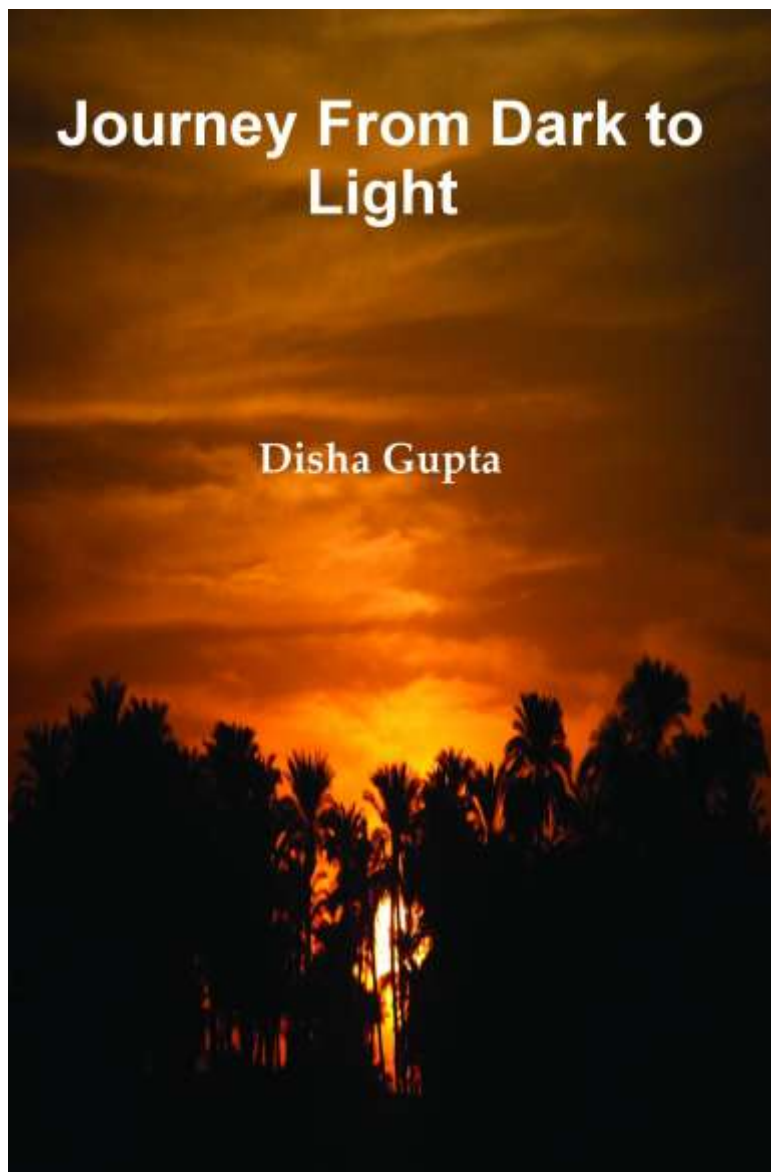


Journey From Dark to Light

Disha Gupta



Journey From Dark To Light

By

Disha Gupta

Acknowledgement

Thanks to Ayesha for encouraging me to write. This book would have never been possible without her encouragement.

Thanks to Abhiya for being the inspiration behind this book.

Chapter 1 – The Biggest Shock

It was a rainy chilly July night when a young 17 year old girl reached Shimla and boarded down her train. Though she was intelligent enough to gain admission in any college of her choice, but she had chosen a non-descript College in Shimla for her studies. This would be the last place her pursuers would ever think her to be in and so this place was best for her to hide from them. She has been residing with her maternal uncle from the time she was 6 years old since her mother died. Her mother heart has failed because of brutal cheating by her father who after 7 years of being involved in an extra-marital relationship with her, refused to grant her a wife's status and chose his other family over her and her mother. Since, then she had been living with her uncle's family. A family which had no regard for her dreams and happiness and who have fixed her marriage with a boy of their choice as soon as she turns 18, without even asking if she is ready for marriage or not or if there is something her heart desires. Why should they have asked when the boy in concern was a minister's son who was going to grant them permission to start another illegal factory? She was just a business deal for them. They never considered her a part of family and she was allowed to live with them only on her grandpa's insistence. But he too had passed away last month and so her uncle had found the perfect opportunity to gain business benefits out of raising this liability. And that is why she had decided to finally take her life in her own hands and stop being a liability on others. Her school principal had helped her get admission in this college. And so here she was, Tarana Sharma standing on Shimla Railway Station wondering about how to reach her college hostel. She asked a passerby about the way to the hostel and he told her that there are two routes, the longer route goes through the road and will take her 1 hour to reach the hostel in foot as there was no transport facility available at this time of the night. The shorter route however

will just take 10 minutes, but it goes through the jungle and the jungle is very dangerous. But, the girl was a brave heart. She decided to take the jungle route to reach her hostel. Little did she know that this decision of hers was to change her life forever.

I was taking the short cut through the jungle to my hostel. I only had one small carry along suitcase containing a couple of dresses and books; since I never really had many belongings with me. The jungle was unusually quiet, but then it was 10 pm in night. The animals must have gone to sleep. I have been walking through the jungle for last 15 minutes, but still the hostel was nowhere in sight. Was I lost? The very thought scared me. I hastened my steps but the more forward I walked, the more I seemed to be getting lost in the jungle. I did not know for how long I continued running in circles like this, when I heard some human voices. I instantly felt relieved but next instant another fear gripped me. Who were those people and what were they doing in the jungle at this point of time. But I shrugged the thought that maybe they too were students or tourists who had lost their way. I decided to follow those voices. Within five minutes I reached the place from where the voices were coming. The sight that greeted me froze me in shock and I was rooted to the spot. My mind was telling me to run for my life but the fear was gripping my entire body and I could neither run nor shout for help.

Just about 10 feet in front of me were carcasses of two leopards and two people were bent over them with their long canine teeth dug deep inside the leopards' throats sucking their blood out. I could not believe my eyes. What kind of creatures were these people, who were drinking leopards' blood? From what I had read in books and watched on TV, my mind screamed that they could only be vampires. But, did vampires really exist? Apparently they did and were standing right in front of my eyes unless I was having some sick nightmare. But since I always have dreamless nights, I knew that this was no nightmare and in

other words I was indeed witnessing two vampires having their dinner. My only good luck was that I was not that meal, but those leopards were. Wait a minute, this thought should have scared me, but surprisingly I was only fascinated with this unusual sight. "Run Tarana Run!" was what the right part of my brain was yelling to me. But, "Wait a minute, you don't see such sights daily" was what my left hemisphere was telling me, and I was foolishly obeying my left hemisphere.

Soon the vampires finished off the leopards and looked up in my direction and fear returned again. Their faces were covered by a hood, so I could not see them, but the way they were looking in my direction, I was finally afraid for my life. "Too Late Tarana. Now you will have to pay for your foolishness" spoke my brain. One of the vampires spoke up, "She has seen us!" This was a female voice. Now the male voice responded, "We have no option! We have to kill her!" I was shocked to realize that they were discussing my murder in a manner in which humans discuss which movie to watch on the weekend. I could finally feel the terror when the two vampires nodded in agreement and started approaching me. I tried to run or scream but neither my feet nor my lungs supported me. My entire body was gripped in fear. In a fraction of second, the vampires encircled me and were about to dig their fangs in me. I shut my eyes close in fear. As I was stood there waiting for my death, I suddenly felt a pair of strong masculine arms lifting me in air, somersaulting with me in air and landing some twenty feet away from the place I originally was. I opened my eyes to see a man standing protectively in front of me facing the vampires.

"Who was he? How could he lift me up in air? Could he fly? How does he expect to fight two vampires alone?" my mind was buzzing with all these questions, when I heard the other two vampires talking to him, "We have to kill her. She has seen us." To which he replied, "When your faces are covered with your hoods, how could she have seen you?"

The other vampires continued to argue, “We can’t let her go, she will spill our secret.” But, this man had all the answers ready, “And who do you think will believe her? She is new to the city, no one knows her here and she has not even seen your faces. If she tells this to anyone, they will just think her to be mad and laugh at her.”

The vampires were getting furious, “Don’t try to protect her just because she looks like Vaidehi. She is not her”

This sentence left me confused, but before I could think, the man shouted at them, “I know, she is not her! But she is a human. And I will not let you hunt a human and lose your humanity again”

Now, this was seriously getting too confusing. I mean was this man trying to say that these vampires survive on animal blood and that they still had humanity left in them. My mind was just boggling, so I decided to give attention to their argument instead.

The vampires seem to be running out of arguments, so they just said, “But we can’t let her go like this!” To this the man replied: “What if she promise to not reveal the secret?” “But can we trust her?” asked the vampires back. The man replied: “I will take care of that.” “How?” they asked. “By joining the same college as hers” was his simple reply.

The vampires made me promise that I would keep my mouth shut. I was so scared that I just nodded my head in confirmation. They finally agreed to let me leave on the man’s guarantee. I breathed a sigh of relief and the man offered to drop me to the hostel. I was so scared that I agreed immediately. As we were walking through the forest, the questions returned back to my mind and I was desperate to

know who my savior was. Without bothering about the pleasantries, I just blurted out:

“Who are You?”

“Karan, Karan Singhania”

“I am Tarana Sharma”

“I did not ask you!”

I was shocked at such a rude response. I wondered, if I should ask him anything more, but the curiosity got better of me and I stupidly asked,

“Were they really vampires?”

He rolled his eyes at my stupidity probably thinking how I could still have a doubt, but just replied,

“It will be better if you just forget about this night as if it never happened and never think about it”

I took his reply as an affirmative answer to my question and pressed on:

“Do you know them? I mean you were talking to them as if you know them? And they never tried to even harm you. And you too were not scared of them at all. Why?”

He kept silent at these questions, and it was at this point that the realization dawned on me and I almost screamed: “Oh My God!!! Are you a vampire too?”

For the first time he turned towards me and stood before me face to face and I found myself staring at the most handsome face I have ever seen. He looked at me menacingly making me a little uncomfortable before threatening me:

“One word about tonight and I will myself kill you” he said showing his razor sharp long canines scaring me so much that I fainted on the spot.

Chapter 2 – Friends or More?

When I woke up I found myself in my bed in my hostel room. Last night seemed like a dream, only I knew it was not. And I could not believe that I was dropped to my hostel by a vampire and if last night was not a dream, then that vampire would be keeping a strict eye on me in this college itself. I can't believe that my mission to take my life in my hands has unknowingly dragged me into a supernatural world of vampires. I was scared and worried. What should I do next? Should I run away, but what if they follow me? How long will I be able to run? The best option right now seemed to take their advice and keep my mouth shut. Maybe if I keep quiet, they won't hurt me. I will have to take my chances. As it is I have nowhere else to go. There is no way I am going to return to Mumbai and let my uncle ruin my life. Becoming the meal of a vampire is preferable to me than becoming a namesake wife of a spoilt brat at the age of 18. With the decision now made, I got down from my bed and got ready for my first day in my new college and new life.

As I was walking along the corridors, I was frozen to the spot, to see the same handsome face of that vampire in front of me. I was scared what he will do next. I was just rooted to the spot in fear and he was approaching me. He stopped barely a breath's distance away and whispered, "Act normally or else people will get suspicious." Saying this he walked away leaving me scared, shocked and angry. Angry because how does he expect me to behave normally around a vampire? Does he think I have spent my entire life around vampires walking in broad daylight attending lectures with me? Not even in my wildest fantasies had I ever thought that I would one day have to get used to presence of vampires around me. I started walking towards my class in anger when I bumped into a girl who looked like the college bimbo to me. Her books fell down and she started shouting at me for being so clumsy and careless. I could not

understand her such an angry attitude. What was wrong with this city? Vampires roam around freely here and humans behave so arrogantly. The rude girl's words brought me out of my thoughts. She was shouting at me:

"How dare you collide with Mini? Now I will have to send my clothes to laundry and take a bath again?"

"Excuse me!!" I was shocked at such rudeness.

"What Excuse me? Low lives like you should not pollute us rich people's atmosphere. You should not be allowed to study in the same college as me, and here you are ruining my dress. I think it would be better if I just donate this dress to you as a charity. I am sure you never had something even half as good to wear", Mini continued to ramble.

It was too much for me to tolerate. But before I could open my mouth to reply her back, one tomboyish girl came there and addressed her sternly:

"Of course she does not own these silly dresses, because she prefers to invest her money in buying books and increasing her knowledge as she does not like spending three years in a row stuck in one class like you"

I could not help myself from laughing at these words. And the three times in a row failure Miss rudeness personified Mini walked off in anger making me and the new girl laugh even more. The new girl introduced herself as Tani and we both went off to the class. There she introduced me to her childhood friend Rocky, who was also her boy friend. They both seemed to be a fun-loving good at heart couple. Our chemistry class was about to start so everyone took their seats. Tani sat with Rocky in the middle row. Mini was one of the back benchers, and I sat at the empty bench in the front row. The bell for the class rung and everyone settled in their seats and only seat next to me remained vacant but just a second before teacher's arrival he came and sat beside me. I could not control myself this time and asked him angrily:

“Why are you after me? Can’t you sit somewhere else?”

“Can’t you see all seats are occupied, otherwise I have no interest sitting next to you”, he replied with an attitude.

I knew he was right, but my ego did not allow me to accept defeat silently, so I shot back, “I very well know that you are doing this on purpose to keep an eye on me”

“If you know it, then why are you asking me? Now stop wasting my time and concentrate on the lecture. I have read this subject many times, but for you this is your first time. And I am sure you don’t want to fail like that back-bencher bimbo.” He replied with so much attitude and confidence that I could not help myself from admiring his wittiness.

The next of the lecture passed with me trying to concentrate on the lecture, but invariably my eyes would move in his direction. Undoubtedly he was the best looking guy I had ever seen. Add to that his wit and attitude and he was the perfect guy for any girl to boast as her boyfriend. The only problem was that he wasn’t exactly a human. In fact, he was a vampire. I was staring at him while day dreaming about him, when our teacher Miss Kapoor called out to ask me a question. I was startled from my dream and I obviously had no clue as to what teacher was teaching or even what question had she asked. I stood up a little scared and was about to say sorry to the teacher, when I saw Karan quickly scribbling benzoic acid on a piece of paper and sliding it towards me. I just blurted out “benzoic acid”, without even knowing what question teacher has asked. The teacher looked disappointed in losing out on an opportunity to scold me on the first day and so returned back to her teaching, while I sat down heaving a sigh of relief. I gave a Thank You smile to Karan who just gave me a bored look. I so don’t get this guy. One minute he would help me and next moment he would treat me like I don’t exist. Maybe its something to do with his vampire genes.

“God Tarana what are you doing? You are day dreaming about a vampire! What’s wrong with you?” my brain asked me.

“Exactly! What’s wrong with you?” asked Karan in a whisper.

I was shocked. Did he just read my mind? And does that mean he read all my other thoughts too when I was day dreaming about him? Oh God! I felt so embarrassed, while he just gave me a wicked smirk as if he was laughing at my embarrassment. The class finally got over and I just rushed out of it in embarrassment without giving him a second look. I was talking with Tani and Rocky in the corridor when I heard Mini outrageously flirting with someone.

“OOH Baby! You are the hottest guy in the college and I am the hottest girl of the college, so we are a match made in heaven!” she was saying to the guy.

“Sorry not interested!” I heard the now annoyingly familiar voice of Karan reply back.

A part of me wanted to laugh out loud imagining the expressions on her face, but the other part of me was suddenly conscious of his presence. He was standing just with his back facing my back. But the other part of me found more amusement as Mini refused to give up on Karan and continued to flirt with him:

“Oh Come on baby! Don’t you know that every boy of this college wants to date Mini, but Mini dates only the best, and you are the best!” Mini was going on and on about her so called oomph factor, while I was enjoying the expressions Rocky and Tani were having on their faces while mimicking her.

“I know I am the best, but unfortunately you are not!” Karan replied back to her, making the three of us laugh out loud.

Mini heard and saw us laughing and got mad. But she chose to vent out her anger entirely on me. She pulled me roughly by my shoulders to face her and yelled at me. But before I or Tani could stop her, it was Karan who shouted at her:

“How dare you speak to her like this?” he asked her angrily.
“Why are you favoring this low life? She dared to laugh at me.”
Mini snapped back.

“You are yourself making a joke out of you, it not her fault. But there is no way I am going to tolerate anyone insulting my girl friend” Karan said threateningly. But his words shocked me as well as Tani and Rocky. I could not believe that he was actually claiming me to be his girl friend. I turned back to stand beside him and facing Mini. Mini too was shocked and asked:

“How can this low life be your girl friend? She just arrived in this city yesterday? For how long has she been your girl friend?
“For ever. We both came from the same city yesterday and have known each other forever.” He told her a white lie.
“I do not believe this. Prove that she really is your girl friend”
Mini was not ready to accept defeat.
“Though it is none of your concern, I will still prove it to you.”
With that he took out an old photo of mine in a Victorian gown from his wallet and shoved it under Mini’s face. “Here, now tell me why would I carry her picture with me if she would not have been my girl friend?”

I suddenly had a flash of last night where those other two vampires had argued with Karan saying I was not Vaidehi, I just look like her. I finally understood what Karan had done. He had escaped Mini’s clutches using Vaidehi’s photo to claim that I was his girl friend. As soon as I figured it all out in my mind, I felt a hand circle around my waist and I saw Karan pulling myself closer to him and then walking away from there dragging me along. Once we were safely out of Mini’s reach he quickly let go of me. But by this time I had gone too mad at him. I shouted at him:

“What do you think of yourself? What was the need of dragging me in all this? Why did you tell Mini in front of whole college that I am your girlfriend?”

“So that no other girl makes the stupid mistake of falling for me. With you, I am safe as you know my truth so will mind your own business if you have any brains”, he replied arrogantly.

His arrogance never ceases to amaze me. But I had not forgotten my anger and so told him that I won't put up with his behavior of his and this lie. But he threatened that I would have to if I want to remain alive. Before I could say anything more to him, Tani and Rocky came there and started questioning me:

“Hey you never told us that you already have a boyfriend and that he too has joined college along with you?”

“I...I never got a chance”, I mumbled.

“Actually she is too shy to talk about us”, Karan said adding to my already boiling anger.

“So, are you also staying in hostel?” Rocky asked Karan.

“No I moved here with my parents. They are starting a new business here. I have my own house at the other end of the city” replied Karan.

So were those vampires his parents? I could not believe it. Did that mean that he had actually fought with his parents last night to save my life? All my anger towards him melted at this possible realization and my heart was filled with gratitude for him. My chain of thoughts was broken by Tani as she was asking us to attend a party at her house in the evening to celebrate her elder sister's engagement with Manish, Rocky's cousin. Before I could say anything, Karan had agreed that we will be going there. He promised to pick me up at 6 pm from my hostel.

As promised, Karan came to pick me up at 6 pm, but instead of waiting for me at the hostel gate, he directly jumped into my room from the window shocking the living daylight out of me. All my forgotten anger returned and I shouted at him:

“Can't you at least behave as a normal human? First you announced me as your girl-friend without asking me, then

blackmailed me into carrying on with this white lie, then you promised Tani that we will go to the party together again without asking me, and now you just jumped into my room instead of waiting outside for me. At this rate you would blackmail me to sleep with you next.”

I realized that I have spoken too much by the sudden change in his expressions.

“Do you really think, I would do that?” he said while moving closer towards me.

I was scared and started moving back without answering his question, while he kept moving towards me. Soon I found myself pressed against the wall and he was standing dangerously close to me. He brought his Face close to mine and as his breath caressed my face, I began losing my senses. He brought his face even closer and my eyes automatically closed themselves savoring his closeness. He blew off the hair strands falling on my face and I felt shivers running through my spine. I could feel him moving southwards and rest with his lips almost touching my lips. My lips parted themselves in anticipation, but he suddenly moved back, shocking me at my own conduct. I saw him giving me a devilish grin. He smirked giving me a naughty wink and said,

“See, if I want to sleep with you, I won’t have to blackmail you. You would give in yourself. You can’t resist my charms baby, even after knowing what I am!”

I could not believe that I actually lost my senses and that his closeness had such an effect on me. He was right, something was definitely wrong with me. Even after knowing that he was a vampire, I could not control myself around him. What was in him that attracted me so much? I should run miles away from him, but my heart actually wanted to get closer to him. Was it just looks, or the fact that he saved my life from his own parents and even stopped Mini from insulting me? I did not know the

answer. Karan Singhania was creating havoc with my senses and my sensibilities. And I could see no way out. Even more worrisome was the fact that my heart did not even seem to want a way out. With a sigh, I asked him to let's just go to that party.

We reached the party and Tani and Rocky welcomed us. They told us that right now there's a youngster's party going on and the elders will be joining later for the ring ceremony. I and Karan stood in a corner looking at people enjoying drinks and dancing on the dance floor. Honestly I had enough of these parties in my uncle's house and they bored me to death. Karan too seemed to be feeling bored. I thought that the time was right to ask him about Vaidehi, though I was apprehensive about his reaction. But I still gathered courage and asked:

"Errmmm... Karan, can I ask you something?"

"What if I say no?" he questioned back clearly showing his complete lack of interest in talking to me, but my curiosity got the better of me and I still continued,

"But I want to know about Vaidehi"

"And you think your friend's sister's engagement party is the best place to talk about my ex-girl friend?" he questioned in mock shock.

"I don't like such parties. They bore me too much", I replied back, refusing to be put off. "So tell me about her." I pressed on.

"There's nothing to tell. We used to love each other 200 years back. But her father found us out and sentenced me to death, but she managed to set me free but her father came to know so set fire to her room. I went to rescue her, and died along with her"

His careless admission of his own death shocked me, but I still wanted more answers, "So is that when you became a vampire? Who made you a vampire, your parents? I mean those vampires

I met in jungle last night? And what about Vaidehi? Why did you not make her a vampire too along with you?" I continued to ask.

"Do you have any plans of becoming an examination committee head, by any chance? You never get tired of asking questions, do you?" he exclaimed.

"That's not the answer to my questions. And wait a minute, you said that her father sentenced you to death, was he some king or something?" I asked some more questions.

"Why don't you use Google search and write your thesis on me yourself." He replied rudely.

"Why would Google give results about you? Are vampires registered on the net or something?" I asked in shock. Having come face to face with a vampire, nothing seemed to be impossible to me now. But he just rolled his eyes and said, "I meant my history!"

I was confused, but before I could ask him any more questions, Tani and Rocky pulled us to the dance floor. As soon as we reached the dance floor, the DJ suddenly changed the track from dance numbers to a romantic number I was uncomfortable dancing and that too with Karan, but he just held out his hand in front of me and I had no option but to hold his hand. He held my hand in his and looked straight in my eyes. The moment our eyes locked, the world seemed to vanish for me. It was just him and me. We started swaying to the song having a close romantic dance, with me coming in his arms every time he would twirl me. Each time our bodies touched, I felt electric sparks flowing through me. He gave me another twirl and then held me by my waist. His touch did some shocking things to my system and I felt some unknown desires waking inside me.

"Oh why does he have so much effect on me?" As if reading my mind, he suddenly started distancing himself from me and mercifully the DJ ended the song. I came back to the reality and Tani and Rocky came and complemented us on our awesome

chemistry making me feel more embarrassed and confused. Just then a girl came and told Tani excitedly that its time for the ring ceremony. Tani introduced her as her sister Koel and she gave me a forced smile. I could not understand why she behaved that way, but Karan whispered in my ears” She’s jealous of your natural beauty which she cannot achieve even with layers of make-up”. I was shocked and confused at this statement. Karan had just said it without any expression or emotion. So was he actually praising me, or just stating what Koel was thinking? But my attention was suddenly diverted with Tani announcing arrival of her parents. And what I saw next just shook the ground below my feet. Standing in front of me hugging Tani and Koel was the man who had ruined mine and my mother’s life and who was responsible for my mother’s death. Yes, I was staring at Mr. Ashish Agarwal, my so-called biological father whom I hated to the core. I could not believe that my best friend in this city was my half-sister. I was feeling suffocated standing here, and so without saying anything to anyone, I just rushed out of the party. I was running away without even knowing where I was going, when Karan’s voice called me back.

“Tarana, Tarana! Stop! Where are you going? That way leads to the jungle” he was telling me.

“I don’t care Karan. Leave me alone.” I replied back crying finally unable to hold my tears anymore.

Karan caught up with me and hold me to make me stop. I don’t know what came on to me, but I just hugged him and hid my face in his chest and cried my heart out. To my surprise, Karan consoled me like a baby and caressed my head and let me cry my heart out. When I had calmed myself a bit, I pulled myself away from his embrace and apologized for my behavior. But he hushed me,

“Tarana, its ok! I can understand. I may not be a human anymore, but I have not forgotten human emotions. I may not be able to feel them myself, but I can understand how a human

goes through them. It's terrible, what that man put you through. I think you should confront him and tell his dirty secret to his family."

"No Karan! That man means nothing to me. But Tani is my friend. I don't want to ruin her happy world and make her go through the pain I have gone through"

"How can you be so self-less Tarana? You suffered all these years alone because of that man and now also you don't want to claim what's rightfully yours!"

