd noticed it on a few of his trips in.

The old downtown area was actually on the edge of town now. The city planners had made the change so they could keep the authenticity of the original city while still having the tall buildings and more modern look in their new downtown.

It was quaint and homey. They pulled into an alleyway and parked. Stanton got out of the SUV and heard the sound of someone struggling with something.

He scanned the lot and saw an older woman with a long, salt and pepper colored, braid, trying to pull bags out of the trunk of a car. It was a bit slippery out, and he wanted to help the older lady.

Carefully, he went over and caught her attention, startling her a little. She put her hand over her heart.

"My goodness. You scared me, young man. You shouldn't sneak up on old ladies like that." She scolded.

"I'm sorry. You were very focused. Would you like some help?" He offered.

"Thank you. I'm Tonya Wilson. What's your name, sweetie?"

"Stanton Bruinwald, ma'am." He smiled.

She blushed. "No ma'am, just Tonya. Oh! Richard! Have you met Stanton?"

"I brought him, Tonya. I can help, too." Richard offered.

“The goddess has answered my prayers. Two strong and handsome men to take care of me in my golden years.” Tonya laughed.

“I would be honored to have an Ursa as lovely as you, Miss Tonya, but the goddess has not made it so, sadly.” Stanton winked.

“A flirt. Of course. I always attract that sort of man.” She giggled. “If you two help me I’ll give you some tea and do your readings for free up in my apartment. I have some things I need moved around and I can’t do it myself.”

“I’m more than happy to help.” Stanton smiled.

“Me, too. You only have to ask and you know I’ll help out with whatever you need.” Richard grinned.

“If you handsome boys don’t stop flirting with me, I’m going to keel over before I get the chance to retire.” Tonya laughed.

Richard looked up from where he was gathering bags. “You’re retiring, Tonya?”

“Oh, yes. I’ve booked a cruise around the world, then I’ll start traveling to the places I particularly liked, or didn’t get to see. Don’t look so sad. I’ve selected the granddaughter of one of my sisters to come take over the shop. The girls will keep doing readings. You can keep coming each week, Richard. I want to know as soon as you find that new mate of yours.” She smiled.

“If I get one. I’m afraid I never will, Tonya.” He sighed.

“Let me read for you, I’ll find out what we need to know.” Tonya said as she patted his shoulder. “If nothing else, you could choose my niece as a mate. She could use a nice boy like you for a husband.”

“I appreciate it, but I’d prefer my destined second chance mate.” Richard chuckled.

The men carried the groceries up to Tonya’s apartment above her shop. They helped her put away her groceries while she sat and directed, occasionally making comments about their butts or their muscles. Stanton was impressed by the height in the ceilings, most older buildings couldn’t accommodate him.

When they were finished, she asked them to move some boxes from the master bedroom to the guest room. She worked on brewing the tea for doing their reading. That morning, when she had been trying to figure out how to move those boxes herself, she felt like she should go on a big shopping trip in the afternoon.

It had worked out perfectly. The goddess was certainly looking out for her. Not only had she gotten more than enough food for the month, but someone else had brought it up and put it away. And shapeshifters were always good looking.

She'd had some shapeshifter lovers in the past. Never one as large as Stanton. She wondered what he was. He said 'Ursa', so he must be a bear. She'd never had a bear before.

After the men had finished with putting things away, she sat them down on the couch and served tea for all of them. She wanted to see if her grandniece was going to make it in the next month. Her sister told her about the troubles she was going through, refusing her arranged marriage had angered most of the coven.

Poor thing. Tonya hated the idea of arranged marriages. Her parents had tried to get her into one and she threatened to poison the groom. She said she would either be a spinster or a widow and it was their choice. That was the end of that. No parents would risk their son's life.

Richard finished his tea first. He was always eager to know what was next for him. The local water witches got regular visits from him when he had the money. Leaf readings weren't nearly as expensive.

Tonya looked into his cup. "I see success and happiness. I see nothing about your mate. Maybe you should focus on your work. The goddess wants you to be happy. She won't forget you."

"Thank you, Tonya." He sighed.

Stanton finished next and handed her his cup. Tonya looked at the leaves. They made a familiar shape in the cup. She smiled.

"I see good luck and prosperity. If you are looking for something, you will find it, if you want to learn something, you will learn it, and if you desire something, it will come to you." Tonya told him.

"Thanks." Stanton grinned. "Talia says that she'll be at the next vampire night. She seemed excited."

"Vampires do love their nights at the teahouse. Let her know I look forward to seeing her."

The men stood and shook her hand before heading out. She watched them walk down to their vehicle and went back to the table. Looking into the cup, she saw a bad omen. Her grandniece wouldn't survive to come take over. She hoped she wasn't too late to stop whatever it was.

Quickly, she ran to the phone and called her nephew, Gareth. He picked up his cellphone, sounding a little angry.

"What?!" He growled.

“Where are you? Are you near the house? Clover’s in danger!” Tonya shouted into the phone.

She heard the sound of tires squealing and an engine roaring. Her nephew’s wife took the phone from him and Tonya told her what she saw. They kept her on the line while they returned home and ran into the house.

“Oh, dear goddess! She took a poison! Gareth!” Leticia screamed.

“I know this one. I can make the antidote, keep her still so she doesn’t metabolize it faster. I need all the time I can get.” Gareth said urgently.

Tonya stayed on the phone trying to soothe Leticia. She heard her niece faintly.

“I’m sorry, mama. I won’t marry Steven. I can’t. I’d rather die.” Clover whispered.

“You don’t have to. I’m so sorry we tried to force you, baby. I’ll tell your father. Just stay with us. We love you.” Leticia sobbed.

“I’ll try.”

“Tell her she can come run my shop and you won’t arrange any other marriages for her.” Tonya insisted.

“We won’t make you marry anyone, baby. You can go to Auntie Tonya’s. I promise.”

“Thank you, mama.” Clover murmured.

It didn’t take long before Gareth returned with the antidote. Once he had given it to Clover, Tonya knew she’d be alright. She sat heavily in the chair next to the phone. Her favorite grandniece had almost died because her parents kept pushing that damned marriage arrangement.

Tears formed in her eyes as she listened to her nephew and his wife taking care of Clover. If any of her sisters’ children or grandchildren were like her own, it was Clover. She’d spent a couple months every summer with Tonya. They’d grown incredibly close.

When they were sure she was on the mend, Tonya hung up. She felt the weight of her age on her. Even at eighty, Tonya looked and behaved much younger. Now she truly felt like a little old lady.

She started making a plan to ensure Clover never felt trapped like that again. She called Rhea, the coven leader for the area, and let her know Clover was coming and wouldn’t join if they were going to arrange a marriage. That the girl needed to be free to choose if she would marry.

Rhea agreed that she would let Clover make the choice and she would not force her into a marriage if she decided to join the coven. Tonya was relieved. Now she just needed to prepare someone to help in the shop, she already had the teahouse covered by two girls.

Tonya was excited to get everything ready for her grandniece. Maybe this would be what the girl needed to feel happy. It had done that for Tonya. Now was the time for growth. She just hoped the other evil hanging over Clover's head would go away with the change too. All she wanted was for the girl to live a happy, healthy, full life.