

Excerpt from Bloodlust

Lady Jennifer and Adam Merry

Part 5

Lady Jennifer was awakened from her sleep by a frantic maid. She was told that a tall man with a girl demanded that they have an audience with her. Adam was still sleeping. She hurried downstairs to see who would be demanding an audience so early in the morning.

In the hall was a tall man with long black hair, and a young girl hugging him under his cape. Lady Jennifer looked at them. She saw a vague familiarity about the man, but did not recognize the shy girl.

She approached the couple. Her head was tilted. And then she stared.... Finally she spoke. "Jed, is that you"?

Jed answered, "Yes it is".

He uncovered his newfound love. She was very shy and had two fingers in her mouth. She instinctively turned her head into Jed's chest, as she was only 5 foot tall and he was well over 6 feet. After hugging him she turned and gave a little look out from behind long blond scraggly hair.

Lady Jennifer spoke again. "Why Jed, you look so young? And who is this little precious"?

Again, Olivia held onto Jed, barely peeking out from her long, dirty and pretty golden locks.

Jed stroked her back and kissed her forehead. Olivia spoke, in her tiny quiet voice.

"Jed, that girl looks like me!".

"It's ok sweet one, she is a good friend, and she will help you to clean up and look much more pretty than you are".

"Am I really pretty, Jed"? She whispered.

"Yes, dear one, You are very pretty"

Olivia smiled and then turned to face Lady Jennifer. Her body was placed directly in front of his. Jed held her around the waist. Olivia's arms were wrapped behind his back, behind her. She barely came up to his mid chest.

Lady Jennifer bade them to come in. She took Olivia by the hand. She was most taken by the girl and liked her immediately. Olivia took her hand and smiled. But she would not let go of Jed's hand.

Just at this time, a tired Adam came into the room. He was wearing his high boots and gray military trousers with a yellow stripe up each leg tucked into his worn but polished high top boots. He was yawning and tucking his worn white shirt into his waistband and pulling up his suspenders. He was hungry, and still yawning. As usual, he looked disheveled and was unshaven.

He put his arms around his Lady Jennifer and hugged her and gave her a morning kiss. She giggled at how his whiskers tickled her. He waved to Jed, still being half asleep. He gazed at Jed and the pretty girl curled up on his lap, looked at Lady Jennifer, and back at the girl. He immediately woke up. It was in mid yawn when he noticed their resemblance. He shot a strange look to Jed. He then went to the cupboard and took a bottle of bourbon from it. He uncorked it with a popping sound and took a swallow. He again looked around at everybody.

He shook his head and made a sound which made Olivia giggle. He took another swallow, and handed the bottle to Jed, who also took a swallow. Olivia grabbed the bottle from Jed and quaffed. But she did not like it and made a face. She handed the bottle back to Jed. He sat down....

“Jed, who is this girl”?

He was inquisitive as she looked like she could be Lady Jennifer’s twin. Olivia curled up in Jed’s lap as he told Lady Jennifer and Adam her story, and why he looked younger now.

This is what he revealed:

“As you both know, I am an immortal. I am the head of the family which protects you both. When I was made of the Vampyre race, by the Princess of the Vampyre, I was very young. There are rules that we must live by. We must live only at night, and blood nourishes us.

But for months I have had to search for Adam, for I feel you both must be married before it is too late. Thus I had to live by day, as there was little time. I have had to live off the blood of small animals. This does not nourish as well as human blood. And the daylight hurts my eyes and skin. And thusly I aged.

I was dying rapidly for the last few weeks, and last night, the only blood which would help me to not die was that of a young virgin girl. I saw Olivia here, and thus took her so I could live in order to protect you both”. Jed spoke these words as if it were an ordinary thing.

Adam was looking at his bottle of bourbon while hearing this. He looked up as Jed finished. He was angry. He pushed his chair back and it toppled over, he threw the bottle at the dish cabinet making a deafening crash. Lady Jennifer was scared.

Adam leaned over the table with his fingers spread out. His fingernails biting into the old wooden table. He spoke.

“You demon spawned sonofabitch. Firstly you take it upon yourself to look for me, knowing full well you would have to do something like this”.

He turned his back on him, his hands in his hair. He took several steps away from the table. He turned around and swiftly returned to the table slamming his hands down. He was angry. He pulled his fingers across the table, losing two fingernails that broke off. His nails were bleeding, cutting deeply into the wood.

Lady Jennifer bit her lip and went to touch Adam’s hand, but thought she should pull back. He was obviously angry. She understood, she had that simple minded acceptance. Adam did not possess that wonderful quality.

Jed was obviously hurt by the words of his friend. Olivia was scared and held Jed closely. Adam continued.

“Jed, I know what you are, the spawn of Cain, and you try to rationalize yourself by turning on your bloodline for some sort of salvation and purpose. But look at this girl. You took her life”.

Adam approached her, she was scared. He cupped her chin in his hand and just looked at her. He stood, she gazed at him with wide eyes. He continued to speak, as she reached out and touched his hand and smiled up at him. He knelt down and took her hand.

It was her resemblance to Lady Jennifer that disturbed him. “Jed, how could you, kill”.... He decided to change the word, “Take such a beautiful and sweet girl from a natural life where she could marry and have happiness, and children and grow old”.

The girl caressed Adam’s cheek, and simply said, though tearfully, “It is ok, I wanted him to take me, we love each other.”.

Then she turned to Jed and kissed him, and held on to him tightly.

Jed caressed her hair and calmly said, “May I continue”? Both Lady Jennifer and Adam knew he was serious, and wished to explain.

Jed continued, “When I go over a certain period of time in the sunlight and without being ‘properly’ nourished, I start to age and die. In that time I revert to being human. Then I experience all the damned feelings ‘you’ accursed beings have to endure”. He was angry.

“If you were not of Royal Bloodline and Lineage, you would only be fit to feed me and become my servant and the servant of your Bloodline”.

He stopped speaking. Adam’s back was to him. He had his hands in his hair, his face looking down. He walked to the cabinet and got another bottle of bourbon.

Lady Jennifer said quite sweetly and innocently, “Dearest, please don’t break that bottle, it is the last one in the house”.

She seemed so sweetly serious about it. Both Adam and Jed looked at her at the same time. They all suddenly laughed. Her innocent statement awoke them from their conflict. It went above Olivia's head. She reached into her little pocket and produced a half dollar and said, "If he breaks it, this will buy him another". She looked up at Jed and to Lady Jennifer and Adam, they all smiled at her innocent statement, and she smiled also.

Adam now understood. Perhaps even Jed needed that innocence and beauty in his life. He suddenly felt for him and understood his loneliness in the world, no, in existence.

Jed continued, "I needed to be sustained, I was hours away from dying. In fact I was already starting to age rapidly. I saw Olivia".... Jed and Olivia looked up at each other and she gave him a big hug.

"And I knew she was perfect for healing me. What I did not know, was that I would fall in love with her, and feel so strongly about her, and all those ridiculous mortal feelings started creeping back into my dark soul, I pondered strongly whether I should just take care of her or make her kindred"....

He looked down at her lovingly. She returned the look. Lady Jennifer squeezed Adam's hand. She knew it was right, she wanted to assure him it was also.