"No Karan! He was never mine! I have nothing to lose as nothing was ever mine. I do not want to insult the love my mom gave me by giving any place to that man in my life"

"You are one brave girl Tarana."

"Thanks Karan! And you are a good person, yourself"

"I am not a person Tarana, don't ever forget that." His rudeness returned. I was used to his mood swings by now, so I just sighed and said, "Whatever. Now will you drop me to the hostel please?"

"My pleasure Madam"

Though a thousand questions were running in my head, I decided not to press them for the moment as the events of the evening had left me emotionally drained out and exhausted. So I just walked along with him to the hostel and he bid me good bye at the gates, while I went to my room and crept in my bed for a restless sleep.

Chapter 3 – What’s Happening to Me?

Karan’s perspective

After dropping Tarana off to her hostel, I went to my house where my foster parents or rather my creators were waiting for me to give me another dose of their boring lecture. I have been listening to the same lecture without any variations for two days now. Always the same thing! She is not Vaidehi. Don’t forget you are a vampire and she is a human. Don’t fall for her. Don’t let her fall for you etc etc!

My publicly declaring her as my girl-friend has also not gone well with them. And they keep on asking what the need for this was? I had kept girls at bay previously also, so what has changed this time. Now, how could I answer them when I myself had no answer for it? I possibly could not tell them that I got mad seeing Mini insulting Tarana like that. This would only infuriate them more as to how can I dare to feel for a human?

As if things were in my control. I can’t help if I was born with drop dead gorgeous looks that makes all women fall for me. It was the same when I was a human and same for the last 200 years. As human, the most beautiful princess of her time Vaidehi too had lusted after me and though I loved her, I could never really fulfill her desires as I was too virtuous probably. In the last 200 years of my vampire life, wherever I had been, girls have fallen for me. Till now I have managed to stay away from them by drowning myself in Vaidehi’s memories. But I can’t control myself around Tarana. It’s not just her resemblance to Vaidehi that attracts me. But there is some purity and innocence in her heart which pulls me towards her. I am sure even Vaidehi did not have this pure and self-less heart. In fact, for the first time I am feeling these desires in me which make me want to stay close to Tarana, though I know that it is not

possible. Her innocent remark today did something strange to my system. When she had accused me of possibly blackmailing her in future to sleep with me, my mind suddenly had started imagining how it would be to sleep next to Tarana and to wake besides her. I never had these thoughts about anyone, not even Vaidehi, but I suddenly found myself wondering how Tarana's body will feel on my body. It was my natural desires which took me close to her today and her closeness was affecting me even more. I was about to kiss her and I know that had I kissed her, I probably would not have been able to stop just there. She too was affected by my closeness and I liked it very much that she was behaving this way towards me though she knew that I was a vampire. But, it was this thought which brought me back to reality that I was a monster who had no right to love and be loved by an angel like her. I tried staying aloof from her and was deliberately rude to her in the party, but then Tani dragged us to the dance floor and I was once again swayed by her closeness during the dance. Each time our bodies would touch, new desires and sparks ran through my body and I wanted to get even closer to her. The fact that she was feeling the same way, further drove me crazy, but then it was the dilemma in her mind that reminded me that I was a vampire and she cannot fall for a vampire. Mercifully, the music ended there. And the rest of the evening was too much for her and me to think of anything else. I hate that Ashish Agarwal to subject Tarana to so much pain and loneliness.

I entered my house and as expected mom dad bombarded me with questions:

"Where were you?"

"Agarwal House"

"Why?"

"To attend their elder daughter's engagement party"

"Who invited you there?"

"Her younger sister"

"Why did she invite you?"

"Because she is Tarana's friend"

Hearing Tarana's name, they again sighed and began their lecture on staying away from her and that she is not Vaidehi etc. I quietly listened to them with a bowed head like a true obedient son, but it was the end of their lecture which caught my attention, when dad said to mom,

"We should have just finished her off that night Kiara"
And mom agreed saying, "You are right Ajay"

That was it. I finally lost my temper at their audacious thought of harming Tarana and shouted at them,

"Don't you dare lay a finger on her, or I will forget that you are my creators and I'll myself finish you off", I said threateningly.

"Aaaahhh... so you are ready to fight us for that human. You are forgetting who we are. We are not humans. We are monsters. We have no place for emotions or relationships. Do you understand Karan?" Dad was asking me.

"If we really are monsters without any emotions, then why are you two together and why did you turned me and added me to your coven?" I questioned them back.

"Karan.. what are you trying to say?" mom asked me in anger.

"Just that despite being vampires, all of us still has some humanity in us. Which is why you and dad have been together as a couple for last 500 years and which is why you added me as your son to this coven as you still had your maternal desires intact in you mom." I retorted back.

"You maybe right Karan but that does not change the fact that she is a human and you a vampire. You and she can never be together Karan. I am sorry that after 200 years you found your happiness but you can't have it." Mom mellowed down a bit.

"I know that mom. And I'll handle myself. Just don't ever try to harm her or think ill of her please." I pleaded with them.

"Fine Karan, we won't harm her if she keeps our secret", Mom promised.

"She will mom as she has no place else to go", I replied back.

"Fine then", mom said putting an end to the lecture and argument. I left for my room but could still hear Mom and dad arguing over Tarana.

Dad: Kiara, how can you be so lenient. You know this is a serious matter. Do you have any idea what will happen if superiors got to know that a human knows our secret and that Karan is protecting that human.

Mom: I know Ajay, but I don't want to lose my son. If we act against Tarana, he will act against us. Our only hope is if he realizes the gravity of the situation.

Dad: What if he does not?

Mom: I don't know, but I will hope for the best in all situations. For 200 years I have seen him suffering all alone. But it has been just 2 days here and I am seeing a difference in him. He seems to be happy for the first time. I hope there is some way out for him which can keep him happy always.

Dad: Kiara, you don't know what you are saying or hoping for.

Kiara: I know Ajay that I am hoping for my son's happiness and that's what mothers do.

I was speechless. I went to my bed to spend a restless night filled with Tarana's dreams and the thoughts about mom dad's conversation.

Chapter 4 – Destiny’s Games

Tarana’s perspective

I woke up next day and decided to put Mr. Agarwal and everything related to him away from my thoughts. I had more pressing issues to ponder upon, at least for me. Vaidehi was the top of my agenda. I needed to find about her, but Karan had just asked me to use Google search, so well that’s what I will do. I switched on my laptop and searched for Vaidehi. The search engine opened thousands of pages. Of course what else could I expect? But then I focused on my conversation with Karan and my guess that was she a princess, so I typed Princess Vaidehi. And lo I was surprised to see the result as Princess Vaidehi Singh who looked exactly like me. In fact, the photo I found was the same one Karan was carrying in his wallet all the time. I read on and came to know that her kingdom was just few hours distance from Shimla. Princess Vaidehi was known for her beauty across whole India and had many suitors vying for her hand. But she had rejected them all. The rumor was that she was in love with a peasant boy of her kingdom but somebody has informed the king about it. The king had then sentenced that boy to death, but Vaidehi had come to save him, but they both died in a fire. I was shocked and touched to read this story. So that’s how Karan had lost his life and his love. A cruel king had got two lovers killed to save his reputation. My heart went out to Karan. He had suffered so much. And by the way his parents had reminded him that I wasn’t Vaidehi, it seemed that he was still mourning her death. At this point I just wanted to rush and hug Karan and take away all his pains.

I wanted to meet him right away but I did not know where he lived and I was scared of his parents. Being a Sunday, there was no chance of meeting him in college. I was wondering what to do when a girl entered in my room and introduced herself as

Meera, my new room mate. She told me she is an old student and is here in this hostel only for some time till she finds a place for herself as she has got a job here now. I liked Meera and to distract myself from Karan's thoughts I began talking to her. But I noticed that Meera had a lost look to herself. She had a tendency of often getting lost in her own thoughts while talking to me. I could sense that something was troubling her. I asked her what was wrong, but she brushed it away saying that she is absolutely fine. She left the room pretending to go somewhere, but I was curious to know what she was up to. I followed her out and heard her talking to someone on phone:

"How can you do this? You said you love only me. Then why did you get engaged to her? And what about our baby?"

I was shocked to hear this part of conversation. Did that mean her boyfriend was cheating on her? I waited to hear the remaining conversation and was shocked to hear Meera shout at him,

"How can you ask me to abort our baby Manish? No, you have to marry me and give name to our baby"

I was shocked to hear the name Manish. Did it mean that Koel's fiancé was cheating on her, or was it some other Manish? I did not know what to do, so I decided to follow Meera. Meera had just fixed a meeting with him. I followed her to the hill top and also asked Tani to come there. I did not tell her of my suspicions but just briefed her about my roommate being in trouble because of a boy. When I reached there I found that as I had suspected, it was indeed Koel's fiancé Manish. I did not know what to do. I was new here and Koel apparently did not like me. There was no way she was going to believe me and Tani was late. Meera was arguing with Manish and he was threatening her. I heard him say that she should accept the 1 lakh rupees check he was offering her and forget about him. Meera refused to accept the check and said that she will expose him and tell the truth to Koel. Hearing this he got furious and threw her off

the hill top. I was shocked. I screamed and rushed to Meera's aid and managed to grab her hand. But the pull of gravity was much stronger. She was hanging down the cliff. Fortunately Tani arrived just then with Rocky and they both had seen Manish pushing Meera off the hill. They rushed to help Meera and together we all managed to pull her up. Meera had fallen unconscious by then. I urged them to take her to a hospital and told them that she was pregnant. They were shocked and confused, but decided to first get medical aid to Meera. In the hospital while doctors were checking up on Meera, I told them what had happened and how Manish had cheated both Koel and Meera. It was hard for them to believe this but the fact that Manish had pushed Meera off the hill in front of their own eyes, was making them doubtful. The doctors came out and told us that they are trying their best, but saving the baby seems to be impossible. Tani had a sudden brain wave and asked the doctors to do a paternity test on the baby. We waited for all the results, while Police questioned all of us. I gave them my statement and Tani and Rocky confirmed the part of Manish pushing Meera off. Manish was arrested. Koel came to the hospital and refused to believe anything. She was shouting that just because I had run away from a forced marriage, I cannot tolerate anybody happily getting married to their love and that's why I was cooking up this story. I was hurt beyond words, but it was Rocky who told Koel that he had seen Manish pushing Meera with his own eyes and he is himself shocked that his own brother could do such a thing.

The doctors came out and informed us that they could not save the baby, but Meera is safe, though extremely weak. The result of the paternity test also came out just then and it was proven that Manish indeed was the culprit. Everyone was crestfallen. While Police dragged Manish away, he gave me dagger looks and threatened that I would have to pay for this and that he will take his revenge. It was evening when doctor allowed us to take Meera. Tani and Rocky helped me to take her to the hostel. I put her to bed and sat besides the window thinking about the

day's events. It was then that I noticed Karan about to take a jump into my room through the window. I shouted at him to stop and he stopped in confusion. I rushed out to meet him.

"Why did you stop me? Are you still scared of my jumping into your room in the middle of the night?" he asked playfully.

"No, but I have a new room mate who may not like you monkeying around like this", I replied chuckling.

"What you called me a monkey?" He pouted in fake anger.

"Yes a very very handsome monkey", I replied giggling.

"Are you complimenting me or making fun of me?" he demanded.

"That's for you to guess"

I was still giggling. He too could not help himself from laughing and laughed with me. It was such a refreshing change to see him laugh like this. He suddenly looked so innocent and like a baby that I could not help myself from admiring him. Slowly my hands reached for his face and I caressed his cheeks. He immediately stiffened and moved away. I sighed and hung my head low in apology. For a few minutes we stood like that. Then Karan came towards me and held me by my shoulders. He asked me to look at him. I raised my face to look at him and saw love and sorrow in his ice blue eyes. He slowly said,

"I am sorry Tarana, for forcing myself into your life like this. But I can't allow you to have any feelings for me. I am a heartless monster Tarana. You should hate me, despise me; not laugh with me. You should run miles away from me; not stand here and admire me."

"I can't help it Karan. My heart refuses to see you as a monster and after knowing your story, I know that you did not choose this life. Your life and love was snatched away from you. Karan, how can I hate you for something that was not in your control? And you said that you are a monster, but then why did you save my life that day from your own parents? How can you feel for

my pain when you are supposed to be heartless Karan? I can't run away from you Karan, because my heart always brings me closer to you."

"Stop it Tarana. This is wrong. I ... I'll go away from here, from your life."

Saying that he ran away in the forest, while I called him back and rushed behind him without looking where I was going. Just then a speeding car hit me. I rolled on the street screaming, but before fainting, I could see the evil grin on Manish's face behind the steering wheel.

Karan's perspective

She was shouting for my name, but I just wanted to run away from her and her thoughts. I kept running deeper in the forest, but just then her deadly scream shook the Earth below me. Something terrible had happened to her. I rushed back to the street and found her lying in a pool of blood. I could not believe my eyes. I had left her hale and hearty laughing with me just a few minutes back. I had thought that my presence was a curse on her and so had decided to exit her life, but just as I had taken my first step away from her, destiny had decided to end her life itself. I cannot let that happen. I cannot lose my love again. Yes, I love her. As much as I keep denying my feelings to myself and to her, I know that in just 3 days I had indeed fallen in love with her. And this time it was much more stronger and powerful than what I felt for Vaidehi. I did not know that it would ever be possible for me to love someone else, but there was something in Tarana which had made me forget even Vaidehi, though there was not even a single day in my 200 years when I had not remembered her. But ever since Tarana had entered into my life, all I had thought of was Tarana and Tarana only. And here she was lying almost lifeless. I rushed to her aid. The sight of blood was waking up the beast in me. But I had to tame that beast and focus on saving my love. I picked her up in my arms

and took her away from the sight of blood. She had sustained injuries all over her body including head injuries. But thankfully her skull was intact. I remembered my dad's words when he created me that a vampire has healing powers in his touch and kiss and so I healed her with my kisses. I then tended to the injuries on her hands and legs. I managed to heal all her external wounds just leaving a few so that doctors don't get suspicious, as she had lost lots of blood by then and had also fractured her knee bone. I had to take her to a hospital.

I rushed the still unconscious Tarana to the hospital and pleaded with the doctors to treat her right away. I called up Tani as Tarana may need blood and I thought that maybe someone from her family will have matching blood group. Tani reached there with her parents and Rocky. Doctors asked for a blood donor and I urged Mr. Agarwal to check if his blood group matches and as I had guessed his blood matched. Doctors then put plaster on Tarana's leg and left her to rest for the time being. They assured that Tarana is out of danger now, but I was extremely worried for her. Tani too was worried for her friend, but Mrs Agarwal had confused expressions on her face. I focused on reading her mind and found her wondering if she was Ashish's daughter from her affair. I let the thoughts about this stupid couple pass and cursed them in my mind. The police came for enquiry and I told them that I had just seen her off when I had heard her screams. I had rushed back to see her lying unconscious and in a pool of blood. She had apparently been hit by a car. We all were worried who it could be, when inspector informed that it could be Manish as he had threatened to take revenge and his parents had bailed him out. I was clueless about why Manish would do such a thing, so Tani updated me about what had happened during the day. I swear to teach him a lesson, but just then doctors informed that Tarana had regained consciousness. I rushed to see her again.

Tarana's Perspective

I opened my eyes in the hospital and saw my angel, my Karan standing there at the door with mixed expressions of concern and relief in his eyes. He stood there staring at me, while Tani rushed towards me and hugged me. She was going on and on about the accident but I could not hear a word as my eyes and mind were focused on Karan only. I gestured him to come near me and he hesitantly came there and held my hand. There was no need for us to say anything. We both knew where our feelings stood. The doctor came and asked everyone to disperse as only one person was allowed to stay there. Karan kept holding my hand and so everyone else dispersed from the room. I opened my mouth to say something, but Karan hushed me and asked me to rest. But there was so much I wanted to talk to him.

“Karan, it was you who saved me, right? I know I won't have survived had it not been for you”

“Shh... Tarana, don't talk like that. I will never let anything happen to you.”

“How will you ensure that Karan when you want to go away from me”

“I won't anywhere now. I promise”

A big smile appeared on my face, but Karan dampened my spirit by saying,

“But that does not mean you have won. I am still a monster and I don't want my black shadow to fall on your life. I will always be there for you Tarana, but we can never be together Tarana.”

“No, Karan we can be and we are together. Why are you still in denial mode? I know you have been suffering alone in Vaidehi's memories for last 200 years, but it's time you move on. And even your heart knows it Karan that you and I were always meant to be. That is why destiny crossed our paths like this”

“How can you and I be made for each other Tarana when nature has meant me to be a predator and you my prey? Our

relationship is against nature Tarana. We can never be together.”

“I don’t care about the laws of nature Karan. But I know this thing, that you and I are destined to be together otherwise why all of a sudden I am almost always crossing paths with death and why are you always there to save me? And not just death Karan, why are you there to stand by me when someone insults me? Why are you there to lend me a shoulder to cry on when I feel emotionally shattered?”

“Tarana, I don’t know. I don’t know what all this means, but I do know that it is impossible for us to be together.”

“Let’s leave that decision to time Karan. Only time knows what will and will not happen. So let’s leave our future in the hands of destiny and time and let’s just enjoy most of our present”, I suggested as a last resort.

“Fine Tarana, but only as friends”, he agreed to compromise but on his own terms.

“But you have already told the college that I am your girl friend”, I argued back.

“Let them think whatever they want, but you should not have any confusion or high hopes in your head”, Karan laid down his terms clearly.

“Fine, Whatever”, I agreed temporarily though I knew that Karan was just being stubborn, but I was not feeling very energetic to argue further. Besides, being friends is a good start for any relationship and I was sure that with time Karan will come around to accept the truth about our relationship. I drifted off to sleep as the medicines were taking effect. When I opened my eyes, Karan and Tani seem to be arguing over something. I was surprised, and asked them,

“Guys what’s the argument about?”

Tani: Tarana, look Karan is saying that you would be staying at his house. Please tell him that we can take better care for you.

Karan: No way Tani, Tarana is my responsibility. She will stay at my house.

I was confused and asked them: “what?? Why would I stay at either of your houses? I have my room in hostel.”

Tani: hello madam! Wake up and look at your legs. Your leg is in plaster. How are you going to live on your own in hostel where there is no one to take care of you? Doctors have advised absolutely minimal walking around for you. So you can't stay in hostel.

Karan: and that's why you would be staying at my house.

Tani: No, she will stay in my house, she is my best friend.

Karan: No, she is my girl-friend, so she would stay in my house.

“Enough! I will stay on my own.” I shouted at them.

Karan: You know that there is no way I am going to listen to you.

“And what about your parents? Will they like me staying there?” I questioned him.

Honestly speaking I was still scared of them and besides I did not want to be a reason for arguments between Karan and them. And there was no way I was going to stay in Agarwal mansion which belonged to that man. Just then, Tani's mom entered the room and asked both Karan and Tani to leave the room. I was apprehensive to be alone with her in a room and Karan too was hesitant to leave me alone with her, but Kusum aunty insisted on talking alone with me. As soon as Karan and Tani left the room, aunty addressed me:

“Tarana, are you what I am thinking you are”

I knew what she was talking of, but I did not want to admit this fact as I did not want anyone especially Mr. Agarwal to know the truth, so I just said “I don't know what you are talking about aunty.”

“Tarana, you know what I am talking of. You are Anita's daughter, isn't it? I have seen your mother's name in your record file”, she said waving the file in front of my eyes. I was

cornered. I pleaded with aunty, “Aunty please! Please don’t ask me anything. I don’t want to talk about it at all”

“I also don’t want to talk about it Tarana. And that’s why I have come here to request you not to reveal this secret to anyone ever. Already Koel had one broken engagement and people are talking so much about our family. If this thing leaks out, it will be a big scandal for us and I would never be able to find a match for Koel.” aunty pleaded with me.

“Don’t worry aunty. I myself don’t want to have anything to do with him. He cheated my mom. I have no place for him in my life. He is just Tani’s dad for me.” I assured her.

“Thanks beta. Now I want you to come and stay with us at least till the time you get all right”, aunty suddenly changed her stand.

“No aunty thanks. I can never feel comfortable there. I will stay in the hostel.” I declined her half-hearted offer. Just then Karan barged into the room and lifted me in his arms and said:

“You are coming to my house and that’s final. I have collected your discharge papers. Now stop protesting, else it will harm your leg and will elongate your stay at my house.” He gave me a naughty smirk and I could do nothing but stare at him open-mouthed.

We were stopped by Police on our way out who asked if I have seen who hit me and I told them that it was Manish. They recorded my statement and let us go. Karan gently made me sit in his car and we drove off to his house. This was the first time I was seeing his house. It was a huge mansion set amidst dense forest area with very little sunlight. The place looked creepy to say the least. Karan sensed my fears, giggled and said,

“Don’t worry! No one will eat or rather drink you up. I will protect you”

“Shut up Karan. I really don’t want you to have any fights with your parents over me.”

“Relax Tarana. I will handle them.” Saying this he opened the car gates, lifted me up and took me to his house.

As expected his parents were furious to see me there and Karan carrying me like this. It was his dad who spoke first,

“Karan are you out of your mind? Why have you brought her here?”

“She has met with an accident dad and needs care, that’s why I brought her here”

Dad: You do realize that you have brought a human to stay in the house of vampires, don’t you?

“Of course dad, but we are good vampires, aren’t we?” Karan said almost threateningly. It was his mom’s turn to talk to him now.

“Karan, I know that you care for her, but bringing her here is really not a good idea.”

“I have no option mom. Doctors have advised strictly minimal walking for her, and she has no place else to go. How could I leave her alone in the hostel?”

Mom: Fine Karan, if you have made up your mind. Then I will get the guest room arranged.

Karan: no need mom. It’s better if she stays in my room, that way I can take better care of her and ensure there is no accident if she wakes up at night.

Aunty was almost furious at this but just replied angrily, “Fine. Do as you please”. This made me feel a little guilty, but Karan just asked me to relax. We reached Karan’s room and he gently placed me on his huge bed. It was then that I realized the exact situation and gasped. There was no way I was going to stay in the same room as Karan. But before I could open my mouth to say anything, Karan gave me a devilish smirk and asked, “So, scared, hunh?”

“No I am not scared. But there is no way I can be in the same room as you Karan?”

“And why is that” he asked devilishly.

“Because... Because...” I could not find the words. How could I when I was feeling so embarrassed at the mere thoughts.

“Come on Tarana, tell me, why not? We are friends, are we not?” he asked teasingly.

“Yes we are, but....”

“But what Tarana tell me had Tani not been related to you, then would you have minded sharing room with her, as she is also your friend”, he asked making a fake innocent face.

“Tani is different Karan. She is a girl”

“Hawwww... I did not know you were a man hater Tarana”, Karan now made faces in mock shock.

“Enough Karan” I was almost mad at him now. I grabbed a pillow and started hitting him and he pretended to be getting hurt.

“Ouch...Ouch Tarana, you are hurting me”

“Really, a vampire is getting hurt with a mere pillow?”

“Ok Ok stop. I was just teasing you. You sleep on the bed, while I will take the couch. Ok.” He said laughing. And I could not stop myself from laughing with him.

Chapter 5 – Falling in Love

Karan's perspective

I was enjoying Tarana's hesitance a lot. After 200 years, I was laughing. It felt different and also good. I made her take her pain-killers and asked her to sleep but she exclaimed in shock, "Karan! Today is Monday. I can't miss college"

"Tarana, you had a major accident last night. No one's going to fuss over your attendance. It's a relief that you are alive."

"But Karan..I'll miss lectures and studies"

"Don't bother about that Tarana. I can teach you everything much better than the teachers. I have done it all over 10 times. Now be a good girl and take rest"

"But I am not sleepy Karan. I have slept a lot."

"So what do you want to do?"

"Can we talk?" she asked hesitantly. I knew what she wanted to talk about but still asked,"About what?" "About Vaidehi", she replied. "What do you want to know about her?" I asked her suddenly feeling sad remembering her. "Everything", was her reply.

I sat besides her and got myself lost in the memories while telling her all about Vaidehi, our relationship, how she was a stubborn hot headed princess for the rest of the world, but would become my cheerful loving girl while with me. I was recollecting all my memories but for the first time I was seeing them just as memories without any emotions. I wondered to myself how has that happened. Has really Tarana's love erased the love I had carried in my heart for Vaidehi for 200 years. Was it really possible? It was true that the pull I felt towards Tarana is much stronger than I ever felt for Vaidehi, so did it really mean that I was meant to be with Tarana? But then, why did nature play such a cruel game on us. Why was I made a blood-sucking creature if I was really meant to be with an angel like

Tarana? With a heavy heart, I looked at Tarana and found her sleeping like a baby in my arms with her head resting warmly on my chest. A few strands of her hair were falling on her eyes causing her a bit discomfort. I gently tucked them behind her ears. Looking at my angel like this, I could not help myself and I gently placed a soft kiss on her forehead. I was scared of disturbing her sleep, but she just gently smiled in her sleep. I gently laid her head on the pillow and covered her with a blanket and went down to face mom and dad who were beside themselves in anger.

Dad: Karan, why have you brought her here?

"I already told you Dad."

Dad: But why do you have to take so much care of her?

"Because in a way I am responsible for her accident. She would not have met with this accident had I not left her in the middle of the road like that."

Dad: And why had you gone out to meet her in the first place, Karan?

I was cornered and speechless.

Dad: Answer me Karan? Why did you go to meet her? I know why you did that. Because inspite of repeated warnings, you have fallen in love with her. But do you realize what that means? A vampire falling for a human!! It is against our laws Karan. Why don't you understand it?

"I can't help it dad. I always feel a pull towards her which takes me towards her"

Dad: There is no pull, it is just her resemblance to Vaidehi. But she is not Vaidehi Karan.

"I know she is not Vaidehi and it is not her resemblance which is attracting me towards her. Because I never felt so strongly even for Vaidehi the way I feel for her. I have known her for only 3 days, but I no longer feel the pain of losing Vaidehi anymore. Her memories no longer make me sad. Tarana has completely taken over Vaidehi in my heart."

Mom: What are you saying Karan? Is it really true that you love her much more than you loved Vaidehi for whom you have been mourning for 200 years?

“Yes mom. It is true. Ironical as it may sound, but it is true that suddenly Vaidehi seems like just a teenage infatuation to me now. I cannot imagine or think about anyone other than Tarana now.”

Mom: That’s a serious thing to think about Karan. After all, she is still a mere human only. Anyway, you go and take care of her.

“Mom, can you take care for a while? I have some important work outside. She is sleeping right now, and I will be back soon. But, in case she wakes up before I return, can you take care?”

Mom: Fine Karan. You may go. Don’t worry. I’ll take care.

With that I left to take care of that Manish who had dared to mess with my Tarana. I had no problem in finding out Manish hiding in an under construction building.

“How long do you think you can hide Manish”, I said menacingly.

“Karan, what are you doing here”, Manish asked scared.

“Punishing you for your sins”, I answered casually. And before Manish had time to grasp what’s coming his way, my kick hit him hard where it hurts most and sent him in air ultimately resulting in him falling hard on the ground a few feet away. I had murder on my mind at the moment. This burden on Earth needed to be wiped off. He had dared to hurt my Tarana. I will ensure he regrets the day he was born. As he managed to get himself up, I threw another punch in his sorry face making him bleed and gave him another kick, this time in his stomach. The sight of blood would have triggered the beast in me, but I had no intention on ruining my taste buds with his dirty blood. I grabbed his head in my hands and smashed it hard against the wall. His head started bleeding profusely. Luckily for me, it was raining hard and so workers had left to their homes. With remaining strength, Manish tried to run upwards and I let him as I had more torture planned for him. He reached the top of the 10 storey under construction building and with just 1 jump, I

landed face to face with him over the top of the building. Manish was already shocked at this act. I thrashed Manish some more till he fell unconscious. Then I threw him from the top of the building to make it look like an accident. The rain would wipe out all evidence and I was sure that Manish already being hunted by Police in 2 different charges, they won't bother much about how he landed in this state and will pass it off as an accident.

I reached home to find Mom and Dad still arguing.

Dad: Kiara, how can you take things so lightly?

Mom: I am not taking things lightly Ajay. But things really are not in our control.

Dad: What do you mean? We can just throw her out, or move somewhere ourselves.

Mom: No use Ajay. Something or the other will keep bringing Tarana and Karan together. In fact, I am sure that even if Tarana dies, she will come back for Karan.

Dad: What makes you say that?

Mom: Can't you see Ajay, Karan and Tarana are soul mates.

Dad: no, that cannot happen. How are you so sure?

Mom: Look at the facts Ajay. For 200 years, Karan has been mourning Vaidehi, but now in just 3 days, he has completely forgotten her. We never saw Karan even smile before, but now he is laughing whole-heartedly. Karan had always remained a disturbed soul, but now suddenly his soul is calm, even though his mind is boggled with the sudden onslaught of these emotions. It is because Karan's soul has found its mate in Tarana. That is why destiny keeps bringing them closer. Karan cannot run away from Tarana, and we cannot run away from Karan. That is why we have to accept the things as they are.

Dad: What about superiors?

Mom: We will hide Tarana from them as long as possible, but when they do come to know about her, I am sure they will understand Karan and Tarana's soul mate connection.

Dad: I hope it really goes as you feel Kiara.

Mom: Trust me Ajay. I am sure it will happen this way. Karan and Tarana are meant to be together and they will be together.

I could not believe what I heard. Was it really as mom felt? Was Tarana really my soul mate? How is that possible as ideally I am a soul-less creature? No, I can't entertain any thoughts about Tarana. I will be besides her as a friend till she needs me, then ensure that she moves on with a right human being. My dark world is not for her.

Well that was what Karan had planned, but destiny had a mind of its own.

Tarana's Perspective

I woke up sometime in late afternoon and found the room empty besides myself. Just then I saw Karan coming out of the bathroom draped in nothing more than a towel. Without looking at me he went to stand in front of the mirror, exposing his well toned back to me. His hair was all wet and water was dripping down from them over his muscular body. He was looking sexy as hell and I could not help but stare at his bare back. I was lost in a trance seeing him like that. I was imagining how it would feel like to have this hot guy all to myself and touch his sexy abs with my fingers. I could not believe what this guy was doing to me. From a simple girl, I was suddenly becoming so dirty minded having all these naughty thoughts. I blushed at my own naughty cravings and that's when Karan turned towards me.

Karan's perspective

I reached my room and Tarana was still sleeping. I went to take a shower. I returned back to my room draping a towel around me after taking my shower in a few minutes. I stood in front of mirror brushing my wet hair, and that's when I realized that Tarana had waken up and was ogling at me. I could read her not

so decent thoughts about myself and well I could not help but imagine the same things myself for her. I had this sudden urge of teasing her. I put my comb down and approached Tarana on the bed. She suddenly came to her senses and blushed hard and looked away. I sat beside her and asked her, "Checking me out, were you?"

I loved the way her cheeks turned deep red in embarrassment. She was blushing hard and her blush was doing further damage to my already failing self-control. I moved closer to her and a few water drops from my hair fell on her making her shiver. Her deep brown eyes were looking in my eyes and she was clearly losing her senses with my increasing closeness. I was pleased to see the effect I was having on her. I moved closer towards her and our breaths were caressing each other's faces. She closed her eyes and her trembling lips were looking so inviting. I probably would have ended up kissing her had I not heard mom's footsteps. I got up and got dressed in a second and opened door for mom before she could knock.

Tarana's Perspective

Karan's closeness was driving me mad. I so wanted to feel his wet hot lips on mine. But just then, I felt Karan moved away and before I could fully open my eyes, he was fully dressed. His mom was on the door asking him what I would like to eat. He asked me what I would like to eat, and then ordered my favorite pizza from the Pizza shop. The Pizza boy delivered Pizza in 30 minutes and I sat eating it in the room, while Karan sat there watching me. After that he made me take my medicine again and soon I drifted off to sleep again. But I made Karan promise that he would take me to college next day.

Karan woke me up on time, but I was so much in need of a shower. But how do I put it across to Karan? It was really a stupid idea to come here. What was Karan thinking? I sat there without saying anything as there was no way I was going to tell

him that I need a shower. Going by his naughtiness, he was sure to insist on giving me a bath himself and I was so not going to let him do that at any cost. I found Karan laughing silently and realized that he has read everything from my mind. Aah Stupid me!!! As if controlling my emotions and desires was not enough, I have to control my thoughts around Karan too. I was sure of turning a mental freak by the end of my stay here. I found Karan laughing hard now. Gosh this guy had read these thoughts too. I better start practicing blocking my thoughts to him, but how do I do that? Good, I'll start revising all my lessons in my head. That should bore him.

Karan's perspective

I suddenly found her revising complex chemical equations in her head and realized that she is trying to block me. I could not help but laugh. I actually had not realized when I brought Tarana here that Tarana would need help for her basic human needs too. I went out of the room and returned a couple of minutes later with a mom's night gown with a full front-zipper. I asked Tarana to change into this as it will be easier for her to take it off and wear it back again after shower. I also gave her a plastic bag to cover the cast on her broken leg so it does not get wet during shower. She gave me a warm thank you smile and I just smiled back at her. I left her to change while I went in the bathroom to fill bath water for her in a bucket. I went back to the room when she had changed. I lifted her up and placed her on a high stool so that her leg does not get wet. I then placed the water bucket on a medium rise stool so that she could easily access it. I then left her to take bath and went out to fetch her dresses from hostel as her skirts would be the easiest thing for her to wear. I returned back within a few minutes and placed her clothes on the bed. She had finished her bath by then, so I lifted her up again and brought her out. I went out again to let her change and then finally I lifted her up to my car to go to college. We reached college and I was about to pick her up, when she refused my help and insisted on going by herself. Why

does she behave so stubbornly and stupidly at times? I had no option but to forcefully lift her up and take her to the class.

Tarana's Perspective

It was so embarrassing. Everyone was staring at us. People were whistling seeing Karan carry me like this. Mini and her followers were gossiping and making weird faces. But Karan was completely unperturbed by all this and was just carrying me royally. We reached the class room and finally Karan placed me down at my seat and sat beside me. Even the teachers were giving us odd stares, but Karan was least bothered. We went through our classes and then it was time for lunch break. Karan was about to take me to canteen too, but I have had enough embarrassment for the day. So I told him to fetch something for me here itself. But Karan got in his naughty mood again and refused to do that. But mercifully, I had ways to get away from Karan's naughtiness in the college at least. I asked Tani to bring something for me and she gladly brought enough food for 5 people. Karan pouted like a kid and I just showed him my tongue. Me, Tani and Rocky sat there to eat while Karan went away from there pretending to be angry so that he can avoid any questions on why he was not eating anything. Tani and Rocky were teasing me too much about what all was happening between me and Karan at his house. I did not tell him that I was staying in his room itself, else there will be no limit of their teasing. Finally the day ended and I and Karan left for his house. We stopped mid-way at a restaurant where Karan made me have my dinner. At home, Karan ensured that I go to sleep after taking my medicines and went to sleep on the couch.

The entire week passed like that and I was getting bored. Karan was caring for me like a robotic nurse. But beyond that, we would hardly talk. I asked him what the matter was, but he brushed it off as nothing and asked me not to stress myself. But I could see that something was troubling him. Finally on Friday night, I made him sit near me and asked him either to tell me

what's troubling him or else I would go back to hostel rather than be a burden on someone who does not consider me as a friend. That had him cornered. He finally spoke:

"I don't know how to say it Tarana. But I keep cursing myself for coming into your life and letting you be my friend."

I was hurt beyond words. I had tears running through my eyes. He regrets being my friend. Am I so bad? He read my mind and quickly assured me:

"No Tarana, its not you!! You are a sweet self-less angel. But I am a monster. And despite knowing that I forced you to pretend having a relationship with me which has kept you away from finding your true love. I had been very selfish with you Tarana. But I will set the things right soon. Once you are fully well, we will pretend to have a fight and a break-up and then you will be free. You will be able to find your true love Tarana"

I have had enough. I gave him a tight slap on his cheeks and told him: "Just what do you think of yourself. Hunh? Whenever you decide you will announce to the world that I am your girl-friend and whenever you feel like, you will announce that we are over and I will just sit and watch like a mute doll. No, Mr. Singhania. I will not let you do that. And I am tired of your "I am a monster, you are an angel" dialogue. Whether you regret it or like it, the fact is that you are stuck with me and I am not going to let you go, do you understand? And whether you want to admit or not, the fact is that you and only you are my true love. You can either chose to accept it now or keep waiting till mortality takes me away from you forever. But the fact is that I am only going to love you. Strange it may seem that how can I feel this way in a mere week and half , but that is the truth and that's why I say that we are made for each other and are meant to be together, whether you like it or not"

"Tarana, you don't understand"

"No, it's you who does not understand. And I have more self respect than to remain here in your house like an unwanted

burden if this is how you feel for me. I am going back to my hostel now.”

I tried getting up from the bed to pack my stuff and felt a sharp pain in my leg. As I winced in pain, Karan rushed to help me. The pain I felt in my leg was clearly visible in his eyes and face. I knew he loved me, but he was just being stubborn in denying it.

“Tarana, please sit down. You will hurt yourself”

“How does that matter to you? Stop showing this fake concern Karan. I don’t need your sympathy. I have been taking care of myself ever since my mom left me. No one was ever there to take care of me. I am used to staying on my own. I hate being a burden on anyone and so I want to leave from here. And you want to break-up with me, fine, then why wait? We will announce tomorrow itself that you and I are over. No need for you to bother about me anymore”

“No Tarana, don’t say like that please. How can you be a burden Tarana? You are the one who brought sunshine in my dark life, who taught me to smile and laugh again. You are not a burden Tarana. You are my angel.”

“Then why do you keep hurting me again and again?”

“Because I don’t deserve you Tarana. You deserve someone much better, who can give you all the happiness and sunshine in the world. My dark life is not for you Tarana.”

“Who are you to decide that Karan? No one knows what’s written in destiny, so why are you fighting so much Karan?”

“Coz I don’t want you to get hurt Tarana. You and I can never be together, but if you continue to harbor feelings for me, then you are only going to get hurt.”

“I am hurting now also Karan. Every time you reject me, I feel like a part of me has died.”

Karan covered my mouth with his hand to stop me from saying anything and softly spoke:

“Don’t ever talk of that Tarana. Fine, we will leave it to destiny and time, but I still don’t want to encourage you and so we will remain as friends only”

“Fine, but you stop your stay-away missions Karan, coz I know I am going to win in the end.”

Karan’s perspective

I was shocked to see this fiery side of Tarana. The innocent sweet little girl can be so possessive and demanding is something I never dreamt of. Though I did not want to admit it to her ever, but I was definitely impressed by the way Tarana showed and expressed her feelings for me. The way she was ready to fight even me to get me, touched my dead heart from within. Once again, I wished things could be simpler between us. I wished I was a human like her so that we could always be together. She was confident of us being together despite of me being a vampire. I wish I could feel the same confidence. I wished there was a hope for us, but sadly there is none.

Well that’s what Karan thought, but as people say - if you want something from all your heart, then the entire cosmos helps you get that.

Chapter 6 – End of a Beautiful Dream

A month passed like this. Karan refused to budge away from his stance and I refused to let him go. However, his mom started warming up to me a bit though his dad would keep his distance. Often Kiara aunty would sit with me and tell about Karan's life in these 200 years. Mostly it all revolved around how he had spent these 200 years cursing himself and them for giving him this life without Vaidehi in it. One day she secretly told me that she is happy that he found me as at least they don't have to see that broody Karan all the time now. She too hoped that maybe there would be some hope or way for us, but could not understand what it can be.

Finally my leg was out of the cast and it was time for me to go back to the hostel. It was also my birthday today, a day I had not celebrated for last 12 years. My last birthday I celebrated was when I was 6 years old. My mother had hidden about my father's infidelity from me and had celebrated my 6th birthday with him with fake smile on her face. Next morning I had woken up early and found mom arguing with him. That's when I got to know that he has another family, a wife and children. Mom was arguing with him to give us a proper legal status, but he was adamant and was against depriving his other family any rights. That's when mom asked him to leave us forever, and he did without a second glance. Later that night I had lost my mom because of a severe cardiac arrest. Since then I had never celebrated my birthday and no one in my uncle's family even cared to remember or ever ask about my birthday ever. But every year on my Birthday I would sit with her picture and remember her and the time I spent with her. Today was no different. I had done my packing and was sitting with mom's picture with tears in my eyes when I heard a soft knock on the door.

Strange!! I thought. Nobody ever knocks in this house. They just barge in. I quickly wiped my tears and asked the person knocking the door to enter. I was even more shocked to see Karan there. Since when did he start knocking the door to his own room? In the last one month he had annoyed me many times entering the room when I would be in the middle of changing clothes. Then what got to him today? I could not stop myself from asking this from him,

“Since when did you learn manners Karan?”

“Hmm.... What?” Karan asked in confusion.

“Manners Karan! This has to be the first time you had knocked the door in the last one month.”

“Not one month, I guess this is the first time in last 200 years that I knocked the door, as mom dad can always sense me out and so open the doors before I can knock”, he replied casually.

“Wow! I am impressed. Anyway, I am all set, so can you drop me to the hostel now?” I asked him

“Nope. I will drop you tomorrow” He replied.

“Why?”

“Because we have a party in your get well celebration tonight, so you will be staying here tonight as well” he replied with a smirk.

“What?? Are you out of your mind? Why do you need to throw a party for this?” I was furious.

“Well, to show off the world, how much Singhania care for their son’s girl friend.” He replied in a bored tone.

“And what about you? Do you really want to celebrate this?” I was suddenly curious to know his reply.

“Well I am definitely happy that I would finally get to sleep in my own bed” he replied in a naughty manner.

“What??? Who asked you to bring me here in the first place?” I threw a pillow at him in fake anger as I knew he was just teasing me; and he smoothly caught it in his hands and laughed. Oh dear, his laughter always do strange things to me.

“You know I was joking Tarana. Anyway get ready for the party”, he told me and left.

I was suddenly conscious. I did not have any clothes to wear for such a high class party. I only had one party dress which I wore in Tani's party. What was I supposed to wear for this party which was supposedly in my honor? I was sitting nervously on the bed when Karan returned with a big bag and a small box in his hands and handed them over to me.

"What is this?"

"Your party dress and accessories"

"What, no Karan I can't take it..", I was feeling embarrassed.

"Why Not? Can't a friend buy a gift for his friend?"

"Yes, but"

"Uff, you think too much, now just go and change and come down fast. Everyone is waiting for you, and if you don't come down in 10 minutes, then I will come and help you change myself"

He made the last comment with a wink making me blush. He left and I opened the bag to see a beautiful mauve color dress inside with beautiful earrings and necklace. I quite liked his choice and dressed myself up and went downstairs for the party. As I descended the stairs, I found the complete house fully dark without any light. I got scared thinking if it was some sort of a joke. I hesitantly put my foot on the last stair and just then something burst over my head. I was about to scream when I noticed myself covered in glitter stars. Just then the lights were switched on and everybody shouted

"Happy Birthday"

Karan's perspective

I was experiencing mixed emotions when the day for Tarana to leave my house had come. I was of course sad as I had gotten used to her presence, her fighting and her love. But I was also a bit relieved that I won't have to keep my own emotions and desires under 24 hours supervision as they always seem to run astray in her presence. I was walking to my room in this

confused state when I read her mind and found out that today was her birthday and that she had not celebrated it for 12 years. My heart once again went out to her, to think of a sweet angel being denied even such small happiness in life. I immediately went and requested mom to arrange for an impromptu birthday party and myself called Tani and asked her to invite everyone for the party.

I then went to my room to inform her of the party and while leaving the room I found that Tarana was confused about what to wear as she did not have a party dress. My emotions were choking me to think that here was I who has much more money than I ever needed and there is she, my love who cannot even afford to buy small luxuries. I went at my super fast speed and bought a dress and matching accessories for her and then emotionally blackmailed her to wear them and threatened to do something naughty if she does not wear it. Even in the darkness my vampire eyes could see the angel in mauve descending the stairs of my house and lighting up the darkness with her sunshine. As planned, the balloon overhead the last stair busted on her and glitters and stars fell on her making her shine even more.

Tarana's Perspective

I could not believe it. Karan had actually organized a surprise birthday party for me. But when did I tell him that it was my birthday. Oh, stupid me! He must have read my mind when I was having a heart-talk with mumma's picture. Wow! I never imagined that someone someday will surprise me like this and give me so much happiness. But my Karan has done that for me. After 12 long years, I was celebrating my birthday. Happy tears came to my eyes, but before they could drop from my eyes, Karan was standing in front of me asking for my hand to escort me. I happily placed my soft hand in his masculine hand and he escorted me to the table where a huge chocolate cake was placed. I could not believe that I could be so lucky to celebrate

my birthday in such a grand way. I looked around and found my whole college gang there including Tani and Rocky of course and even Mini who was clearly burning in jealousy. I cut the cake and when the time for feeding the first bit came, a naughty idea came to my mind and I forced a bite of the cake down Karan's throat who had the most horror-struck expression on his face. Even Kiara aunty could not help but laugh at this naughty act of mine while Ajay uncle just shook his head. Karan tried to bravely swallow the cake piece giving me murderous looks and I could not help but laugh while Tani came and asked me what the joke was all about. We both steadied ourselves and said nothing and before Tani could ask further, Kiara aunty asked the DJ to play the music and pushed all us youngsters to the dance floor. Karan and I opened the dance swaying to a beautiful romantic number. We were completely lost in each other's eyes during dance. The world around us had ceased to exist. It was just him and me and none else around us. I could clearly see love for myself in his eyes which he always keeps denying.

Karan's perspective

Dancing once again with her was doing serious damage to me. Whenever we come so close, the world seems to vanish for me. I can only see her deep brown eyes and the oceans of love for me in those eyes. During the dance our bodies kept pulling each other closer. This proximity had driven me insane. I could no longer control my desires. My face was just a breath away from hers. And her breath was caressing my face. Her juicy red lips were inviting me and I could no longer control myself. Finally my desires took over me and my mouth hungrily took in her juicy red lips. And I experienced my first ever kiss.

I could not believe myself. How could I lose control and kiss her? That too in front of almost the entire college gang and my parents! But that is what happens whenever I am in close proximity of Tarana. I lose my perspective, my senses and

myself around her. Now what? Now she will be more stubborn than ever to not let go of me. I have never really been able to keep her away from myself. To be honest I have never really tried hard. The best thing to do would have been to hurt and insult her so badly that she would have stayed miles away from me and remain safe. But no, I could never bring myself to do that. What am I thinking? I could not even tolerate someone else insulting her and that has started this whole drama in the first place. Now I was already in too deep. I have messed up big time. But there is nothing else I could do about it. Tarana's pain hurts me and I cannot rest till I have healed her. Be it emotional pain or physical, but I cannot see her in any pain. And her one smile fills my dark life with sunshine. My mind was going through an emotional turmoil when I was dropping Tarana off to her hostel next day. Soon we reached her hostel and I helped her take her stuff back to her room. Just as I was about to leave her at the gates, she placed a soft kiss on my cheeks and said "Thanks for Everything, Karan!"

Tarana's Perspective

I could sense Karan going through his emotional turmoil all throughout the drive. He had lost himself to his heart's desires last night. But his mind was still in denial. I knew that he loved me, but he did not want to admit it. He thinks our love is against nature, but who has ever been able to set any limits on love? After the party got over, Karan had stayed outside the house for whole night and returned only in the morning to drop me off. He was silent throughout the drive, but just when he was about to leave me, I decided to talk to him. I first gave him a small peck on the cheek and then asked him to spend the day with me. He was reluctant, but I had missed all the fun during this one month and so I forced him to take me out for a movie. I did not want him to return back to his old silent broody self and his "stay away missions". He finally had to give in and we went to see a romantic comedy as I so wanted to see him laugh.

Karan's perspective

She forcibly took me to watch a romantic comedy flick. Why can't I ever say no to her? I had not been to a theatre to watch a movie since ages. The movie was nice and it did manage to tickle a few funny bones. I can't really remember the last time I had laughed so freely. I saw Tarana staring at me with love-filled eyes and I became conscious again, but she just came closer to me and slid her arm in my arms and rested her shoulder on my head. I don't remember a thing about the movie after that as her closeness was affecting me big way. She was so happy to be with me and I did not want to take that happiness away from her. And so, I just sat there with her holding her soft hands.

6 months later

Tarana's Perspective

Today was Valentine's Day and the whole college was decorated in Pink. Back in Mumbai, I had often seen my cousins getting ready for this day in a big way and I have often wondered if ever I would have that someone special in my life. And now that I do have, he is still in denial mode. It has been 7 months that we have been together, but he still keeps insisting on being just friends, though we both know how much we love each other. No matter how hard I try to convince him, Karan keeps telling me that our love is against nature and that we have no future together. Sometimes I feel so frustrated. But today, I decided to keep every such thought away and celebrate this special day with my love, my Karan.

As expected he was studying in library. I snatched away his book and demanded him to come outside. He said he is not interested in this madness, but I was not ready to listen and just dragged him outside the library. As soon as we reached the library door, we were caught by the college gang who insisted that we take part in the Valentine Day Celebrations. Karan had

no option but to agree. That day I walked through the college holding Karan's hand and it was a beautiful feeling. We participated in fun games and couple dance and at the end of the day we were voted as the best couple of the college. I was on 7th heaven. And I could see that Karan too was happy to see me happy.

As I reached college next day, I was told that an inter college dance competition is coming up soon and we need to meet our new dance instructor. I asked Karan to join, but as usual he said he is not interested. I decided to teach him a lesson this time and so went to the auditorium alone. The dance instructor was a young guy, just out of college. The instructor was making pairs and I was left alone. He asked who would be my dance partner and I told him that he would be joining later. He suggested that meanwhile he will act as my partner to show the dance steps to the others. I knew this was a sure shot way of driving Karan mad, and so agreed readily. I began dancing with the instructor and other students were copying our moves. One such move required the guys to hold their partners from waist, pull them closer, twirl them around and then lift them up. I was feeling uncomfortable doing such steps with the teacher but just then Karan arrived and so I decided to play on giving fake smile and giggling so that Karan burns in jealousy. And indeed I got the desired effects. I could see Karan burning furiously in jealousy. If eyes could kill, my instructor would have surely fallen dead by now. But suddenly, Karan just left the hall. I was shocked. I had expected him to act possessive and pull me away, but he just walked like that. I stopped dancing and excused myself to run after Karan. I found him in the corridor and called him, but he turned back all angry and shouted at me:

“Why are you following me?”

“Karan.. Karan I...I” I had not expected Karan to get mad at me.

“What, you have no words, right? How can you have? You always keep pretending that you cannot be happy without me,

but I just saw with my own eyes how happy you were without me, then why all this drama?”

I could not believe that Karan was reacting like this.”Karan what are you saying? He is just a teacher and I was just trying to...”

“Trying to explore options, right.. well good for you” Karan replied angrily cutting me in between.

“No Karan! Please trust me”, I pleaded

“Trust?? You??? Not anymore Tarana. This is it. You and I are over. I can’t stand you for a single moment now. That’s why I am leaving Shimla tonight.” He told me angrily.

The Earth seemed to have vanished away from below my feet. I pleaded with me to hear me out, but he just refused and walked away. I ran after him, but I could not match his vampiric speed. My one innocent prank had turned my world upside down. I fell to the ground just before the college gate. Karan had already left.

Chapter 7 – A Haunting Past

Karan's perspective

I hated myself for doing this to her, but I had to do it. She loved me despite of what I am. She accepted me with my truth, she fought with myself to get me, but I broke her heart so miserably. I cannot forget the sight of her pleading me, almost begging me to stay. She was begging my forgiveness. Forgiveness!! For what?? She had done nothing. It was I who had broken her heart. It was I who pulled her into my dark world and put her life in danger. The danger which was now threatening to take her life. And that is why I had to leave her for her own safety. I would never be able to forget her, but this is the best thing for her. Maybe she would forget me like a nightmare, she will move on. Find a good guy for herself, get married to him and have his kids. Aarrghhhh... this very thought is killing me. Someone else touching my Tarana. The very thought make me feel like murdering that unknown person. But I will have to control myself. I will have to leave her life forever now. I have no other option. The superiors have come to know about our relationship and they were threatening to kill her if I don't move to another city and break-off all ties with her.

And if that was not enough reason for me to kill myself, there was also my past which has refused to leave me in peace ever. My evil brother Gautam had traced me down to India and was dangerously close. He had already reached India and would reach Shimla soon unless I leave Shimla and stop him in India itself. I cannot risk him coming to Shimla and spotting Tarana. If he ever came face to face with Tarana, all hells will break lose. He would not waste a single minute in destroying her. I can not let that happen. It is not her fault that she looks like Vaidehi, the girl to whom we both were attracted to. And because of whom

my brother started hating me so much. The three of us had died in the fire but mom dad had saved me and my brother by turning us. It was too late to save Vaidehi as she had already died. Little did we know that after becoming a vampire, his hatred towards me would only increase. He refused to accept our clan rules and chose to lead a path of rebellion and of evil. From just a brother hater, he became a man-eater, a human-blood sucking vampire. And he vowed to never let me live in peace. Wherever we went he would find some way of getting us in trouble. He is sure to do the same thing here. But this time I cannot afford to lose Tarana. And so instead of letting him come to me, I decided to myself go to him and face him. This time I would end this for once and for all so that Tarana can live peacefully without any danger hovering over her.

Kiara's Perspective

I could very well understand the pain my son was going through. After 200 years of loneliness he had finally found his true love, his soul mate. But tonight for her own safety, he has to leave her. I had tried to reason with him to tell her the truth and not break her heart like this. I was sure that together we three can easily deal with Gautam and superiors also we will be able to reason with later on. But he was adamant that if he tells Tarana the truth then she will insist on accompanying them and not let him leave. He also thought that by hurting her like this, she would try to move on in her life with a good human being and forget him and his dark life. But somehow, I felt that this would never happen. I had seen the love and devotion Tarana had for Karan. I was sure that no matter how much he hurts her, she would always love him. It was almost like she was born to love him. She may die, but would not be able to love anyone else ever in her life. But, I was all alone in this matter. Ajay was supporting Karan in this matter. According to him, we vampires have no place for human emotions in us. But he was forgetting that we too were still humans, even if we were living dead. But nobody was ready to listen to me. For the first time in my

existence I felt so helpless. I had no choice but to follow them. I left the matters to fate. I was sure that Karan and Tarana were soul mates, and if they were, they will come together again no matter how far we go or what we do. With that belief in my dead heart, I left this Shimla city along with Ajay and Karan.

(Back in Shimla)

Tarana's Perspective

I was frozen to the ground life-less. I still could not believe that Karan has left me. I did not know when and how I reached my hostel or who brought me there. I remained seated on my bed like a lifeless corpse. I had no life left in me. It has gone away with Karan. Someone was shaking me vigorously. I don't know who. I heard someone calling out: *"Tarana, Tarana!! What happened?"* But I had no life in me to answer. I felt ice cold water falling over me but I could not respond to that also. Then I heard another voice saying, *"let's call Karan, maybe he can help."* Karan's name made me more attentive. The previous voice, I think it was Tani responded, *"I have been calling him, but his phone is constantly switched off"*. They again shook me up and asked me *"Tarana, Do you know where Karan is?"*

"Gone!!" I replied in a dead voice.

"What do you mean?" they asked again

"He left me. He thought I was cheating on him" and that's when a flood of tears came to my eyes and I don't know till when I kept crying.

A month passed with me living in a zombie state. Tani had taken me to her house and since I had no life left in me, it made no difference to me. I saw Kusum aunty taking care of me but she was always cautious about leaving me and Mr. Agarwal alone. Koel was initially sadistically happy to see me in this state, but after a while developed sympathy towards me. But I was almost a living dead myself. Ever morning Tani would come to my room to wake me up only to find me sitting in a corner of the bed the

way she would have left me previous night. She would then push me to bathroom and even fill bucket for me. This would always remind me of Karan and mechanically I would have a bath, change clothes and then go to college with Tani. The tomboyish Tani could care so much for someone was something no one had thought.

One day I was as usual sitting in my room lifeless when Tani entered and shouted:

“That’s it Tarana. Enough. How long are you going to live like a zombie. He did not even gave you a chance to explain yourself and here you are still lost in him. Get a life Tarana. And I know what you should do. You are joining Koel’s new office as an intern.”

I tried to protest, but Tani was not ready to listen. Koel too supported her and said:

“Tani is right Tarana. Diverting your mind to work really helps. It helped me get over the betrayal by Manish. I am sure it would help you too. Besides my boss is a big flirt, and no one can remain sad or serious in his company. But just be careful around him, ok.”

Her phone suddenly rang and she left, and Tani told me that actually Koel has a huge crush on her boss. Finally they both managed to convince rather force me to join this new office and I agreed heartlessly.

Srinagar, Kashmir

Karan’s Perspective

I have been here for a month, and had many face-offs with Gautam in night. He says that like good old vampires, he sleeps in a coffin during daytime, but I am not buying that argument. I know he is up to something. He disappears from the town every day but can be found every night. There has been a rise in strange death cases here which proves that Gautam remains

here at least in the night. But then what is he up to during day time and why can I not trace him? I need to find answers really bad. I am going to confront him tonight again. He was stalking a teenage girl and I knew he was going to kill her tonight, but I stopped him before he could attack her.

"Well, little brother! So you are messing up with me again?"
Gautam asked me audaciously.

"Why are you here? And where do you disappear to in day time?" I asked again.

Gomz: Don't you get tired asking same question again and again. I think I should at least tape record my responses. Answer to your first question: You very well know: To make your Life Hell. Answer to second one: I sleep in my coffin.

"I know you are lying with this sleeping in coffin thing."

Gomz: Well then find the truth out for yourself.

"Of course I will"

Gomz: Good Luck with that.

He went away and I was furious. I was getting desperate to know what he was up to. He was definitely planning something deadly and I did not have the slightest idea of what he was up to. I followed him and saw him entering his house just towards dawn break. The whole day I remained hidden protecting my scent through a shield to see where he goes, but I never saw or even sensed him leaving his house. His house was shielded with some charm and so I could not enter the house to find out what exactly he was doing in the day time. He came out of his house only in the night. I told about this to Mom Dad and they were also confused.

The most confusing thing was that till now Gomz had done nothing against me or Mom-Dad. And that convinced even more that he was surely pulling up a dangerous plan. But what? That remained a question.

Gautam's Perspective)

What a pity? Karan underestimates me so much. What does he think that if he would come to meet me here, then I won't guess that he is hiding something or someone precious in Shimla. I have my own sources right in the superiors' den. I know that some human girl has caught your fancy, little brother and I am curious to know what does this human has that made you suddenly forget Vaidehi after 200 years. Tarana, that's what her name is, right? Well I will soon find her out little brother. While you stay here trying to find out what I am up to during day, I cleverly escape to my office in Shimla through a tunnel in my house and I have finally found out about your Tarana and tomorrow she is joining my office itself. Lets' see Tarana, what are you? And how did you manage to shake my little brother?"

Chapter 8 – Entering the Dark World

I joined Koel's office next day. My meeting with her boss was in the after noon. I had no interest in meeting anyone, but I was mechanically carrying out what others expected me to do. In the morning Koel gave me a brief about what I would have to do. Basically it was just some data entry job. In the afternoon Koel took me to her boss cabin. He was sitting with his back towards her. While still not facing me, he started talking to me:

"Welcome to my office Tarana. Koel told me a lot about you. Hope you have a good time here"

"Thank you Sir." I said in a weak voice.

Gomz: Are you feeling all right Tarana? You sound so weak.

Koel: Gomz, I told you about her depression na?

Gomz: Oh Ya, but what a jerk your boyfriend was!!

I was already hating this new boss. Who is he to comment on Karan without even knowing him? But the thought of Karan brought another flood of tears to my eyes and I fought with them to stop them from running out of my eyes. Just then, my new boss turned to face me and the moment he saw me, his jaw dropped in shock and he just stood up with a jerk and mumbled "How?" Both me and Koel looked at him confused and asked, "What?" But he composed himself and just brushed it off and asked Koel to explain me the work properly. I was confused by the sudden shock he had on seeing me. But then Koel pulled me away from there to explain the details of work. While explaining, I noticed how she was constantly looking towards Gautam Sir's cabin's direction. That she liked him was clearly visible. She was rediscovering happiness after Manish's betrayal. Will Karan also be doing that? Will he also move on and forget me? Will he too find happiness elsewhere? The very thought killed me. Why did he do this to me? He did not even give me a chance to explain myself. "Please Karan, please come back to

me. Please give me one more chance“. *I pleaded in my heart again and then absorbed myself in work. As the day was about to end, I started picking my stuff to get ready to leave. Just then boss came and asked or rather ordered me to join him for dinner. I tried to refuse but he was adamant.*

Gomz: Oh Come on Tarana. How long are you going to drown yourself in your idiot ex-boyfriend’s memories? It’s time you move on and enjoy life. I am sure that idiot must be doing the same without you.

I was really mad at him and told him clearly:

“Please Sir. I would prefer if we keep our interaction strictly professional.”

Gomz: Of course Tarana and that is why I am asking you to come with me for dinner as I have some important matters to discuss with you.

“We can discuss them in office Sir. Besides, I can hardly help you as I have no idea about business. I am a science student.”

Gomz: But you can help me as a consumer. I am planning to introduce a new product line and I want to discuss its potential with you. So now no more talks and come with me.

God, how pushy he was. I had no intention or interest to go out with him and he was just forcing me to do that. I saw Koel giving dagger looks to me and I felt so bad and helpless. I stopped to tell her what happened, but Gomz did not let me stop and forced me to accompany him. Without any interest I sat in his car and he took me to a new fancy restaurant and ordered food himself. While we waited for food I asked him why exactly he brought me here to which he sheepishly replied:

“Actually Tarana, I wanted to discuss something personal with you. You see I have fallen head over heels in love with a girl at the first sight itself, but don’t know how to impress her. So I was wondering if you could help me.”

“Who is she?”

Gomz: actually she is someone really close to you.

“Koel!!” I exclaimed. I was relieved. Hopefully now she will be able to get true love in her life. “Wow. Of course I will help you”

Gomz(in his head): eww.. how can she think that a hot guy, oops vampire like a fatty like Koel. She is good as a meal only. But if Tarana is ready to help me in supposedly impressing Koel, then that’s good for my schemes. This way I can make Tarana trust me so that I can put my plan in action. Finally my centuries old wait seems to be coming to an end. I will finally be able to get what I have been waiting for 200 years.

(to Tarana): Yes Tarana. I actually like Koel a lot. But I am not sure if she feels the same way for me. I know she is attracted to me, but I don’t want to push her to anything. I understand what she has gone through in the past. So will you help me in winning her heart.

“Of Course I will”.

I was surprised at this. Maybe I was wrong in judging him earlier. But then I can’t tolerate anyone saying anything wrong about my Karan. Karan!! The very thought of him again drowned me in his memories. Gautam snapped his fingers in front of me to get me out of my memories. I asked him if he could leave now and mercifully he agreed.

Next few days passed like that. I was helping Gautam in impressing Koel as a result of which I had to spend too much time with him and Koel was not liking it. Gautam had made me promise that I won’t tell anything to Koel as he wants to surprise her, but all this was too confusing for me. I mean how on Earth was he going to impress Koel by spending time with me? This was only irritating Koel like hell. But then, maybe the final surprise will make her really happy. I had no idea. My only experience with relationship was always going to be Karan whom I lost because of my foolishness. Who am I to find faults in others’ plans? Karan’s thoughts once again brought fresh tears in my eyes. Just then Gautam came and said that we are going to have a live press conference in a hotel. I was scared and

expressed my doubts about handling it, but he assured me that he would just need my assistance there.

(Gautam's POV)

Tonight was the full moon night. The night to put my plan into action. But what is the fun in carrying out my plan without showing it off to my darling little brother. What a moronic fool he is to comfortably leave Tarana under my care? Now it's time to teach him who the boss is. But before I take the first step of my deadly plan, I would love to rub it in his face about what I am upto. Let's see how he reacts to see his precious Tarana in my company. This press conference is just my way of throwing a challenge to my little brother to see and guess the danger Tarana is in and try to save her if he can. But I know he won't be able to as I have a fool-proof plan.

(addressing Tarana): Tarana, after this conference I am planning to propose Koel. I have chosen the perfect place for her. Will you help me decorate it?

Tarana: Sure Sir.

Srinagar

Karan was carelessly flipping through TV channels while still trying to make sense of Gautam's disappearances when his eyes caught Gomz on TV. He was shocked to know that Gautam was in Shimla, the very town he had left to stop Gautam from reaching there. Karan called out Ajay and Kiara and they too were shocked to see Gautam on TV. Just then Gautam asked Tarana to hand over a file to him and the camera focused on Tarana. Karan, Ajay and Kiara were hell shocked to see a meek and weak looking Tarana sitting besides Gautam. Karan was really going mad:

"What is this Mom? How is this even possible? I left Shimla to keep Tarana safe, but he reached there and even had Tarana

working for him? Is this where he used to disappear to every day? But, How?

Ajay: The question is not How Karan? But Why? Why has Gautam chosen tonight to reveal himself? And why did he choose Tarana to take to this conference?

“What do you mean Dad?”

Ajay: Tonight is a full moon night. And if a vampire bites a human on 3 consecutive nights, then that human also becomes a vampire.

“No!!! Does that mean he is going to turn Tarana? No ways! I will never allow this. I will stop him.”

Ajay: Don't be a fool Karan. That is what Gautam is hoping for. And that is why he gave this conference to lure you into trouble. “I don't care Dad. I need to go and save Tarana. I cannot let anything bad happen to her. And I am sure your superiors too will not disapprove of this. I have to go and I will not listen to anyone.”

Kiara: Why Karan? Why do you want to go and save her?

“What kind of question is that mom?”

Kiara: No, I want to know, why do you want to save her? To break her heart again? And what will you do once you have saved her? Leave her again at the next instant of danger, using the same excuse of this being the best thing for her? Tell me Karan!! I don't know if you noticed it or not, but I could clearly see what your leaving has done to Tarana. She has lost herself. Did you by any chance see how pale she has become? She is almost like a zombie Karan. If this is how you want her to spend the rest of her life, then it would be better you leave her to her fate. Who knows Gomz may just end up killing her like so many other humans he kills. Death would be far better for her than this lifeless existence.

Mom!!! How can you say like that? Have you lost your mind?

Kiara: no, its you who needs to get some mind. Can't you see what you have done to her by leaving her? She does not deserve this Karan. What is her fault? That she loved you despite knowing who you are! If today she is in this danger, then it's because you chose to leave her rather than tell her the

truth and keep her safe with you. If you are planning to leave her again, then there is no need for you to go and save her. Save her only if you are willing to mend your ways and forget this “I am a monster, she is an angel” attitude of yours.

“I don’t know all that mom, but right now I don’t have time to argue. I need to leave”

With that I ran through the forest to reach Tarana. I tried connecting to her mind to know where she was, but something was blocking me. I tried to focus hard and realized that she was blocked with silver chains. So, that was what Gautam had done to keep her out of my reach since a vampire cannot touch silver without going through unbearable burning pain. I frantically tried to call her, but her phone was switched off. I was getting desperate. I called up Tani to ask if she knew where Tarana was but the moment she heard my voice, she started abusing me.

Tani: You moron! Idiot! Why have you called now? Why did you leave like that without giving Tarana a chance to speak? I will kill you for doing this to my best friend. Do you have any idea how lifeless she has become since you left. She hardly eats anything. She keeps crying throughout the night.

“Tani, Stop! Please tell me where Tarana is? It’s really urgent.”

Tani: She went to some conference with Koel’s boss.

“But, the conference got over long back”

Tani: then I don’t know. Wait, here’s Koel, maybe she knows. Hey birdie, do you know where Tarana is?

Koel(irritably): Yes, she just messaged me saying she is near Kurter Corner in the forest. Isn’t that amazing?

I disconnected the call and rushed to Kurter Corner where I saw Tarana standing inside a decorated place fenced with silver chains.

Tarana’s Perspective

I could not believe what I saw. My Karan has returned. Was I dreaming or was he really here? He called out my name and I felt alive again. Happy tears ran through my eyes and I rushed out to meet him, when a hand on my shoulder stopped me.

Gomz: Where are you going Tarana?

“Sir, Karan! He has come back for me!” I could not control my happiness

Gomz: That’s good, but you should not forgive him so easily, and he does not seem a good guy to me.

I was irritated and replied: Please Sir, let me go

Gomz: If he truly loves you then let him come to you

I saw Karan approaching me slowly with the same love in his eyes which I saw for myself. But then suddenly his expression changed from love to horror. He was scared of something and he rushed to me fast and broke the silver chains with his bare hands and ignored the burn which they caused to his hands. Before I could understand anything, I saw his eyes changing color and his fangs came out. Before I could even gasp, I felt his fangs sharp on my neck and in a moment I lost consciousness.

Karan’s Perspective

I saw Gomz had his fangs out and he was about to bite my Tarana. I had no choice and no time. If Gomz would have bitten her, she would have become a puppet in his hands and he would have made her an evil vampire like himself. The only thing I could do at that moment was to bite Tarana myself and save her from turning to darkness. Without thinking again, I rushed to her. I punished myself for what I was about to do by burning my hands with those silver chains and then before Gautam could guess what I was up to, I bit her. Mom was right. By separating her from myself, I exposed her to much more dangers. I had made some serious mistakes in my life and now was the time to correct them all.

Karan was sitting besides a tree having an unconscious Tarana lying in his lap. He was cursing his fate for making him a cursed creature and also playing this ridiculous game of making an angel like Tarana fall for a monster like him. Why has destiny given Tarana the same face as Vaidehi? Destiny has always been cruel to him. First it had snatched away his birth parents from him when he was just a child, but he has found his family in his big brother Gautam, but destiny made them fall for the same girl and then ruin the sacred bond of two brothers to such an extent that it ended up killing both of them and getting this cursed life instead. But even death could not change the evilness which had taken over Gautam and it just intensified after he became a living dead. For 200 years, Karan had lived a lonely life. Though Ajay and Kiara were always there with him, he still had always felt lonely and could never really accept them as a family. Forget about family, he never really could come to terms with his own meaningless existence till Tarana had come into his life and made him feel loved. She had dared to love him despite knowing that he was a vampire, she had given him hope though he has always fought against it. But tonight, his curse has passed onto this beautiful angel too and she was lying in his lap on the verge of losing herself to the darkness, and all this because she dared to love a vampire.

Slowly Tarana was gaining consciousness, and Karan got nervous as to what he's going to tell her. He finally decided that the time to hide secrets from her is now gone. Enough damage has already been done and hiding the truth longer will only push Tarana towards more danger. Tarana slowly opened her eyes and felt pain throughout her body. She looked at a guilty-faced Karan crying while looking at her fragile body.

Tarana gathered enough strength to ask: Why Karan? Why did you do this? What happened there?

Karan: Tarana, I had no choice, if I had not bitten you then Gautam would have bitten you and you would have become a puppet in his hands.

Tarana: Gautam? Bite me? What are you saying Karan? I can't understand a thing Karan.

Karan: Tarana, I will have to tell you the whole truth now. I hid it from you and left you only because I was scared that Gautam would kill you if I stay with you, but tonight he proved that whether you know his truth or not, whether I am there with you or not makes no difference to him, and now that the damage has been done, it is only right that you should understand the whole situation now.

And Karan told his and Gomz's entire story to her.

Tarana: Why didn't you tell me this before Karan? You should have trusted me and we could have avoided all this damage. And think of Koel who is madly in love with an evil vampire who just wants to take revenge from an angel like you. And what about now Karan? Am I turning into a vampire now?

Karan: No Tarana. A human needs to be bitten consecutively on 3 full moon nights to turn a vampire. Right now, only your blood has been infected, but after the 3 full moon nights cycle, the venom will gradually start fading away from your blood and in 2 years you will be back to normal, but in these 2 years, you will have a complete telepathic connection with me and you will be able to hear all human's minds, though this will start fading after 3 full moon nights, but still with concentration, you would be able to. But besides me, you will not be able to hear any other supernatural's mind or recognize him/her completely, but you will be able to sense something wrong if a supernatural comes your way in his/her human form.

Tarana: Karan, I need you and your guidance in this journey. I am afraid I will lose myself if you are not there with me.

Karan: I know Tarana, and I cannot risk losing you. From now, I will be always there with you.

Tarana(smiling): So, we are a couple then?

Karan(smiling back): Yes, we are!

And Tarana entwined her fingers with Karan and drifted off to sleep in Karan's comfortable cozy lap, unaware and unbothered about the dangers awaiting them. They will face them together and they were sure of this.

Chapter 9 – Dangerous Waters

Koel was furious at receiving a cheesy message from Tarana. Tarana knew that she loved Gomz, but not only was she apparently on a date with him, but even had the audacity to tease her with a message telling her where she was with Gomz. She decided to confront both of them for playing with her emotions. She reached the spot which Tarana had shamelessly messaged her and found Gomz alone and apparently angry.

Koel: Gautam, what are you doing here?

Gomz: Koel, you should not have come here.

Koel: Oh yeah, sorry for disturbing you. Where is Tarana by the way?

Gomz: She is with Karan. (unknown to Karan and Tarana, Gomz had heard their entire conversation and so was now worried, how he will put his plan into action with Tarana now aware of his truth.)

Koel was confused about this but also relieved that Karan was back in Tarana's life leaving Gautam all for herself.

Koel: Gautam, are you in love with Tarana?

Gomz: What nonsense, I don't love anyone.

Koel: Not even me?

Gomz: No, I don't love anyone and I don't deserve to be loved.

Koel: What do you mean Gomz? Did Tarana hurt you? But I truly love you Gautam.

Gomz got up and grabbed Koel hard by her shoulders: I told you that I don't believe in love. Just stay the hell away from me. I am a monster.

Koel was upset to hear this, but was also slightly relieved that Gomz does not love Tarana. She had many questions playing in her head, but decided not to press it further, and left from the place and on her way back, she saw Karan and Tarana walking holding hand in hand and it further confused her, as to what

was happening. If Tarana was in love with Karan, what was she doing with Gomz? She was walking back home in this confused state, when someone forcefully pulled her towards him. Koel was shocked to see Manish manhandling her.

Koel: Manish, what the hell are you doing here? Just leave me.

Manish: Not so easily Koel. I tried to explain to you politely, but you did not listen, so now I will have to use force on you to make you mine

Koel (scared): W...What do you mean? Just leave me.

But Manish continued to manhandle her and Koel closed her eyes in fear and started screaming for help. Suddenly Manish received a strong kick which sent him flying in air. Koel opened her eyes to see a very angry Gomz, staring at Manish who has fallen a few feet away.

Gomz: How dare you touch Koel? I would kill you, if I see you anywhere near her.

Gomz was about to bare open his fangs and attack Manish, when Koel grabbed his arm to stop him: No Gomz, he is not worth it. Just leave him.

But, Manish had seen the changing color of his Gomz's eyes and so he was scared like hell. He flew from that place and from Shimla forever.

Gomz(angrily): Why did you stop me? I would have killed that B*****D.

Koel: Why Gomz? What wrong has he done to you?

Gomz: He dared to misbehave with you.

Koel: So??? What difference does that make to you? I am a nobody for you.

Gomz: I don't know. You are misunderstanding. I would have done that for any woman. I respect women and no woman deserved this kind of treatment.

Koel: If you are really like this then why do you call yourself a monster? Why do you think that you do not deserve anyone's love?

Gomz: You won't understand Koel, but it will be better for you to stay away from me.

Koel: Fine, but I want you to know that I love you, no matter what you are hiding from me.

With that she left and Gomz thought to himself: You don't know Koel what you just said. You will hate me when you come to know my truth. But, heck, I don't care, I know whom I love and I am waiting for her to return back to me and next full moon light I will make sure that I bring her back to me. Karan thinks he has ruined my plans, but what he does not know is that he never could really guess my plan. My plan is beyond his imagination and belief, and though Karan has just made it a little difficult for me by biting Tarana herself, but still he has helped me move closer to my plan.

The next 28 days passed with Gomz avoiding Koel like a plague, but she insisting on being a pile-on. Tarana tried her best to tell Koel that Gomz is not good for her but Koel only rebuked her. Icing on cake was Koel-Tani's Africa returned brother Vikky who had developed some unexplained and illogical hatred towards Tarana and was poisoning the whole Agarwal family against her. He was making them see how Koel already has one broken engagement thanks to Tarana and how she is now hell bent on keeping Koel away from the love of her life. The fact that Manish had cheated on Koel and that Gomz had no interest in her, was immaterial to Koel and she was irritated too much by Tarana.

One day she just snapped back: What is it to you Tarana? Can't you just be happy with your Karan? Why are you after me and Gomz?

Tarana: Koel, he is not good for you.

Koel: really? So now you will teach me what is good, bad, right and wrong? Or is it that being deprived of luxuries in your childhood, you now want to lure 2 millionaires to enjoy all the luxuries of the world.

Tarana was shocked and deeply hurt with these words, but before she could reply back to her, Karan shouted at Koel: How dare you talk to Tarana like this? Have you forgotten that it was because of her that your life was saved from getting ruined at Manish's hands?

Koel: Oh, so does that give her a right to keep on interfering in my life? First she goes out on a date with Gomz and teases me about it and now she is dating you and asking me to keep away from Gomz. I know her types. I am sure Gomz must have not shown any interest in her poor self and so she is bad-mouthing him. I hope you see light soon Karan.

Tarana was in tears and Karan could not take it anymore and took her away from there. He then scolded her: Why are you bothering so much about her? Look at how this family has always treated you. Your own father dumped you and your mom without even a second glance when you were just a kid, and now, he does not even recognize you. Even if he comes to know you are his daughter, he is not going to accept you as his reputation is more important than you. Look at his wife who despite knowing everything is denying your rights to you and look at this thankless Koel who instead of being grateful to you is showing attitude to you. Why do you bother so much about these people? They don't deserve it. As much as I hate Mini, at least she is right on this that you are no more than a charity case for Agarwals, so stop torturing yourself over them.

Tarana: but Karan knowing Gomz's truth, how can I let Koel endanger her life? She is my sister and Gomz is an evil vampire.

Karan: But Gomz is himself running away from her. He was using her till now to reach you, but now that you know his truth,

he does not need Koel to get to you. He is avoiding Koel himself and so you just relax and stop bothering about them because I can't see anyone insulting you like this. Besides, it is your life which is still in danger as Gomz may be planning to bite you again on the 2nd full moon night which is just 2 days away.

Tarana: But you said that it takes 3 bites to become a full vampire, so even if Gomz manages to somehow bite me this time, please ensure that it is you who gives me 3rd bite so that I can be yours forever.

Karan: shh.... Tarana, don't say like that. I don't want to give the darkness of my life to you. I will never let you become a vampire.

Tarana: I know Karan, but I just wanted you to know that it is ok by me. All I want is you and your love. And you are right. Agarwals were never my family and can never be my family. My family is with you Karan. I love you.

Karan: I love you too Tarana and will always love you till the end of this world.

Karan-Tarana shared a warm passionate hug and then walked hand in hand to Karan's house as Ajay and Kiara had now fully accepted Tarana after she showed so much trust and love in Karan even after getting bitten by him. They welcomed them whole-heartedly and the four of them spent a light evening, sharing family warmth and discussing how to avoid Gomz for the next 2 days.

It was decided that Karan would stay besides Tarana for the next two days like her shadow and if in any case she has to be without him even for a second, they would keep themselves linked through telepathy. Ajay and Kiara even suggested that Tarana should stay with them at the Singhania Mansion for the next two days, but Tarana did not want people to unnecessarily gossip about them. So she refused and she convinced them that she will take care and Karan will be always around.

On the other hand Vikky had suggested that Koel throw a youngsters party for Gomz and try to impress him with her hostess-ship. So, Tani called up Tarana to ask her to come to the Gomz's party, but Tarana refused saying she cannot come as she is not feeling completely well. But Tani was Tani, so on the party night which was actually the full-moon night, she went to Tarana's hostel with Rocky and they both dragged Tarana out to the party. Tarana mentally relayed to Karan that she has been dragged to Agarwal House party and that Gomz was also going to be there. Karan was tensed at this turn of events. He updated his parents about it and all of them were tensed that if Gomz had all of sudden agreed to be in the party and that too on the full moon night, then it means he is up to something. They asked Karan to leave for the party immediately and keep connected to them through telepathy. He reached Agarwal House just when Tani and Rocky were entering with Tarana. They were shocked to see Karan there as they still did not know that Karan and Tarana were back together again.

Tani: Hey, who invited you here?

Tarana(angrily): Tani, he is my Boyfriend. So he will be wherever I am.

Tani: ok ok take a chill pill. I didn't know that you guys were together again. Had I known, I would have myself invited him to the party. Now don't waste time standing here and let's go to the party.

In the party everyone was praising how nice Karan and Tarana look together and Koel was getting jealous as no one was praising her party efforts. Gomz noticed this and found his chance. He had already tipped the waiter to spike Tarana's drink. The drug was to start taking effect in a few minutes and all Gomz needed was to get Tarana away from Karan till then. He went to Koel and tried pushing her buttons:

Gomz: Koel, it's a really nice party that you organized, but this Tarana is stealing all your limelight. Who invited her and Karan here?

Koel: I know, Tani dragged them here.

Gomz: Then find a way to make her a laugh-piece rather than the star of the evening.

Koel: Yeah, you are right. I should do that. I will do that.

With that Koel went and deliberately collided with Tarana and spilled her drink on her dress.

Koel: oh I am really sorry Tarana.

Tarana: Its ok. (to Karan): I'll just go and clean myself up Karan.

Karan: Yeah, ok, but be careful.

Tarana: of course.

Tarana went to clean herself up and Koel forced Karan to have a dance with her. Gomz got his chance, he followed Tarana out and the moment Tarana stepped out of the hall, she lost consciousness and fell down. Gomz quickly lifted her up and rushed off from there.

Karan tried to connect to Tarana but was shocked to get no reply. He began searching for her frantically. He was asking everyone if they had seen Tarana. He looked around and saw that Gomz is also missing. Tani and Rocky asked him why he is looking so tensed.

Karan: because Gomz has kidnapped my Tarana and he's going to kill her.

Koel and Vikky overheard this and both shouted: What the Hell? How can you blame Gomz for this? Surely, your Tarana must have trapped the innocent Gomz. She is two-timing both of you and is only after money.

Karan (shouting): Just Shut Up. You don't even know what Gomz is.

Koel: Oh really, and you know what he is? So, tell me what is Gomz that you are so confident that he wants to kill your precious Tarana?

Karan shouted: He is an evil human-blood sucking vampire damn it!!

Everyone was shocked to hear this. Karan did not have time to wait for them to come out of their shocks. He went out and relayed the news to his parents who were furious at Karan for being careless. The only possible reason they could think of for Karan and Tarana's telepathy connection not working was probably that Tarana was unconscious. They had absolutely no clue where Gomz must have taken her. They had little time as in order to turn Tarana into a vampire Gomz had to bite her sharp at midnight and it was already 11:30 pm. There only hope was if Tarana gains consciousness before that time, then they can at least rescue her out from turning dark like Gomz. They had very little hope of Tarana remaining human now, and that was troubling Karan even more. They had been to Gomz's house, office to get any clue as to where Gomz might have taken Tarana, but sadly they could not get any clue. Suddenly, Ajay got a call from the superiors and what he heard shocked him.

Ajay: Superiors called. They were saying that some vampire had crossed the border line which was decided according to our treaty with the werewolves. I told them the truth. They have now asked us to stop Gomz at any cost and take care that Tarana does not cross over to the dark side or finish her off too.

Karan: What the hell. I won't let anything happen to Tarana. He has crossed that border, then I am sure he has taken Tarana to Vaidehi's old summer palace. We must stop him.

Ajay: Karan we will have to be careful. A vampire crossing that border means that the treaty is broken and the werewolves will be arriving soon and it will be a battle.

Karan: We will handle them later. Right now, we need to stop Gomz.

With that they all rushed towards the old palace but they were scared that they may be late as the distance was long and even

for their super natural speed, they would take 25 minutes to reach there and they had already wasted 3 minutes on the call, which meant that they had precisely 2 minutes to find and save Tarana. They were half way when Tarana regained consciousness and found herself in a dark old palace. Besides her was lying a coffin. She opened the coffin and was shocked to see inside it. She barely managed to stop herself from screaming and immediately connected to Karan. He too was shocked to hear what Tarana told him. He could not understand the meaning of it. He conveyed the picture to Ajay and Kiara and Ajay stopped in his tracks with an expression of absolute horror on his face.

Karan and Kiara: Why have you stopped? We don't have time. We have to save Tarana from being bitten by Gomz.

Ajay(in a dead voice): He is not going to bite her. His plan is absolutely different and also most deadly. (then immediately coming back to the situation): Come on, hurry up. We have to reach the palace before midnight at any cost. We can't afford to lose time.

Karan and Kiara were shocked and confused about what could be Gomz's plan which was deadlier than his biting Tarana. But they too rushed along with Ajay.

Chapter 10 : Betrayal and Danger Everywhere but Love Still Strong

Ajay explained Gomz's plan to Karan and Kiara while running and they both were equally shocked. Meanwhile, Tarana was shocked to see a mummified corpse of Vaidehi in the coffin. She was wondering why Gomz has preserved Vaidehi's corpse this way and what exactly is he planning to do with her, when she got a telepathy message from Karan asking her not to let Gomz shed her blood at all costs. Tarana could not comprehend what this meant and was wondering as to how is she going to fight Gomz alone when Gomz reached came from behind and said: *So thinking of fighting me, hunh... well you can't.*

Tarana: Why have you brought me here? What do you want? And why have you preserved Vaidehi's body like this?

Gomz: Questions, questions questions! You never get tired asking them, do you? I wonder how does Karan tolerate a question bank like you. But now that I am about to finish you off in a few minutes, so let me satisfy your curiosity. Well, even I did not know at that time as to why I preserved Vaidehi's body like that. At that time I just wanted to make a pyramid for her just like Egyptians. I did not know at that time that preserving her body like this, I had opened a gate for her return. A few years later I got to know that id a vampire chants certain chants and performs some rituals over a mummified body then the soul of that dead human gets trapped inside its body. Then that human can be converted into a vampire later provided one is able to find a look-alike human of that vampire. Then all that is needed is to contaminate that human's blood with vampire venom by biting him/her on a full moon night and then fed that contaminated blood to the dead human on the next full moon night. And that's exactly why I wanted to bite you that night. Not to turn you into a vampire, but just to contaminate your blood, so that I can use your blood to bring Vaidehi back. But

my work was done by Karan. It made the things a bit difficult for me, as you came to know about everything and also had I bitten you, then I could have easily controlled this absent brain of yours and it would have been easier to trap you, but nevertheless, I thoroughly enjoyed myself. Now I am just waiting for the clock to strike midnight so that I can feed your blood to Vaidehi and bring her back.

Tarana: But what will you get on Vaidehi's return? She only loved Karan and now also she won't support you.

Gomz(laughing): ahhh that's where both you and Karan are wrong my dear. Vaidehi never loved Karan. He was just a puppet toy for her, her slave who used to worship her beauty and she used to enjoy that worship by such a handsome man like my little brother. She needed that slave just for her carnal pleasures. Her one and only true love was always power. Yes, she was hungry for power. In fact, she was so greedy for power that she had already planned to get her own father murdered to rule the kingdom. I was fine by that, but I wanted to rule the kingdom along with her and I never could see her with my little brother. So, I informed Rajaji about Vaidehi Karunesh love so that he can kill Karunesh first and then Vaidehi can carry forward with her plans. But unfortunately for me, Vaidehi's rebellious streak overpowered her and she decided to free Karunesh to use her for pleasure later and Rajaji punished her for freeing Karunesh by setting her on fire and the three of us died in that fire. But Ajay and Kiara saved me and Karan and I went and preserved Vaidehi's body. And now, with your help Vaidehi will come back as a vampire, and not just any ordinary vampire, but the most powerful and the deadliest vampire. All humans and super naturals possess a soul which works independently from their heart and make the judge between right and wrong, good or bad, for us vampires, this soul is nothing but a burden and makes us weak. But the ritual that I performed made Vaidehi's soul completely under her control and so she will not have any weakness. She will do as she pleases and she will have such powers which would make her

more powerful than even our superiors and she will be almost invincible. As a human, she wanted to rule her small kingdom, but now she will rule the entire world. From princess Vaidehi, she will now become Queen Vaidehi and I will be her king Gautam. And once she gets to know that her favorite play toy Karunesh had dared to love some one else, she would just finish him off herself. (laughs evilly). Now, enough of increasing your history and supernatural General Knowledge and now time to bid farewell to you and welcome Vaidehi.

With that he brought out a knife from his pocket and slashed Tarana's wrist. He pulled her wrist towards coffin but just then Karan, Ajay and Kiara reached there and a fight started. With just one kick Karan sent Gomz flying out of the window in the jungle. He himself jumped out of it to follow him while Ajay, Kiara and Tarana too followed. Kiara healed her hand while they reached the jungle. They decided that they will burn Vaidehi's corpse soon after the fight.

Karan and Gomz were fighting in the air, when Gomz gave a kick to Karan and had him falling down to Earth. Tarana screamed in worry, but Karan managed to land on his feet and quickly grabbed a fallen tree branch. Gomz bared his fangs, as Karan was about to stake him, but just then Koel came in between. She had overheard Ajay, Kiara and Karan about Gomz taking Tarana to the old palace and had followed them. She begged Karan to spare Gomz's life. Everyone including Gomz was shocked at this.

Koel: I don't know, why I am doing this, but Gomz, even after knowing your truth, even after seeing your true identity, I still can't stop loving you. I know you don't love me, but I still cannot let you die.(to Karan): Please spare his life Karan.

Karan: Only on one condition, that he leaves this city right now and never ever meddle with our lives ever again.

Gomz who was too shocked to see Koel's love for a monster like him, started moving back and Karan, Ajay and Kiara decided to set Vaidehi's corpse to fire and set her trapped soul free. Just as they were moving towards the palace, the palace itself caught a fire and everyone was shocked including Gomz. He finally accepted defeat and left the city. Meanwhile Karan and Ajay decided to make sure that the corpse is indeed burnt, and Tarana got worried seeing the intensity of fire which was spreading. But Kiara assured that a vampire can easily enter and exit through fire and only standing for long in fire would pose any risk to a vampire. After a while, Karan returned saying that the part of the palace where Vaidehi's corpse laid was completely burnt down and its not possible even for him to reach there. They waited for Ajay to come back, but got tensed when he did not come for a few minutes. Just then Karan got a vision of Ajay lying unconscious near palace and all of them got shocked and scared to hear a sudden howling of wolves.

Kiara: Karan, the werewolves have arrived. Where is Ajay?

Karan: Dad is in trouble. I will go and find him. You take Tarana to home.

Kiara: No Karan, we all have to stay together, we don't know who they are and they can attack us from anywhere.

Karan: Ok, I saw dad behind the palace. Let us go there, but we have to be on our guard.

They all went to the back of the palace and found Ajay lying unconscious there and he was badly injured. Karan tried to heal him but Ajay would not respond.

Kiara: That means that the werewolves have reached here and have attacked Ajay. We need blood drop of a werewolf to cure Ajay and we have only 5 days to save him Karan. But we don't even know who those werewolves are or where they are.

Karan: Mom, here is an identification card and it is of someone from our college, but the picture and name are smudged. Maybe it belongs to one of those werewolves. I will have to find out.

Tarana: But what if they have deliberately put an innocent's ID card here?

Karan: Maybe, maybe not. We will have to find out. Let's take Dad home first.

They headed back to the Singhania mansion and Karan was unusually quiet. He had received two blows in the same night. One of the attack on his Dad and second was about his life's biggest betrayal. Through telepathy he had heard the entire conversation of Gomz and Tarana and so now knew that Vaidehi had never really loved him. He felt a fool now to have fallen for Vaidehi's evil charms and even die for her and then lead this cursed life. It seemed that his entire life and existence has been one big joke. As they reached Singhania Mansion and laid Ajay on his bed, Karan just could not take it anymore and broke down. Kiara and Tarana were distressed to see him in such a state but were feeling helpless about the situation. Kiara was equally stressed as on one hand her Ajay was lying in this state and on the other hand her son was feeling completely broken inside. Tarana did not know how to console them or give them strength.

Tarana(to Kiara): Aunty, please control yourself. Uncle will be fine soon. We will find that werewolf real soon.

Kiara: How Tarana? How will we find him? And look at Karan. I have never seen him so shattered. Vaidehi's truth has completely shaken him.

Tarana went to Karan and placed her hand on his shoulders and Karan broke down and started crying. Tarana tried consoling him like a baby, but he was very upset.

Karan: Tarana, why did destiny play such a cruel joke on me? My whole life and existence has been reduced to nothing more than a joke. The girl whom I loved so much, for whom I sacrificed myself, for whom I mourned for last 200 years, she never loved me. I was just a toy for her. I regret being born Tarana. My life, my death and my turning into a vampire, all are

cruel jokes of destiny. I cannot understand why I was born, why I died and why I became a vampire.

Tarana: For me Karan. For me. Yes Karan, whether you want to admit or not, but the fact is that destiny has made us for each other. I don't know what bet there was between Destiny and Nature that Nature made us so different from each other thus complicating our relationship. But the truth is that we were born for each other and you probably fell in love with Vaidehi only because your true soul mate was destined to look like her. But whatever may be the reason Karan, I only know this that we were always meant to be together and I cannot see you falling apart for that fake relationship. Forget your past Karan, and think about today. And you have to be strong Karan to save your Dad. It is because of the life that he gave you that we were able to meet Karan. We have to save him.

Karan finally got a little control over his emotions. Karan and Tarana headed towards college to find out about the owner of the card. The picture was smudged off but roll no. was clearly visible, which made Tarana even more suspicious that the owner of this card cannot be the attacker and the werewolves have deliberately mislead them. Nevertheless, through college records they found out that the card belonged to some new guy Jeet. Just as they were about to go in search of that guy, the principal made an announcement asking all of them to collect in the college assembly ground so that he can introduce the new sports coach.

Principal: Students, it is indeed this college's good luck that a vary talented sports person who also happens to be a business tycoon has graciously accepted to be our college's new sports coach. So I leave you guys to familiarize yourself with your new coach Mr. Ansh Kapoor.

Ansh started passing through each student to get introduced and as he passed though Tarana, she started feeling uneasy. She

could not really place what was happening to her, but suddenly she was feeling scared, tensed and as if she was in some danger. As soon as the intro session got over, Karan rushed to boys' locker room to confront Jeet, and Tarana ran after him to stop him. Karan found Jeet and started beating him and accusing him of attacking his dad. Jeet cried helplessly that he has reached Shimla just an hour back and asked him to check his tickets, but Karan still continued to beat him, while Tarana was trying to stop him. Soon, Ansh and Rocky also came and stopped Karan. They all got injured in that fight, but finally Tarana managed to stop Karan. Karan finally looked at Jeet's tickets and was shocked to see that he indeed arrived in Shimla only an hour back. He furiously went to his home with Tarana and went to Ajay's room. He was feeling helpless and he held his hand in despair in his blood stained hands. Just as Karan was about to leave the room, he observed motion in Ajay's hands. He cried out, that Jeet must have been lying as only a werewolf blood could make Ajay move, and he was about to get to Jeet again when Tarana stopped him.

Tarana: How can you be so sure that it is Jeet only. Remember there were three people there. Even if we rule out Rocky as we have known him for so long, we cannot possibly rule out the new coach Ansh.

Karan: Tarana, what makes you think it can be Ansh? We have nothing against him while all the evidences point towards Jeet.

Tarana: Those evidences are too obvious Karan and that's why they seem to be placed deliberately there to mislead us. Besides, I was feeling weird vibes from Ansh when he passed by me in the intro session, but I did not get any such vibe from Jeet. And you only told me that in presence of a supernatural, I would sense something wrong. And I sensed something wrong in Ansh's presence and not Jeet's.

Karan(confused): Really, then maybe what you are saying is right. But in that case how do we find out who is the real werewolf?

Tarana: Karan, we will think of something. We need to have a cool mind for that. Right now you need to rest and I'll also go to hostel and try to take rest. Maybe we will come up with something with a cool mind.

As Tarana started walking out of Singhania Mansion, Karan once again started feeling gloomy and sad. Kiara noticed it and called out Tarana.

Kiara: Tarana, can I request you something please?

Tarana: of course Aunty.

Kiara: Tarana, can you stay here?

Tarana: What aunty?

Kiara: Tarana, look at Karan. How stressed out and upset he is. Last night has left him completely shattered. It's only your love which is still holding him up. And I am too stressed out myself because of Ajay's condition, that I cannot make him feel better. He needs you Tarana, and so do I. Please for our sake, don't go to hostel and stay here with us.

Tarana: But aunty, what will people say? Last time when I stayed here for a month after Manish's attack people created so many rumors about us.

Kiara: Don't let that bother you now Tarana. People already know that you and Karan love each other and I promise as soon as Ajay gets well, we will get you engaged in a royal ceremony. But please stay with us Tarana. You are our only support at this time Tarana.

Tarana was touched by Kiara's emotions and she agreed to stay on in Singhania Mansion.

The moment Karan saw Tarana agreeing to stay at Singhania Mansion, his mood uplifted. A smile automatically spread across his face and as Tarana turned towards him to move inside the house, he spread his arms for her. Tarana was so happy to see him smiling and rushed in his arms. He embraced her tightly as if wind will blow her away if he releases his hold. Kiara asked Karan to show Tarana her room. Tarana was having

Goosebumps at the thought of living in such close proximity with Karan. Last time she stayed here was different as she was injured and Karan had still not openly accepted his love for her. But now that they were a couple, things had changed. Their desires have always carried them away whenever they have been close to each other, and now she was all set to living in the same house with Karan. The very thought was making her nervous about what could possibly happen, and so she did not realize that Karan read all her thoughts and a naughty mischievous glint came in his eyes. For a few moments he forgot all his troubles and just wanted to blossom in Tarana's love.

As they entered Tarana's new room, Karan quietly closed the door behind, while Tarana was appreciating the room. He then came and hugged her from behind. He embraced her with his hands around her waist and rested his chin on her shoulders. Tarana was surprised at this sudden romantic mood of Karan. Before she could respond, Karan started caressing her hair and neck with his lips. Tarana began losing herself in Karan's love and kisses and was going weak in knees. Karan moved Tarana to face him and gently held her face in his hands. He moved his face closer to hers and Tarana closed her eyes as Karan's breaths caressed her face. Karan saw Tarana's rosy lips and just could not stop himself nor did he want to. He placed a gentle kiss on her lips and Tarana parted her lips in anticipation. Karan could not help but smile at the effect he had on Tarana. It gave him a sensuous pleasure to see Tarana lose herself so much in his presence. He gently sucked her lower lips and then deepened the kiss. The lip-lock grew more passionate and neither Karan nor Tarana could control themselves any more. Karan started placing a trail of kisses down Tarana's neck while her hands played with his hair. Seeing her response, Karan's hands started exploring Tarana's curves and his kisses kept moving lower down her neck. Tarana pulled off Karan's jacket off him and that drove Karan crazier. He grew a little wilder and gently pushed her to bed and himself laid on top of her and

resumed his kissing session with his kisses and touches now growing wilder making Tarana completely lose her senses.

Karan was about to next step when suddenly Kiara entered the room. Karan had forgotten to lock the doors. Karan quickly got off the bed and Tarana too got up. Both were feeling too embarrassed. Kiara looked at them and then gave them a Know-It-All-Look and Grin. Both could not hide their embarrassment and kept looking at the floor sheepishly. In order to take them out of their embarrassment, Kiara decided to divert their attention and so asked Tarana: Tarana, you must be feeling hungry. What would you like to have? I don't know much cooking, but I can order it for you. Tomorrow we will go to the market and buy groceries for you.

Tarana: No aunty, you don't need to bother. I am not feeling hungry, really.

Kiara: Tarana, Karan is a vampire, so he can survive a few days on your love alone. But you are a human and you need your nutrition.

Karan and Tarana again felt embarrassed and were blushing. Kiara again gave them a sweet loving laugh and said she will order Pizza for Tarana. Saying this she went out of the room leaving the love-birds alone. Both Karan and Tarana were feeling too shy to say anything even to each other. They could not even look at each other. They were also feeling embarrassed at the thought that they had almost lost complete control and would have completely given into their desires just a few minutes ago, had they not been interrupted. Karan left the room bidding good night to Tarana and both went to sleep smiling in their love. Tomorrow is another day with another worry and they will face when it comes, but tonight, they decided to smile for their love and togetherness.

Chapter 11 – Another Love Story

Next morning Tarana woke up with a brilliant plan to find the werewolf and also get his blood. She quickly got ready and went to the main hall to discuss her plan with Karan and Kiara. Her plan was simple. They would organize a blood donation camp in the college and make it compulsory for all students and teachers. Karan and Tarana will themselves volunteer as helpers so that they can place the labels and collect the desired samples of the four suspects. (She thought of collecting Rocky's sample too just to be on the safe side.) Karan and Kiara were impressed by this plan, but they had doubts that the real culprit may change the labels in the collecting van. But, Tarana had already thought of that and explained how they would still have the correctly labeled samples with them. They were impressed by this simple plan, so they decided to go to college to ask for Principal's permission and then fix time with the Red Cross society to make arrangements for the blood donation camp.

The principal gladly gave them permission for this apparently noble cause, so they decided to proceed to make arrangements with the Red Cross Society. They were moving out, when Tani stopped them.

Tani: Hey Tarana, you have to come home in the evening today.

Tarana: Why?

Tani: What why? Do you need a reason to come to my house? But since you are asking so let me tell you that the new family in town, the Kapoors, have asked for Koel's hand in marriage for their son and our new coach Ansh and Mom is super excited about this. Mom was scared that after one broken engagement and another broken affair, no one will marry Koel. But when such a big family themselves approached us, she could not control her excitement and so she wants that this engagement should happen immediately. But Koel has still not forgotten that

evil vampire Gomz. So you please help us in giving her some brains.

Tarana: Sorry Tani, but I don't want to interfere in Koel's matters anymore. I tried to make her see sense many times during Gomz's time but she only insulted me in return. And how can I convince her for getting engaged to that Ansh, when I know nothing about him. I hope Tani that this time your Mom Dad have made proper enquiry. I mean Kapoor's are also new to this town and no one knows anything about them, so what's the guarantee that they would turn out to be good people?

Tani: Hello, who's going to explain all this to Mom? You know how she is. She is just super excited that such a rich and influential family wants to make Koel their daughter-in-law that she does not want to even think of any negative possibility.

Tarana(Rolling Her Eyes): Whatever Tani. I'm sorry, I cannot come.

Tani: What do you mean you can't come? You have to come. You are my Best Friend!

Tarana: Yeah and that's why you dragged me to that party where Gomz kidnapped me. Sorry Tani, I don't want to hurt you but that night in order to save me from Gomz's clutches Ajay uncle got injured, and so I have to help Kiara aunty take care of him. I am sorry I can't come with you.

Tani: Tarana, if you don't come yourself then I will take permission from the warden and drag you from the hostel.

Tarana: No use Tani, I don't stay in hostel anymore. I am living with Singhania's now at their house.

Tarana left a shocked Tani with her mouth-wide open and proceeded towards the Red Cross Society's office with Karan. They were happy that the authorities agreed to organize the camp next day itself. They went home with new hope where Kiara was waiting for them to go for grocery shopping. They went to the market and shopped a lot. In the evening, both Kiara and Tarana tried to make Pasta in the never before used

kitchen of the Singhania Mansion. But, since none of them had any idea about cooking, they ended up burning it badly. Karan could not help but laugh at their pathetic attempts at cooking. Thankfully at Karan's insistence, the ladies had agreed to buy bread and butter too, so that's what Tarana had for dinner. They decided they would need to buy recipe books too now.

Next morning, Karan and Tarana got ready early for the blood donation camp, though they were nervous, what will they do if Ansh refuses to be a part of the blood donation drive? They were doubtful that Principal would probably not force him as he was influential. They were worried about this as they entered the college, but it seemed like God was with them. Koel was waiting for Tarana with an apologetic face. As soon as she saw Tarana, she went to her and said:

"Tarana, I am really sorry for my past behavior. You only wanted to save my life from getting ruined again, but I was so rude to you. Yesterday, when you refused to come to my engagement, it was then that I realized how bad I have been to you. And see how I am being punished for my sins. I still love that Gomz though I now know how evil he is. But, mom dad had got me engaged to this Ansh whom I don't even know properly. Please Tarana, please say that you have forgiven me.

Tarana rolled her eyes but then a brilliant idea suddenly struck her. She said: Ok Koel, I may forgive you. But I have one condition.

Koel: anything Tarana, tell me what do I have to do?

Tarana: You have to get your latest fiancé Ansh to take part in this blood donation camp and donate blood. And you have to do this by hook or crook.

Koel: that's all? Then consider it done.

Tarana: thanks Koel, see you later.

Karan and Tarana hi-fived each other and moved to make the arrangements. The blood-donation camp started and Karan and

Tarana were volunteering by handing out syringes to the doctors and taking care of disposing the discarded syringes. The entire college, including Ansh, Rocky and Jeet were present and they all donated blood. Karan had been skeptical that the real werewolf would definitely change the labels on the blood bottles, and that is why Tarana had already planned for this. They had bribed the doctors to extract out a few drops of blood of these three guys in the syringe while puncturing their veins. Since Tarana was the one handing out the syringes, she had discreetly placed labels on these samples, and since Karan was collecting the discarded syringes, he had carefully pocketed the required samples.

As soon as the day got over, Karan and Tarana rushed home where Kiara was anxiously waiting for them. They showed her the three samples, and she could not help but smile. They tried the samples one by one waiting for five minutes after each sample, to see if there is any response from Ajay. Ultimately they tried Ansh's sample, and immediately Ajay responded. They fed him the entire sample and immediately Ajay opened his eyes and within a few minutes he was completely revived. They were now sure that Ansh is the werewolf. They updated Ajay about Kapoor's arrival and also the fact that Ansh has got himself engaged to Koel to which Ajay just twisted his neck and said:

It seems that Agarwals are on verge of bankruptcy because of Koel's eating habits and that is why they are in a hurry to throw her out of their house without bothering to do any background check on the groom's family. Anyways, what can we do about it? It is not our concern.

Kiara: But Ajay, Agarwals are the most influential family in Shimla and through this engagement Kapoor's want to cash upon their reach. It may create troubles for us.

Ajay: Don't worry Kiara. Now that we know of their identity, we can stay two steps ahead of them. We just have to keep our

eyes open for their every move and if possible, think of a way to break this engagement.

Now that Ajay was alright, Tarana suggested that she should go back to hostel now, but Kiara was completely against this idea and rather wanted to have Karan Tarana engagement now, so that Tarana can stay with them forever. They decided to have the engagement the next day itself, but Karan was scared.

Karan: but mom, Tarana's life can be in danger if she stays with us. Those werewolves will be after her too if she stays with us.

Kiara: Karan, I m sure that the whole Shimla along with all the werewolves know by now about your and Tarana's affair, so there's no use hiding. In fact to reach us, they may try to harm Tarana and so that way the safest place for Tarana under the circumstances is our home and with us.

Ajay: Kiara is right Karan. Tarana is your weakness and the werewolves will try to use it to their advantage. So, it is best that Tarana stays with us.

Karan: But what about superiors dad? If they come to know that a human is staying with us and that I am getting engaged to a human, they will kill her.

Ajay: That has to happen one day anyways Karan. And besides, thanks to Gautam, they are already aware of your and Tarana love story as well as the fact that she has stood by us even after you bit her. So, they are not bothered about your relationship as of now. But if tomorrow because of her, we get into troubles with the werewolves, then they will definitely like to kill her themselves, so choice is yours. Now I suggest you go and take Tarana out to some nice place for a date, while I discuss some important matters with your Mom. (he winked at Kiara who blushed).

Karan had no choice to agree though inside he too was extremely happy. Karan decided to take Tarana to a luxury hotel for their last date before their engagement. Tarana got dressed in a spaghetti strap top and a skirt. He booked a room in the

Hotel for himself and Tarana so that his parents could spend some alone time together. They first went to the hotel's restaurant where he treated Tarana to her favorite food. They then went to their room which Karan had got decorated with fragrant orchids. Tarana had butterflies flying in her stomach at the thought of spending a whole night with Karan in a hotel room where no one was going to interrupt them. In fact, this time, not only had Karan locked the doors, but also placed a "Do Not Disturb" sign on the door handle outside. She could easily read what was on Karan's mind and was feeling shy at the mere thought. But she also very well knew that there's nothing she will be able to do about it, as Karan's one touch is enough to make her lose her senses and drown herself in his love. And that is exactly what happened. Karan turned Tarana to face himself and then pulled her closer. There was no tentativeness in Karan's mood tonight. He knew he cannot control his desires anymore. He needed Tarana and needed her completely. He wanted to feel her completely and wanted to give himself completely to her. Tarana was pleasantly shocked to see Karan's mood tonight and could not stop herself from asking: Karan I never saw this side of you. Not that I mind, but how come you are so open and willing now?

Karan: Tarana, earlier I was afraid of dragging you in my darkness and that's why I tried my level best to keep you away from my world, but you still managed to break down all my barriers and that night, when I bit you, I invariably made you a part of my dark world. But, still I was scared of losing you to our enemies and our superiors. But now that superiors have no problems with our relationship, I am not scared of losing you and so I want to spend my each and every moment with you, so if you are done with questioning now, can we stop wasting time in talking now.

Tarana blushed but before she could reply anything, Karan sealed her lips with a hot passionate kiss. The moment his lips touched hers, Tarana lost herself in Karan's love and started

kissing him back. Karan held her tightly by her waist and pushed her a little backwards to kiss her neck and that made Tarana go weak in her knees. Karan kept supporting her by waist and without breaking the trail of kisses, took her to bed. He made her lie on the bed and then laid on top of her after removing his jacket. He then continued kissing her while Tarana played with his hair. He then pulled her so that she was on top now. Tarana caressed his chest with her hands and kissed his hot lips, and Karan moaned in pleasure. He then sat on the bed and made Tarana sit in his lap. He started placing kisses on her near bare shoulders and as he saw Tarana going crazy with his touches and kisses, he gently cupped her chest and squeezed it a little which made Tarana moan in pleasure. Tarana's moans were driving Karan crazy and so he unzipped her top from back and gently slid it off her shoulders and finally took it off her body. He then went down to her feet and began messaging them gently which put Tarana into a sensational overdrive. He then slowly grabbed the hem of her skirt and pulled it off her body leaving her in her innerwears only.

Tarana closed her eyes in mixed emotions of pleasure and shyness. Karan could not control his desires seeing Tarana's almost bare body and his hands and mouth caressed parts of her body where he has never reached before. Tarana was fully aroused and she pulled Karan upwards to kiss his lips. She then grabbed his shirt and unbuttoned it. After getting Karan out of his shirt she began caressing his bare chest. She then hesitantly reached for his trousers with trembling hands. Karan sensed her hesitation and to make her comfortable he removed his trousers himself. They both were in their bare minimum innerwear. Karan laid on top of her in such a way that Tarana could feel him completely. Tarana's body was craving for more, but a small corner of her mind was scared and unsure if she was ready for this step as yet. Karan was about to unhook her bra, when he read her mind and so with great difficulty he stopped his hands from reaching her back and brought them to held her hands and he entwined his fingers with her. He than put his

head on her chest and laid there panting heavily and listening to her fast beating heart. It took all his will-power to control himself. Tarana could read his mind and she was touched by Karan's gesture and was feeling proud of him. She felt truly blessed to have a lover like Karan who always put her wishes over his own. Slowly and gradually Karan and Tarana drifted off to sleep with their almost bare bodies entwined together.

Next morning Karan got up early, got ready and left the room so that Tarana can get ready in comfort. Last night it had been impossible for him to control his desires. If he were to see Tarana waking up and feeling shy in that almost naked state, he did not know if he would be able to control himself, and so he thought it best to wait for Tarana in the hall. When Tarana woke up and looked at herself, she felt shy and embarrassed remembering the last night's incidents. She quickly got ready and went to the hall where Karan was waiting for her. Tarana had a quick breakfast and they headed back to Shimla and went to college to invite everyone to their engagement party in the evening.

As they were inviting all their friends, Tarana saw Mini flirting with Ansh and Ansh encouraging her. She rolled her eyes at Koel's bad luck and Agarwals' irresponsibility, but decided not to say anything as Koel may again insult her. But still she was feeling bad for her while walking down the corridors when suddenly Koel came face to face with her. Tarana handed out the invitation to her, when suddenly she thought of a safe plan.

Tarana(to Koel): Koel, Ansh asked me to tell you that he would be waiting for you in the drama rehearsal hall. He wants to talk something with you.

Koel(confused): Really, ok, I will go and see him then.

Koel went to the rehearsal hall only to find Ansh and Mini openly flirting with each other.

Mini: I don't understand why, a smart business tycoon like you is wasting his time in this college.

Ansh: Maybe I have some hidden motives.

Mini: Mystery, hunh. I like guys with mystery around them.

Ansh: Then you are going to love me babes. I am a walking and talking mystery novel on two feet.

Mini: Wow. I love it. But why did a hottie like you got engaged to a fatty like Koel? You deserve someone hot like me.

Ansh: That's just a business deal babes. Establishing relationship with Agarwals will just help us in settling down in this city. You must be aware that for any rich business tycoon marriage is rarely ever for pleasure. Marriages in business families are just that, a business deal. Their pleasure almost always lies outside marriage only, like my pleasure lies in you.

Mini: Hmmmm... so u r a rich spoilt brat, hunh. I like bad guys.

Ansh: I am as bad as one can get babes. And I hope you are not goody goody or some boring plain Jane types. I hate such girls. I like my girls to be hot, bold and wild.

Mini(laughing): Don't worry darling. You won't get a hotter girl than me in the entire Shimla. So, what are your plans for the evening? I hope you are not attending that charity case Tarana and that loser Karan's engagement party.

Ansh: Naahh... Not interested. I would rather spend my evening in a hot girl's arms rather than attend that idiotic party. So, if you are free, I suggest you and I hit it off tonight.

Mini: sure, honey. Pick me up at 7 in the evening. I'll make sure I am dressed to kill you.

Ansh: oohhh someone sounds on a mission.

Mini winked and left and Koel who had heard everything was in tears to see that she is being cheated yet again. She rushed off to her house and told her mom everything and asked her to call off this engagement, but Kusum refused point blankly.

Kusum: No way Koel. We have already been embarrassed and shame faced because of your affairs twice. Now, if this

engagement also breaks, than who will marry you or Tani. And in today's times 90% boys are like this only before marriage. It depends on you as to how you control your husband after marriage. How you keep him tied to yourself with your love. So this marriage will not be called off in any circumstance.

Koel was shattered to see such behavior of her mother and rushed out her home crying and without realizing where she was going, entered deep in the jungle. She was lost, but rather than feeling scared, she was just feeling miserable for her bad luck. She sat down besides a tree and started crying her heart out. Just then, someone placed a hand on her shoulders. She looked up and was shocked to see Gomz there. She instantly got up and hugged him and started crying. Gomz felt his dead heart ache at her condition and he gently consoled her like a baby by caressing her head and hair. After a while Koel realized that she was hugging Gomz who was an evil vampire. She parted herself from him, but could not move away.

She asked Gomz: Why Gomz, Why is this that despite knowing your truth I cannot stop loving you? Despite knowing that you loved someone else and was ready to kill an innocent human to get her back, why do I still love you? Why am I not scared standing here with you alone, even though I know that you are an evil vampire? And Why instead of attacking me and drinking my blood, you are here consoling me?

Gomz: I don't know Koel. I never knew that why in spite of erasing all humanity inside me myself, I always found myself reaching out to you. Even when I was sure that I was only using you to get to Tarana to get my Vaidehi back, I still could not see anyone hurting you. And that day, when you saved me and pleaded for my life despite knowing my truth, I don't know how, but my dead heart started beating again. Your love has changed me Koel. I am trying to change and give up human blood. I know this is all wrong, but the fact is that I too love you Koel.

Koel: Then take me away from here Gomz. I can't stay in this place anymore, where no one loves me or cares for me. My own parents consider me as a liability.

Gomz: But Koel, in order to be with me, you will have to leave your human life and be a vampire. I am already a wanted vampire for drinking human blood, if I break another vampire law by marrying a human, then superiors will kill both of us for sure. For you, I am now trying to give up human blood, but still I can't risk your life by marrying you as a human.

Koel: Then make me a vampire Gomz. To hell with this human life, where I am only a liability! My own mother considers her family reputation more important than my life, so for whom should I remain human.

Gomz: Koel, are you sure you want to lead this cursed life?

Koel: Curse. It is my human life which has become a curse for myself and my family. You are all I have now Gomz and I want to be with you and only you. I don't desire anything else in life anymore.

Saying that Koel eloped with Gomz from Shimla leaving an SMS to Tani about her decision. She knew that being busy in Tarana's engagement, Tani won't look at the message till morning and she will be already far far away by then.

Chapter 12 – Danger Danger Everywhere

As soon as Karan and Tarana returned home from college, Kiara took Tarana aside to her room to get her ready for the engagement party. She asked Karan to also get ready in the new suit she has bought for him. The entire Shimla city was invited to the engagement party. Soon the guests started gathering. Agarwals also arrived though Ashish was feeling a bit uncomfortable as he had always found the Singhania's a little weird and had always felt some connection with Tarana. He so did not want Tarana to be a part of this family, but considering how wrong his own judgments have been in case of choosing a guy for Koel, he really did not have the courage to speak his doubts. But he nevertheless wanted to speak to Tarana about his doubts regarding Singhania's once.

The rest of the guests were enjoying themselves at the rocking party. Rocky helped Karan dress up and then they joined the guests in the hall downstairs. Karan was dressed in a navy blue designer suit and was looking smoking hot. All the girls were swooning over him and feeling jealous of Tarana. But Karan was unperturbed by all this and his eyes were only searching for his Tarana. Soon, Kiara brought Tarana down and Karan just could not take his eyes off the angelic beauty descending down the stairs dressed in an off shoulder light pink gown with snow flakes pattern embroidery. Everyone in the party could not help themselves from staring at Tarana with their mouths wide open as she was looking simply like a fairy.

The DJ started playing romantic songs in the background and Karan and Tarana were lost in each others' eyes. Without looking anywhere else, Tarana straight away went to Karan who held out his hand to hold hers and then they both started swaying to the romantic song which was probably written just for them. Everyone was mesmerized to see the much in love

couple. That there love was clearly visible was an understatement. People could not just see that they were truly in love, but could also feel that love and could not help themselves falling in love all over again. Even couples married for years, started feeling romantic again seeing this magical couple.

Soon it was time for the ring ceremony and Ajay and Kiara brought out two solitaire diamond rings for them. They first gave the ring to Karan who gently held Tarana's hands and then slipped the ring in her ring finger and kissed her hand and gave her a naughty wink. Tarana blushed at this. Kiara then handed Tarana her ring and Tarana slipped it on Karan's fingers. Karan and Tarana then kept looking in each other's eyes holding hands, until Tani and Rocky called them to the dance floor and Karan and Tarana had a very romantic dance together.

Finally time came for the party to get over. All the guests started dispersing, but Ashish decided to talk to Tarana.

Ashish: Tarana my child, don't take me wrong, but don't you think that you are hurrying in this decision. I mean how much do you or for that matter anyone knows Singhania's, and you are not just engaged to Karan now, but are also staying with them. Tarana, Singhania's do not seem like good people for someone like you. You are such a sweet child, but these Singhania's are such weird people.

Tarana: Please don't get me wrong uncle, but I think Tani forgot to tell you that I and Karan have known each other forever. We both came from the same city and have been friends and lovers ever since we understood the meaning of the words. Also, my unwanted upbringing at the hands of my reluctant uncle has made me a much better judge of people. That's why I could see through Manish and Gomz. But isn't it weird that you never found anything "weird" with them, but always with Singhania's

and Karan who has saved my life countless number of times. Thanks for your concern uncle.

Tarana said the last line with a stern smile, thus making it clear to Ashish that his interference in Tarana's life is not welcome. He left the party too but Tarana's mood was spoilt too and she angrily stomped to her room. She was feeling very bitter that her so called dad has ruined the best day of her life. She was on verge of crying when Karan entered the room. Tarana ran towards him and hugged him tight.

Karan gently consoled her and said: Why do you still bother about his words, Tarana? Today is our special day Tarana. Don't let that man ruin it for you. He should not mean anything to you. You have kept him out of your life for all those years in your uncle's house as if he does not exist. So, treat him that way now also.

Tarana(wiping her tears): You are right Karan. I should not give importance to that man and his words. He ceased to exist for me the day he left my mom. And I am glad that I have nothing to do with him, else he would have ruined my life too like Koel's. I am sorry I am ruining our moment crying like this. From now on, I won't shed a single tear for that man and will rather enjoy each and every moment of my little fairytale with you.

With that she kissed Karan on his chest and then hid her face in his chest. Karan hugged her passionately and gently caressed her hair. He lifted her face with his fingers, caressed her and kissed her cheeks. He then moved towards her ears and gently kissed under her ear lobe and whispered: Did I tell you how smoking hot you are looking tonight.

Tarana(blushing): really?

Karan: Hun hum. Good enough to eat actually.

Tarana was blushing red now, and she playfully hit Karan at his chest. Karan grabbed her hands and kissed them. Tarana tried

to move away, but Karan was in no mood. Tarana stood there shying and blushing while Karan held her hands in his. He then slowly came closer to her, released her hands, only to lift her up bridal style in his arms. He took her to bed and made her lie down on the bed. He himself lay besides her, with his hands around her waist. He gently started kissing her bare shoulders and placed a trail of kisses on her shoulders, collar bone, neck and down to the border of her dress. Tarana was losing her senses, and tonight there was no voice in her mind to confuse her. Her mind, heart and body were perfectly synchronized and they all wanted Karan and wanted him completely. She embraced him tightly and pulled him upwards to kiss his juicy lips. Karan could see that Tarana's mood was finally in tune with his own. They both wanted to become one tonight and so he got off from bed and quickly rid himself of his suit and tie while Tarana joined him to help him get rid of his shirt and trousers. Karan unzipped her gown and took her out of it. He then covered her bare chest with his hands from behind her and pressed her breasts a little, which made Tarana moan in pleasure. He removed his and hers remaining piece of clothing and took her to bed. Karan began caressing and kissing each and every part of her body passionately sending Tarana on an overdrive of sensuous pleasure. He played with her breasts, her thighs, placed kisses on her entire body, sucked at the right places and sent her mind to a totally different world. After an hour of passionate caressing and kissing, Tarana's body was craving for Karan so much that when he finally entered her, all she felt was pure pleasure and no pain even though it was the first time she ever made love. She moaned in pure pleasure as Karan continued to make his way deep inside her. They both climaxed together after a while and Tarana hugged Karan more tightly feeling him so deep inside her. She did not want to let him go and wanted to enjoy this feeling forever. Karan gave a naughty smirk to her and kissed her hot lips passionately. He could hear Tarana's increased heart-beat which was refusing to slow down. He placed his head on her chest to listen to the music of Tarana's heart-beats and laid like that. After a while

Tarana calmed down a bit and they both smiled at each other with love filled eyes. Tonight, they had finally become one and they both knew that no one will ever be able to separate them now.

Next Morning there was chaos at the Agarwal House. Tani finally read Koel's message and all of them were shocked to hear that not only had Koel eloped with Gomz, but she is also planning to get turned into a vampire herself. Kusum was crying inconsolably that what went wrong in her upbringing. Suddenly, Tani suggested that they should take Singhania's help as they were able to fight Gomz off while trying to save Tarana, so they may help them also in trying to fight Gomz. So Ashish and Tani went to Singhania Mansion.

Singhania Mansion

It was only 3 in the morning and Ajay and Kiara were a little surprised to find Ashish and Tani at their house so early in the morning. Ashish told them about Koel's elopement and her decision to become a vampire and that shocked Ajay and Kiara. Ajay asked Kiara to go and fetch Karan. She went to Karan's room but got worried not finding him here.

Kiara: Ajay, Karan is not in his room.

Ajay (un-perplexed): Haannn... did you check Tarana's room?

Kiara(relaxing and smirking): Ohhh... I should have thought that. I'll go and call them.

Kiara went to Tarana's room and shouted while knocking: Karan, Karan. Come out. There is an emergency.

Karan and Tarana both woke up with a start and were quite embarrassed at the situation they were in. Karan gave a naughty smile to Tarana and gave her a Good Morning kiss on her juicy lips. He then quickly got up, dressed himself and went out of the room, leaving Tarana lost in her dreams of her passionate night with her Karan. Slowly she too got up, got

dressed and came downstairs to see what the commotion was all about. Karan and Tarana too were shocked to know about Koel. They asked the time when she eloped and when Tani told that she had eloped in the evening itself, they all sighed in despair.

Karan: Then it is too late. God knows how many borders they must have crossed by now.

Ashish: But I have heard that a vampire needs to bite a human thrice on 3 full moon nights to make him/her a vampire, so we still have time to find them and stop Koel from this madness.

Karan: What you have heard is true, Mr. Agarwal, but it's impossible to find a vampire if he does not want to be found. How on Earth can we find them? With his supersonic speed he must have crossed thousands of miles by now and we don't even know which direction he has taken.

Ashish: Is there no hope, then.

Ajay: I'm afraid, Mr. Agarwal, no. Had we come to know about this earlier, we may still have traced them, but now it is too late.

The disappointed Ashish and Tani and they returned home and informed Kapoor about the shocking news. Ansh's mother Mohini was furious to hear that Koel has dared to insult her family like this. Not only had she rejected her son, but has chosen their arch enemy, a vampire over her son. Now she will take revenge by killing all vampires and their muses. Tarana was her top most target as she was fool enough to love a vampire and even live with them. Even Ansh was furious as he would now have to face difficulties in expanding the business in Shimla. Both mother and son wanted to take out their frustration on the Singhania's, as it was because of them that the treaty was broken and they had to come to Shimla to guard their territory in the first place. Though they were unaware of exact details about the incident or about Karan and Tarana being connected because of Karan's biting Tarana, they knew that the treaty was somehow broken because of Tarana only and that for them was a justification enough to kill her. They

were plotting a plan to kill them, when Ansh's sister Divya interrupted:

But how are Tarana and Singhania's to be blamed for all this? We know this much that it was Gomz only who had kidnapped Tarana and crossed the border and that Singhania's were forced to cross the border only to save Tarana. So I don't understand the need for this meaningless fight.

Mohini: Divya!! This is why I say that you are a blot on our clan. According to the treaty between Vampires and Werewolves, no vampire can cross the decided border, irrespective of the reason. And Singhania's have broken that treaty by crossing the border and hence they will be punished for that. Divya: But why so much of blood shed for such a trivial issue.

Mohini: Enough! I don't want to hear another word. This is the rule of our clan and being the future leader of our clan, you have to understand and even follow these rules. If the rules demand that we have to kill those Singhania's and that Tarana then we have to kill them. There are no two ways about it. This is a fight for our rights. If we sit quietly and not fight for our rights, then these vampires will enslave us thinking us to be weak.

Divya decided to not speak at the moment, but she decided that she will herself find out if Singhania's and Tarana are really enemies or not and only then will she take any side in the battle. She suggested to her mom, that maybe she should join the same College as Karan and Tarana, to get in Tarana's good books so that she can lure her sometime alter. Mohini fell for her lies and agreed for Divya's joining the College.

Somewhere in the Shimla Jungle

A girl decided to take shortcut through the jungle to reach her hostel faster. But as they say, act in haste, repent in leisure. Sadly for this girl, she was not even going to get leisure to

repent her decision as someone extremely dangerous was lurking in the forests looking for a prey. As soon as the girl reached a tree, she felt a hand on her shoulders. A little scared she turned back to see who her stalker could be, but she never could see the devil's face. As soon as she turned her neck, she felt razor sharp canines, piercing through her throat, and soon the devil drained her dry and then wiped the blood off her pretty face. The Real Devil was now back. And this time to rule over the whole world.

Next day was Karan and Tarana's first day in college as an engaged couple. As if that lavish party was not enough, Karan wanted to press this message loud and clear on everyone that Tarana was his and so insisted on keeping his arm around her waist throughout the college. He refused to let her go even in the class, and when Tarana gave him dagger looks as Miss Chaterjee was constantly giving them furious looks, he reluctantly removed it but gave her warning that she will have to pay for this in the night. Tarana was confused, so Karan gave her a naughty wink and smile, which made Tarana blush deep red as she understood what Karan meant.

After the class got over, Divya came to meet them and introduced herself to them. Tarana was sensing something off about her, and the moment she said that she is Ansh's sister, Tarana understood why she was feeling uneasy. Both Karan and Tarana gave each other confused looks as to what can the enemy's sister want from them. But, what Divya said confused them more.

Divya: I know you guys are wondering why I am talking to you. After all my family and Karan's family are supposed to be age-old enemies, but I honestly don't believe in this illogical enmity and want to put an end to it by turning this enmity into friendship.

Karan and Tarana were confused about what to respond. They were wondering if she actually means what she is saying or could this be another trap. Just then Ansh came there and blasted at Divya.

Ansh: Divya, What The Hell are you doing here, talking with these people. Could you not find anyone other than our enemies in the whole college to make friends with? Mom is right. You are a disgrace to our clan. You are a coward and that is why you always talk of making friends with these leeches who actually don't deserve to exist on this planet. We should not have allowed you to step out of the house. Now you come with me to home right now and I don't want to see you with this leech and his stupid so called fiancée ever again.

Divya: Bro why are you insulting me like this publicly. And what wrong have I said? For centuries we have been fighting for our survival without any reason, though we can easily co-exist peacefully together.

Ansh: Enough. I don't want to hear a word. You are coming home right now and I'll tell Mom what your motive behind joining this college was. You think you can fool us. Wait till Mom teaches you a lesson.

With that Ansh literally dragged Divya from there while she kept pleading to let go of her. Karan and Tarana were shocked to see the way Ansh and apparently even his mom treated Divya.

Tarana: Karan, look at that. Is that the way to treat one's own sister?

Karan: leave it Tarana. They are animals. And besides we don't know, it may still be some sort of trap. I think we should update Mom Dad about it. The werewolves do seem to be planning something.

Karan and Tarana headed back home to update Ajay and Kiara about Divya, but they were already waiting for them in a state

of shock. Karan and Tarana noticed their shocked faces and asked what's wrong?

Ajay: Just see the news Karan. It's shocking.

Karan and Tarana switched on the TV where all news channels were covering the last night's shocking murder of an unknown girl. The reporters were busy speculating whether it was a human or an animal attack, but the Singhania's could clearly see the vampire bite marks on the girl's neck.

Karan: Dad who could this be? Is Gomz back?

Ajay: No I went to check that place. Gomz's scent was nowhere. In fact I cannot recognize the scent of the vampire who attacked her. And that is what shocks me. I have been around for centuries and have met almost all the vampires across the world, but this scent is completely different.

Karan: You mean this is work of some newborn. Who could this be then?

Ajay: I don't know Karan. I am trying to get in touch with the superiors about this. I cannot comprehend who this vampire could be.

Suddenly Tarana spoke up: What if this is Koel? She was going to be a vampire.

Karan: No Tarana, you need 3 full moon nights to be a vampire, and its not even one full moon night yet.

Tarana: No Karan, tell me did you take 3 full moon nights to be a vampire?

Karan: My case was different, I was almost dead and so the venom worked too fast on me.

Tarana: Ya, so what if Koel too got turned this way. We really can't put anything beyond Gomz can we?

Ajay: You have a point Tarana, but it is not Koel.

Tarana: How can you be so sure?

Ajay: Because a newborn vampire always retains some scent of his human form too, and a vegetarian vampire always continues

to have his human fragrance around him. But this vampire had absolutely no human scent.

Karan: But then that means that this is the work of some old non-vegetarian vampire, but you have met all the vampires dad. So, how come you cannot recognize the scent?

Ajay: That is what is puzzling me Karan. That is why I am trying to make superiors come here. Maybe they can shed some light on this issue.

Karan: There is another problem dad.

Ajay: What is it?

Karan: The werewolves. Divya Kapoor is showing some unusual interest in becoming our friend. She apparently wants to end this vampire-werewolf fight. But Ansh and his mom are against her and are ready to ill-treat their own family member for it. I am not sure, if Divya is genuine or if this is some trap, but I think werewolves are definitely planning something big.

Ajay: We can deal with the werewolves Karan. But I think you both should pretend to be Divya's friend and find out the truth of their family matter. If she is indeed speaking the truth, then she may be of help to us, as she is their future leader.

Karan and Tarana agreed to follow Ajay's plans.

Karan and Tarana went to their room in a tensed state. Too many troubles were facing them together. This unknown vampire, werewolves and now superiors were coming to city, which had Karan worried as to what will their reaction be seeing a human in their house. Though Ajay and Kiara had assured him time and again that the superiors are not concerned about it as they too are impressed with the way Tarana had accepted us and has helped us find out the enemies; Karan was still scared for Tarana. Sensing Karan in worry, Tarana thought of lightening him up.

Tarana: Karan, I am angry with you. How can you do this?

Karan(confused): Now what have I done?

Tarana: Karan the way you were showing off today with all those Public Displays of Affection, throughout the day in the college, it was so embarrassing. What must all the teachers and students be thinking about us?

Karan: Just that how much I love my fiancée. Come on Tarana, we are engaged now. And that reminds me that you have to pay for making me take my arms off their resting place in the class.

Tarana(pretending to be scared): What do you mean?

Karan: As if you don't know.

And he pulled her closer to him and gave her a hot passionate kiss on her juicy lips which seemed to last an eternity. When they finally broke off to catch breath, Karan smirked and whispered in Tarana's ears: By the way, nice way to distract me. But, I am not fully distracted yet, you will have to try some more. And then he brought his face in front of hers and gave her a naughty wink.

Tarana blushed at Karan's playfulness and made weak attempts of getting away from his arms. But Karan did not let her go, and they ended up spending yet another passionate night together.

In the Shimla Forests

The vampire superiors were investigating the scent of the vampire who was now posing as a risk leading to their exposure. The superiors had a vampire among them who had the powers to tell the nature, creator, age and powers of a vampire just by his/her scent. Basically this vampire can know everything about a vampire from scent apart from that vampire's looks and name. They reached the spot and this vampire named Ritesh was shocked when that unknown vampire's scent hit his nostrils. He told the superiors about his findings and all of them were shocked. The scent belonged to the most powerful and inhuman vampire whose soul was in its mind's possession and not vice versa. This vampire had no trace of humanity in it as it was not created through vampire bite but through the vampire

venom contaminated blood of his/her look-alike human. They decided to update Singhania's about it and went to their home. Ajay and Kiara were asked to call Karan and Tarana too as the matter was serious and probably concerned Tarana. Soon, Ajay and Kiara and Karan and Tarana were gathered in the Singhania's living room where the superiors updated them about their findings. They all were shocked and Tarana clutched Karan's hands in fear realizing the possible and most probable meaning of this. But how was this possible? They all decided to go back to the forests to further find any clue as to where that vampire could have gone. They had just reached the forests, when they heard a horrible, painful scream of a boy. They all rushed in the direction of the scream but they were too late. The boy had already been drained dry. The superiors sent their tracking team to catch that vampire, but that vampire had been smart. Water dissolves a vampire's scent and spreads it in all directions making it impossible to catch the direction, and so that vampire had taken the river route to escape. The tracking team had swum both with and against the current, yet they could not find where that vampire had vanished. There was no vampire scent on the river banks for miles. The tracking team had returned disappointed to the spot.

However, just then someone emerged from the shadows of the trees and hesitantly and a little scared, pointed her finger towards one of them and said: She, she did that. She killed this boy.

While superiors were confused and apprehensive seeing the she-wolf standing in front of them, Singhania's were shocked to see Divya's fingers pointing towards Tarana. Their worst fear had been confirmed. Vaidehi was indeed back.

Tarana was too scared to know that and weakly mumbled: Vaidehi, she is back, how? She was about to faint but Karan caught her in his arms and supported her to keep her standing.

Divya was confused to see that none of the vampires were perturbed by this news that Tarana had attacked the boy, rather Karan was still supporting her while she was about to faint. What confused her further was the fact, that Tarana still smelt human.

Divya: what is happening? I just now saw Tarana killing this boy. She was a vampire, but she is now with you guys, still a human and you all are unshaken by this news as if you already knew this. What is happening? Karan, I thought that you were vegetarian vampires, but your Tarana killed this boy.

Karan: Tarana is a human Divya. You yourself can smell that.

Divya: Yes, but I just now saw her killing this boy and she was a vampire.

Karan: That wasn't Tarana. That was Vaidehi. Tarana is her look-alike. In fact, in a way, Tarana's blood had brought her to life. But, what we don't know is how. That night, I had reached in time to stop Gomz from feeding Tarana's blood to Vaidehi's corpse, but apparently, her blood has somehow reached her, though I can still not understand how.

Divya was confused for some time, but then decided to trust them and help them and said: I can help you on that. I have the power to recreate any scene.

The superiors were apprehensive and said, we don't need a werewolf's help. But, Singhania's convinced them to at least see what she wants to show them.

Divya recreated that night scene and everyone could see that before Karan could reach there, Gomz had already slashed Tarana's wrist and some of her blood had actually touched Vaidehi's dead lips. And that is how Vaidehi returned back and now she was the one attacking these humans. The vampires knew by now that Vaidehi is a truly dark and evil vampire. The question was how they were going to defeat her since Vaidehi was the strongest vampire because of the nature of her creation. One of the ancients then informed that it was next to impossible to defeat Vaidehi as killing her requires a stake made

from a rare Himalayan oak tree, and though they had that stake with them, that stake would still not kill her if used by ordinary mortals or super naturals. Killing Vaidehi required the combined powers of two most powerful super naturals working together to put the stake through Vaidehi's heart. And it was next to impossible first to get those two super naturals to work together and secondly to make them so powerful. As only the stake driven through heart by an immortal vampire and werewolf together would kill Vaidehi. Vampires and Werewolves working together was something unmanageable and even if this problem was resolved, there was no known way of making them truly immortal and capable of fighting Vaidehi. Normal vampires and werewolves could all be killed by a wooden stake. But only a truly immortal vampire and werewolf was strong enough to be immune to such ordinary attacks. But nobody knew how a vampire or werewolf could become immortal. The vampires and Tarana were worried about what will happen, but Divya assured them, that everything needed to finish Vaidehi is there with her. She was willing to help the vampires in getting rid of this Vaidehi as she could see that these vampires are not bad and so not enemies. But the question still was that how to become immortal but Divya had answer to that too.

Before Divya could tell them the solution to deal with the problem, Ansh and Mohini reached the spot and blasted at Divya for siding with the enemy. Divya tried convincing them that they are not enemies and that real enemy is Vaidehi, but Ansh and Mohini were not ready to listen. Instead they wanted to punish Divya for helping the vampires. Without thinking, they attacked her in their wolf forms, Divya ran off and Ansh and Mohini followed. Since there were two of them against one, they soon trapped Divya and were going to pounce on her, when Karan landed there and held a protective front in front of Divya. Ajay and Kiara too reached the spot along with Tarana. Ansh transformed back to his human form and shouted at Karan:

Karan this is our family matter. You stay out of it.

Karan: You are hurting an innocent without a reason. I cannot allow that.

Ansh: Oh just chuck it Karan. We are not humans to follow their laws. We have our own laws and according to them she is a traitor and it's us who will decide how to treat our traitor and not you.

Karan: To hell with you and your animal laws. There is no way I am going to allow you to hurt Divya. And right now, you are outnumbered. I myself am strong enough to deal with your whole clan alone, and right now, my mom and dad are also with me. And if anyone of us gets as much as a scratch on ourselves, then my whole clan too is present here to wipe out your existence.

Ansh and Mohini knew that they were outnumbered. So, they again shouted at Divya: So are you now going to leave your family and join the leeches now Divya.

Divya: I never wanted this. I want to end the war, but you are always against me. And what family are you talking of. A mother gives birth to a child but here my own mother wants to kill me while Karan's parents are here to save me. A brother is meant to protect his sister, but here it is Karan who is protecting me against my own brother who wants to kill me. Sorry, Ansh, but I never saw a brother in you. But, in just one day I can see my protective brother in Karan and protective parents in Singhania's. So, why should I stay with you people who want to kill me? I would rather stay on my own.

Ansh and Mohini left from there after threatening Divya that she will have to pay for this treachery. But, they knew that they were outnumbered and so it was best to put off the fight for now. Divya began to move away from there, but Karan called her out: Divya, where are you going?

Divya: to find myself a place to stay.

Karan: hey, but just now you said u see your brother in me, then isn't a brother's home his sister's home too.

Divya: but Karan...

Karan: no ifs and buts Divya. Actually Divya You bring out my protective instincts. I never had a sister in my life, but you fill that void perfectly. I am happy to find a sister like you.

Divya: but Karan, will this be acceptable to your clan?

Ajay and Kiara: They don't have any problem. They are apprehensive, but you still come across as genuine to them. So, you can stay with us.

Divya: Thanks aunty.

Tarana: Wow, now my family is complete. (She hugged Divya)

Singhania's along with Divya went back to their house. Tarana suggested that Divya can share the room with her, which made Karan pout in fake anger. But, Kiara had the perfect solution.

Kiara: Great idea Tarana. I would get your stuff moved to Karan's room, and Divya can then settle in your current room.

Tarana was shocked at this suggestion and had her mouth open in shock, while Karan just went and hugged Kiara at this awesome suggestion and said "Thanks Mom" and then winked at Tarana who was blushing with embarrassment.

Tarana: but Mom...

Kiara: But What Tarana? As it is Karan is sleeping in your room only, so what difference does that make?

Tarana was fully embarrassed and rushed to fetch her stuff from her room, while Divya could not help but smile at her new cute loving family.

Next day the entire vampire council was gathered in Singhania's home which intimidated Divya a bit, but then the superiors addressed her directly: You said that you know how a vampire and werewolf can become truly immortal and all powerful, then tell us how?

Divya: It's with the help of that magical compound you must have heard of. Drinking that compound makes any vampire and werewolf extremely powerful and almost immortal as only an immortal slayer can then defeat that immortal vampire or werewolf and no immortal slayer has not been made till now. And since we werewolves have the herb required to make that compound in our possession, there is no way one can create an immortal slayer to fight against us.

Superiors: But how do we reach that herb?

Divya: I know the way to that herb and only I know how to make that compound and use it, but unfortunately that herb is heavily guarded by the werewolves and it will be very difficult to reach it without blood shed.

Superiors: We are ready for that. But we still are not sure, whether to trust you or not.

Divya: I understand that. Vampires and Werewolves have been enemies for centuries now. But you see, though I am the future leader of my clan, my own family never loved or respected me. I have seen vampires and werewolves fighting for centuries and both sides losing too many members, and I want to end this fight. I want peace. And right now, what we are facing is a common enemy. I can see that by choosing to stay away from your natural diet of human blood, you all have proved that you are not bad. But this Vaidehi needs to be stopped. And if the only way to defeat her is through that compound, then so be it.

Chapter 13 – Beginning of an Immortal Journey

Somewhere on the outskirts of Shimla forests

Vaidehi was roaming around the jungles in a confused state. From whatever she has heard from Gautam during her mummified state, she knew that she was a very powerful vampire. But according to Gautam, she needed to drink whole of Tarana's blood to gain her full powers, so she wanted to have Tarana fast so that she can become all powerful. But the girl was always with Vaidehi's human life play toy Karunesh. Karunesh had dared to love someone other than her, so he will be punished for this crime. Draining Tarana dry will serve two purposes. Not only will that make Vaidehi the most powerful vampire, but also it will punish Karunesh for daring to like someone besides herself. But she had overheard the entire vampire and Divya's conversation in the forest, and she had no idea what did an immortal vampire and werewolf meant. That stupid Ansh and his mom had picked the fight with Divya at the wrong time and so Vaidehi could not find out the secret behind the power which can defeat her. Those two werewolves were truly nutcases. They stopped Divya from revealing further at that time, but then left her alive and with those vampires. Now, she was surely going to hatch up a plan to bring Vaidehi's downfall. It would have been better if they would have finished her off, but again Karunesh had stopped them. She was now highly irritated with her former play toy and his goodness. She would finish him off too. He figured nowhere in her present plans to rule over the world. But how was she going to manage everything on her own, when she was not completely aware of her own powers and the secrets of this new supernatural world. She would need to find out more, but before that she will kill Tarana and drink her blood so that she can get her full powers.

Superiors wanted to know more about the compound and how it would help them fight Vaidehi. They knew that being revived with Tarana's blood, Vaidehi had immense powers and only an immortal vampire and an immortal werewolf working together can kill Vaidehi, but they were not clear about what exactly an immortal vampire or werewolf meant. So Divya began explaining them:

You see a normal vampire or werewolf can be killed simply by staking sandalwood through their hearts. But an immortal vampire or werewolf is immune to that. Or rather their body becomes so strong that no ordinary creature possesses the strength required to push the stake through their hearts. Only an immortal slayer will possess the strength required to do that.

Superiors: An immortal slayer, but slayers are just mortal humans. We have never heard of an immortal slayer. So, maybe your ancients made a mistake.

Divya: Hmm... hmmm.

Karan could sense that Divya was hiding some thing, but since he was hardly concerned about his own life, he decided not to brood over it too much for now. He asked:

So does that mean that if one of us and you drink that compound then you and that vampire will become immortal and be able to kill Vaidehi?

Divya: Yes, precisely.

Karan: great then, let's go and get that herb to make that compound. We can't allow Vaidehi to go on her killing spree.

Divya: But which of you will drink that compound?

Superiors: Karan!

Karan: Me???

Superiors: Yes Karan. As it is you are the strongest vampires amongst us and least interested in power, and so you will be best for this job as with you we will not have to worry about the compound's powers being misused.

Ajay and Kiara and Tarana were feeling proud on hearing such praises about Karan from their superiors and to see their faith in Karan. Whereas, Karan was feeling overwhelmed at the amount of responsibility which was now going to fall on his shoulders. They were about to leave for searching the herb, when Karan stopped them and asked:

“What about Tarana?”

Everyone was confused at this question so Karan elaborated:

We can't take Tarana along with us as the werewolves may attack her and we can't leave her alone here as Vaidehi may reach her.

The superiors thought for a while and then asked: “Doesn't she have any human friends, where she can stay for a while?”

Karan thought and then replied: The Agarwals. Tarana, I think you should go to them for the time being while we find that herb.

Tarana did not want to be separated from Karan, but she agreed to his plan as she knew that this was the best option under the circumstances.

Karan: Tarana, You are my life. Promise me that you would not let anything happen to yourself.

Tarana nodded and Karan and Tarana shared a warm hug. Karan gave a hot passionate kiss to her which also had a hint of desperation in it, making Tarana feel scared for their future.

Tarana: Promise me Karan, that you will come back to me. I cannot live without you.

Karan: I promise Tarana. I will always be there with you.

With that Karan first dropped Tarana off at Agarwals house and himself set out with Divya, Ajay and Kiara and the other vampires to find that herb. They reached an ancient palace and reached the garden where the herb was hidden. As was expected, Ansh and Mohini had gathered their entire werewolf army to fight with the vampires. They shouted at Divya: So now you have brought these vampires to our most heavily guarded

secret. How come you be so treacherous Divya. We will not let these vampires have this herb.

Divya: I want this herb to fight a vampire only. These vampires are not our enemies, but Vaidehi is. And we need this herb to defeat her.

Ansh and Mohini: We will not let you have this herb.

Divya: The ancients passed on the herb and compound's secret to me.

Ansh and Mohini: But not for you to misuse them. That herb may be useless without you, but we will not let you have that herb.

Divya: Let's see how you stop us. I am more powerful than you.

With that the battle between vampires and werewolves began with Divya fighting from vampires' side. The vampires were proving to be stronger than the werewolves and have already killed a couple of them. The fight was going on and soon Divya overpowered Mohini and staked her. Ansh was furious at this and rushed to his mother's side while the remaining werewolves stood there shocked. With Mohini's death, Divya was going to be their leader, so they cannot fight her. They were confused what to do next. Meanwhile, before dying, Mohini asked Ansh to kill Tarana as she is the root cause of all this fight. Ansh fled from that spot to find Tarana. As soon as Mohini died, her powers automatically got transferred to Divya, making her even more powerful and the new leader.

She commanded in a fierce voice of a leader: I am your new leader and more powerful than you. I assure you that I do not wish to harm you and if you let me take this herb, I will not let any of these vampires harm you. Our enemy is Vaidehi and not these vampires. We need to work together to finish her off. The choice is now yours. Either you fight against me and get killed or you fight with me and get rid of our true enemy.

The werewolves realized that their safety lied in following Divya. They quickly helped her find the herb and she quickly squeezed it and chanted the hymns required to turn the herb into the compound. Then Divya and Karan drank some of the compound and Divya quickly stored the remaining compound in a small bottle. Just then Karan got a call on his mobile, he looked at the screen and was confused to see Tani's name flashing on the screen. He took the call and felt the ground shaking beneath his feet on listening to what Tani had to tell him.

At the Agarwal Mansion

Tarana had entered Agarwal Mansion on the pretext of meeting Tani, but Tani was not at home. Kusum asked her to wait there only and Tarana had agreed, though Vikky had not been too happy about it. Hours had passed but Tani had still not returned making Kusum angry as she thought that Tani must have been partying yet again. Tarana decided to call Tani, but she was shocked to hear the voice at the other end.

The voice: So finally you remembered your friend Tarana.

Tarana: W...Who are you? And where is Tani?

The voice: This is your death speaking, and your friend is alive till now, but if you don't come to me in next five minutes, then instead of you, your friend will quench my thirst.

Tarana: V..V...Vvvv... Vaidehi?

Vaidehi: Yes Vaidehi. And now without asking any more questions, come here immediately or else you alone will be responsible for your friend's death. And one more thing, don't you dare to inform Karunesh anything about this or else, I will kill him before I kill you.

Tarana had no choice but to obey Vaidehi's orders. She knew that after drinking that compound, Karan will be able to defeat Vaidehi, so he will be safe, but she can't let the innocent Tani die because of her. She stepped out of the Agarwal mansion to

reach the place Vaidehi has asked her to come and face her death.

In the forest

Tani slowly regained consciousness and was shocked to know that the girl she had accompanied into the jungle assuming her to be Tarana was not Tarana, but her look-alike and a vampire. She had heard Vaidehi ordering Tarana to come here. Tani was praying that Tarana would not listen to her, but she knew that the self-sacrificing lamb that Tarana was, she would come to save her.

On her way to the forest, Tarana was suddenly faced by Ansh who was looking mad after losing his mom.

Ansh: Be ready for your death Tarana. I have to take revenge for my mom's death and for that I will have to kill you.

Tarana: I am ready to die, but not at your hands, I have to save Tani first.

Ansh: I am not giving you a choice Tarana.

With that Ansh attacked Tarana. She struggled to break free but Ansh managed to bite her a few times before she grabbed some sand and threw into his eyes. As Ansh was temporarily blinded, Tarana ran with all the strength she could muster into the forest and just managed to reach the spot told by Vaidehi before she fell down because of lack of strength.

Vaidehi: I see that the werewolf has already bitten you and his poison is already spreading through you. I will do the rest by drinking your blood and injecting my venom into your veins. Vampire and werewolf venom combined should be potent enough to kill you completely. Once I finish you off, I will deal with your precious Karan too.

All this while, Tani had been struggling to break free from the ropes and finally she managed to untie the ropes Vaidehi has

tied her in and quickly dialed Karan's number from her mobile which lay fallen near her. She briefed Karan about the whole situation and urged him to come immediately.

Singhanias, Divya and the other vampires and werewolves all rushed to the place to save Tarana and kill Vaidehi, but they were too late in reaching the place. They were shocked to see Vaidehi draining Tarana dry. She lifted her evil fanged face, wiped her bloodied face with the back of her hands and threw Tarana's lifeless body to the ground. Tarana's corpse fell onto a shocked and crestfallen Tani's lap who could not believe that her Best friend cum soul sister has sacrificed her life to save hers.

Karan could not believe that his world was ending right in front of his eyes and there wasn't anything he could do to stop it. He was too late. He almost fell down on his knees near Tarana and took her body in his lap. Tears of blood drops started flowing from his eyes. Tani was too shocked and numbed to notice this. Karan was crying out:

You can't leave me Tarana. How am I going to live without you? Vaidehi (laughing evilly): don't worry Karunesh, because I am about to send you also off to join her. After all, you have dared to forget your princess and so you deserve to be punished for this.

Karan had no desire left in him to fight for his life anymore. His life already lay dead in his lap. But Divya blocked her way as Vaidehi moved towards Karan to attack him.

Divya: You can't kill Karan, Vaidehi. Rather, we will kill you together.

Vaidehi: ha ha you think you can kill me? Me? Don't you know that I am more powerful than you?

Divya: You Were Vaidehi. Not now. This compound has made me and Karan immortal and now we are your death.

Vaidehi was confused, but just then Ansh reached there and shouted at Divya: You shared our secret herb with this leech to become immortal?

Vaidehi grasped the situation and saw that she was outnumbered right then. All the vampires and werewolves were together, and she was all alone, or maybe this Ansh could help her.

Divya: Bro, I did this to kill this evil. (addressing Vaidehi): now get ready for your end Vaidehi.

But before she could take any step suddenly Ansh and Vaidehi disappeared from there. Everyone was surprised to see this and was confused as to what has happened. Unknown to them, Vaidehi has recently discovered that she could create a temporary illusion. And that is what she had done at that instant. She grabbed hold of Ansh and escaped from there while the vampires and werewolves were momentarily blinded. The vampire superiors shouted: Her scent is still here. Track her down. Vampires ran after that scent but since they could not see anything, they did not know which direction to take. They accepted defeat for the time being and diverted their attention back to Karan who was sitting there with an almost dead expression on his face. His each and every moment with his Tarana was playing in his head like a rewinded tape. He was remembering everything right from the time they first met, their first fight, beginning of their friendship, their love, their first kiss, the moments of their passionate love making, everything was just running through his head and breaking him from inside piece by piece.

Suddenly Divya exclaimed: But how can Tarana die this fast. From what I have heard, a vampire's venom takes some time to spread, but how come Tarana died in an instant?

Tani replied in a dead voice: Coz she was bitten by a werewolf too. Ansh had attacked her even before she reached here.

(The shock of losing Tarana had been so great for Tani that she was no longer concerned with the fact that she was surrounded by vampires and werewolves and that her sister's ex- fiancée was a werewolf and that Tarana's fiancée and her classmate was a vampire)

Karan: Why Tarana? Why did you do this to me? Why did you not call me? I could have fought with Ansh and Vaidehi even without this compound. Did you not trust my love even this much? Why Tarana, why did you block yourself from me?

Divya: Block yourself from you, call you? What are you saying Karan? How could she do all this? She was just a human.

Kiara: Karan and Tarana were connected Divya. Karan had to bite Tarana in order to save her from Gomz that night. None of us knew that that was what Gomz had wanted to do.

Divya(excitedly): Wait a minute, does that mean that Tarana's blood was already contaminated and that today she was simultaneously attacked by both a vampire and a werewolf?

Kiara: I am afraid yes.

Divya: then we can bring Tarana back with the help of this compound.

Everyone was shocked at this and exclaimed: Really??

Divya: Yes, that was one of the uses of this compound. If a human having vampire contaminated blood is killed by simultaneous biting of a vampire and a werewolf, then this compound can bring that human back to life.

Tani: Then what are you waiting for? Bring her back fast.

Divya(hesitantly): But she will be changed. It will change everything. (looking at Karan): It may change your relationship Karan.

Karan: I don't care Divya. Just bring her back. She accepted me even after knowing what I am. A vampire! I can also accept her, no matter what she becomes. Just bring her back for now Divya. I will deal with everything else later. (clasping Tarana's hand): We'll deal with everything together. I now know that our love is

strong enough to cross all boundaries and overcome all hurdles. Just bring her back to me Divya. I beg of you.

Divya was touched by Karan's pleading and so putting her faith in his belief, she started chanting the mantras on the compound and then fed it to Tarana. As the compound flew through Tarana's veins, it started healing and strengthening her. Gradually Tarana opened her eyes and saw Karan and Divya hanging over her on both sides. Before she could grasp her own situation, her instincts made her push away both Karan and Divya sending them flying in air. They landed some 20 feet away from her. Everyone was shocked to see Tarana's reaction and even more shocked at her strength. They got into their defensive positions, but Divya stopped them all from attacking, while Tarana realized what she has just done. She too was shocked at her strength and even more shocked that she had attacked Karan. She ran to him and hugged him and exclaimed:

Karan are you ok? How did I do this? What has happened to me Karan? How could I attack you and why?

Everyone was confused and asked Divya: What has happened to her? From where did she get the strength to attack both you and Karan simultaneously? You said, that the compound will change her, then what has she changed into, what is she now?

Divya: An Immortal Slayer!

Everyone was shocked to hear this but Divya continued explaining: That was how an immortal slayer was to be born. If a human carrying vampire venom contaminated blood in his/her veins was to die at the hands of a werewolf and a vampire attacking together, and if this compound was fed to that person within 15 minutes, then that person would have come back to life as an immortal slayer. Tarana now is the most powerful slayer and is frozen in her current age. Though she is still a human in all other aspects.

Everyone was amazed to hear this and Karan was looking at Tarana in a new awe, but Tarana was shell shocked. She distanced herself away from Karan and started crying: no, this can't happen. Me an immortal slayer, me the only one who can kill Karan. No, it would have been better if I would have died.

Karan: Tarana what are you saying?

Tarana: What else should I say Karan. I have become your death. I cannot be with you because I may end up attacking you unknowingly anytime. Death would have been better than this life without you.

Karan: shhh.... Did you ever listen to me when I used to say this to you? Then what makes you think that I would listen to you? Do you think that only you have the guts to love your death, not me? No Tarana, I am not scared of death but of losing you. Nothing has changed Tarana. Our love is the same and the way our love has faced all difficulties and problems till now, the same way we will together face all problems in future also.

Tarana: But Karan...

Karan: No buts Tarana. I am ready to die at your hands but not lose you.

Tarana: What are you saying Karan? How can I kill you?

Karan: Then just keep faith in us and our love and everything will be all right.

Just then Tani spoke up: will someone bother to tell me where I fit in this supernatural world. My sister has already ran away from home to become a vampire. Now my Best Friend is an immortal slayer and her fiancée is an immortal vampire. Great, my life has suddenly become some horror movie.

Tarana: You are still my Best Friend Tani and will always remain so if you can accept this surreal reality.

Tani: As if I have a choice. I don't want to lose my Best Friend, no matter what she is.

With that Tani hugged Tarana and Karan too joined in.

Everyone including Tani returned to Singhania Mansion. Tani was too overwhelmed with all the supernatural happenings in one night and wanted to understand the things better. Having seen supernatural world, she had unknowingly become a danger magnet herself and so it was important that she becomes familiar with the whole situation and supernatural truths so that she is not used as a bait by anyone again. She accompanied Singhanias to their house after telling her mom that she would be staying with Tarana tonight. They discussed the various secrets of the supernatural world till late in the night. They decided that Tarana will have to start her slayer training soon so that she can easily fight off all possible attacks. Part of her training was also to find out what all powers did Tarana now possess. The vampire superiors decided to help in Tarana's training while Divya too directed her clan members to help in Tarana's training. Ajay and Kiara decided to research ancient literature to study what all powers could Vaidehi be possessing. They knew that Ansh and Vaidehi will definitely return one day and this time Vaidehi will surely return after learning about all her powers. Their biggest strength was the fact that Ansh and Vaidehi were not aware of Tarana being alive and an immortal slayer now. Divya assured them that she was the only one who knew the secret about how an immortal slayer was to be born, so Ansh and Vaidehi will never be able to guess Tarana's powers. Around 3 in the morning, they decided to retreat for resting as Tani being a normal human definitely needed her sleep after a night of a walking talking horror movie. Divya took Tani to her room while Karan and Tarana started moving towards their room.

Tani was surprised to see this and exclaimed: Wohoa, you guys are sleeping in same room?

Karan(winking): Of course Tani!!

Tani: Wow. I hope you guys are taking care though or else soon we will have some super strong hybrids running around.

Tarana: Tani!!!

Everyone just laughed off as vampires producing kids was something unheard of, while Tani remarked:

Wohoa what times have come!! Who would have thought that this sweet simple girl next door Tarana and this Mr. Attitude Singhania can be so romantic and passionate?

Tarana was giving her dagger looks so Tani hid behind Divya, while Karan took Tarana to their room.

As soon as they reached their room, Karan closed the doors and started kissing Tarana passionately. He was holding her like he had never held her before. His grip on her was tighter than ever before. This made Tarana realize how much Karan has been holding back to not hurt her. But now that she was stronger than him, there was no need for Karan to hold back. Tarana decided to take advantage of her powers by taking lead this time. She pushed Karan to the wall and started kissing him passionately. She kissed his cheeks, brushed her thumb across his lips, placed a trail of kisses on his neck and then quickly unbuttoned his shirt. She stroked his chest with her hands and kissed there passionately, driving Karan crazy who was surprised at Tarana's sudden wild mood. Karan tried to hold Tarana in his arms, but Tarana pushed his hands away and threw him on bed. She herself laid on top of him and began unzipping his trousers. She pulled off his belt and used it to tie his hands up above his head. She then continued her assault on him, undressing him completely and teasing him with her touches and kisses at every part of him. Karan was loving this bad girl version of his Tarana, but at the same time was going crazy as he was not able to touch her himself. Tarana was in mood to have some fun pushing Karan to his wits' end as she was sending him off to a wild sensuous trip. She grabbed his private part and began stroking it and Karan gasped in shock. He now so badly wanted to grab Tarana and make her his right then, but Tarana was in no hurry. Karan pleaded with Tarana to open his hands, but Tarana just gave a naughty smirk and nodded her head in

refusal. She decided to tease Karan some more and so got off the bed leaving Karan naked on bed with his hands tied. She then started taking off her clothes slowly while seductively touching herself, making Karan go mad with desires. Finally when she had undressed herself too she went back to lie on top of Karan and forced him inside her. She continued her assault by riding on him driving Karan crazy and desperate as she was still not letting him touch her. He could see her breasts heaving up and down while she was thrusting his manhood inside her with strong force. Karan badly wanted to grab her breasts, caress them and suck them, but Tarana was enjoying this power trip and this bad girl avatar of her. Finally she could keep Karan under her control and she was loving it. After driving Karan to extreme, she finally released his hands. As soon as Karan's hands were freed, he grabbed Tarana and turned her to be on top of her. He was too desperate to control his urges at the moment, and now there was no need for him to control either, and so he matched Tarana's passion and aggression with his own. He kissed Tarana's whole body wildly while continuing to thrust himself inside her with full force making her feel him as deep inside herself as she could. He caressed her body with gentle yet firm touches, pressing harder at her more sensuous curves arousing Tarana's deepest desires. He remained inside her and they both continued rocking together, while also exploring each other's bodies with their hands and lips. There was no tenderness to their passion tonight. Tonight their actions were driven by their wildest desires. Karan moved down to her breasts and sucked and bit at her sensitive area while simultaneously pushing himself deeper inside her and this made Tarana moan in ecstasy and pleasure. They both climaxed together after a while but none of them wanted to leave the other's embrace. They continued their passionate love making session throughout the remaining night and early morning.

They were still inside each other, when Kiara knocked at their door at around 8 in the morning to ask them if they wanted to go to college that day. They parted after giving each other

another passionate kiss. It was only then when they have got up from the bed, did they realize that their bed had completely broken down, which made both of them laugh embarrassedly at each other.

Karan and Tarana went to college with Tani and Divya where the rest of the day went pretty uneventful. By the evening however, Tarana was completely exhausted as she has not slept for even a moment last night. Karan thought of teasing her and whispered in her ears:

Tarana its only evening and you are already yawning. You still have to the whole night to remain awake.

Tarana: What, no Karan. Not today, I am really exhausted.

Karan: Nope, you have tortured me too much yesterday night, now it's my turn for revenge. He winked at her.

Tarana stared at him with shock, but Karan just gave her a naughty smirk. They reached home where Kiara was standing at the door waiting for them in anger. The moment they reached home, she shouted at them: Get out both of you.

Karan and Tarana were shocked and asked: what have we done?

Kiara: You broke the bed in your bedroom!!!

Tarana was embarrassed but Karan just rolled his eyes and said: So, what's the big deal mom. I and Tarana have just broken a bed, you and dad have broken our entire cottage when we were in Japan, scaring me of another Tsunami.

Kiara was embarrassed at Karan's these words and tried to cover up saying: That was an old cottage, whose wood was half-decayed due to termites, and I was just practicing for dance.

Karan(smirking): give this excuse to some 2 year old mom.

Karan put his hand around an embarrassed but shyly giggling Tarana and proudly walked with her to his bedroom leaving a highly embarrassed and flustered Kiara standing at the door

step. As Karan and Tarana entered their room, they saw that their old wooden bed had been replaced with a strong wrought iron bed. They could not help but laugh sheepishly. Tarana embraced Karan and hid her face in his chest, while Karan kissed her head and caressed her hair. After a few minutes, Tarana started walking to washroom, but Karan stopped her: Where are you going Tarana?

Tarana: To change Karan.

Karan: No need to go anywhere. I will help you change.

Tarana: No Karan, I know what's going to happen if you help me to change and I am really really tired and need to sleep.

Karan: No way, that's the price you will have to pay for teasing Karan Singhania.

Tarana: Karan, let me go.

But Karan just tightened his grip around her and moved closer to kiss her, but just then there was a knock on their door and Ajay asked Karan to meet him in his study right then.

A defeated Karan pouted in fake anger and left, while Tarana quickly changed and got under the sheets.

In his study, Ajay told Karan that superiors plan to start Tarana's training tomorrow. He then said: So, Tarana should take good rest tonight so that she can start her training with a fresh and recharged mind and body. I hope you understand, what I mean. (giving him a crooked smile)

Karan(in fake anger): Fine dad. She will be ready.

Ajay: Good, now go.

Karan went back to his room and found Tarana sleeping soundly under a blanket. He smiled at his sleeping beauty and then joined her in the blanket and slept with her with his hands encircling her waist. While Ajay went to his room to see Kiara lost in her dream world and blushing occasionally. He read her mind to know what she was thinking and could not help smiling to know that Kiara was remembering their passionate night in Japan 100 years ago, when Ajay had returned home after a week of business meetings, and their passion had turned their

house to dust. Karan who used to be always in a broody mood at that time had been shaken up from his thoughts and he has cried out: Mom Dad. Is this a Tsunami attack? But he had only got a mumbled no from them as they had been still busy in their passionate lip-lock and love making session. Karan had got the message and ran into the woods surprised at his foster parents' never ending need for each other.

Ajay could not help but smile remembering all that and moved towards Kiara. While Karan and Tarana spent that night sleeping in each others' arms, Ajay and Kiara spent that night rekindling their fire of passion which has refused to die down even after 5 centuries of togetherness.

The next morning superiors arrived to begin Tarana's training sessions. They had among them an ex-martial arts instructor who was to train Tarana in physical combat; an yoga expert who was to train Tarana to protect and calm her mind and a hypnotist to help Tarana learn to fight illusionary and hypnotism attacks. Karan and Divya being the strongest vampire and werewolf helped Tarana learn the art of supernatural fights. Though Tarana was strongest among them, but being inexperienced in fighting, she suffered a lot of injuries much to the discomfort and displeasure of Karan. After a whole day of training, Tarana was highly exhausted and has suffered lots of bruises and internal inflammations throughout her body. She could hardly walk, so Karan lifted her up in her arms and took her to their room. Tarana's whole body was aching, which made Karan feel guilty,

so he said: Tarana, I am so sorry baby, you had to suffer all this.
Tarana: Sshhh... Don't be sorry Karan. I am actually liking this fact that I am not that damsel in distress anymore and can fight my own battles and stand by you as your strong and equal partner. I am enjoying this new me Karan.

Karan: Yeah, I remember how much you have been enjoying your powers now that you have me under your thumb.

He winked at her which made Tarana blush. He stroked her cheeks with his hands and then gently traced his fingers on her shoulders. But even this slight touch made Tarana wince in pain as she was hurt all across. This made Karan tensed once more and he said: You should take a hot water bath Tarana. It will relax your body and ease off your pain.

Tarana: Why should I take a hot water bath to heal myself, when your Kiss therapy works just fine and is much more enjoyable.

Karan: hmmm...so someone's being suggestive

Tarana(playfully): only if someone takes the hints.

Karan(smirking): You will get your therapy madam, but first take a bath to wash off all your sweat and dirt. I don't really like dirt entering my mouth (winked)

Tarana(pouting): Fine, I will take a bath, only if you join me in the tub (wink)

Karan: You can't have enough of me, can you?

Tarana: nope. Can you?

Karan: No.

With that he kissed her juicy lips and proceeded to take a warm bath in their bathroom. He quickly undressed Tarana and placed her in the warm water bath tub and took off his clothes too. Tarana splashed water at him and he splashed water back at her. He then took a scrub and gently scrubbed Tarana's whole body driving her crazy at his tickly sensuous touches. She could not stop giggling and her laughter was like music to Karan's ears. Tarana pulled him in the bath tub and did the same scrubbing sequence on him, making Karan feel very ticklish. Finally after having this hot bath, Tarana's muscles felt a little relaxed but her body was still aching. So, they got out of bath tub and Karan gently wiped her and himself with a towel, lifted her up in his arms and took her to their bed, where he kissed her whole body healing her and arousing her desires. Tarana wanted more of Karan, so she pulled him closer, and they spent the night loving each other.

Chapter 14 – Innocence Lost to Darkness

One year later.

On that fateful night, Vaidehi had managed to escape and had forced Ansh to join her too. With the clan accepting the immortal Divya as their leader and also accepting her decision to be friends with the vampires, he had no other choice but to run away with Vaidehi at that time in order to take revenge from that Karan Singhanian later. Vaidehi was the most powerful vampire and had the powers to defeat all the vampires except Karan. Being Mohini's son, Ansh was more powerful than the rest of his clan, but his powers were no match for Divya. With Vaidehi by his side, he had more chances of defeating that Karan as both Divya and Karan were required to work together to kill Karan and if they were not together, then they would not be able to kill Vaidehi and hence him too. From what Vaidehi knew about him, Karan must have been already praying for his death after losing his precious Tarana. Ansh will fulfill this wish of his for sure. And hence Ansh was reluctantly helping Vaidehi for the last 1 year in discovering her own powers and also to research on hidden supernatural secrets.

Vaidehi had heard a lot of stuff from Gautam while in her mummified state, including the fact that Vaidehi will have the power to hypnotize anybody so she decided to raid Gautam's old homes to see if he has stored more information anywhere. They had been to almost all Gautam's houses but could not find anything at all. The houses were all completely empty. They finally reached Gautam's Port Blair house which was the last place Gautam had stayed before coming to Shimla. This house too was empty, but in one corner of a wall, Vaidehi's portrait was hanging. They decided to check it out as nowhere else had they found anything else. Ansh removed the portrait from the wall to see if there was some hidden locker in the wall, but

there was none. Vaidehi took the portrait and tore off the back cover of it. Inside the frame was a pen drive.

Vaidehi: What is this? And why has Gautam hidden it like this?

Ansh: This is pen drive Vaidehi. We store data in this.

Vaidehi gave him confused blank looks, so Ansh decided to show her rather than try explaining her. He took out his laptop and plugged in the pen drive to see what was there in it. To add to their confusion here was just one record in that pen drive. It was the name of an ancient book on supernatural secrets and below the name of the book, the name and address of the person currently possessing that book was given. They were confused about what this book could be all about, but thought that it must have been really important if its name was so secretly hidden. However, just below that name the word slayer was also written making Ansh gasp that they will have to meet a slayer to get that book. He very much doubted if a slayer would help them, but Vaidehi assured him that they can easily kill him if he does not cooperate. They proceeded to the find that slayer in the sparsely populated Lakshadweep islands.

Old Mansion – Lakshadweep Islands

Vijendra Thakur was sitting all alone in his huge mansion worried about the responsibility on his shoulders. Though he was one of the most powerful slayers belonging to an ancient lineage of slayers, he was sensible enough to distinguish between good and bad vampires and werewolves and ever since the vampires had stopped hunting humans, he had been at peace with them. In fact, he was on friendly terms with Ajay Singhanian, though they rarely used to meet. It was Ajay's last call that had him worried for the last few days. Apparently one of the most powerful vampire has been resurrected by feeding her her look-alike's blood. Also, the former werewolf's leader's son was expected to be with her. Ajay had warned him that they will probably be researching about all Vaidehi's powers and

though he doubted that they will ever come to know about that ancient book, it would still be better if Vijendra was on his guards. Vijendra had assured him not to worry and that he would call his fellow slayers. But those guys proved to be nut heads refusing to trust a vampire and were upset that Vijendra is friends with a vampire rather than kill them all. They had refused to help him leaving Vijendra worried how he was going to deal with them alone. He had called Ajay to help and he was on his way, but his instincts were telling him that the danger was nearer to him than Ajay. He was on his guards when suddenly his mansion gates flew open and Ansh and Vaidehi stood in front of him smiling evilly.

Ansh and Vaidehi: If you know, what's good for you, then hand over that book to us.

Vijendra: Never.

Vaidehi(grinning): you think you can win over us (she uses her hypnotizing powers): now hand over that book to us immediately.

Vijendra was hypnotized and he went and took out that book from its hiding place. But being powerful he soon came into his senses and refused to hand it over and a fight began between them. Vijendra fought bravely, but being faced alone with two adversaries, he was soon overpowered and was finished off. Without wasting any time, Ansh and Vaidehi stole that book and ran away. Ajay reached too late. By the time he reached there, Vijendra was dead and the book was gone. He returned back defeated.

Ansh and Vaidehi decided to return back to Andaman forests to hide till the time they realize Vaidehi's full powers through that book. They were reading the book to find about the powers of Vaidehi and the one power which had them confused most was that being master of her soul, Vaidehi could transfer her spirit to any human's body and make that human do as she wants. Also, that human will carry all Vaidehi's strengths while Vaidehi

herself too would be retaining her strengths and will be fully able to control and possess that human. What confused them was why would such a powerful vampire ever need a human's body and the fact that this point was found in an extremely old book had them even more perplexed. Because, as per Ansh, this book was an extremely important book on all supernatural secrets and only had 2 copies ever. The slayers had to kill an extremely strong coven of vampires, to get hold of this book. Nobody knew where the 2nd book was. Vaidehi decided to read the book further to see if she can find some more clues about use of this particular strength of hers and how it can help her fight Karan and Divya. She was flipping through the pages of the book when one chapter caught her eyes:

Vampire-Werewolf-Human Tribid

If a powerful vampire who is able to transfer her spirit to a human, uses a human's body to conceive a child with a powerful werewolf, then the resultant tr-brid child will be one of the most powerful creatures on Earth whose strength will be equivalent to the strength of an immortal vampire or an immortal werewolf. Such a hybrid will be able to feed on both food as well as blood but like all kids, that kid too will need its human mother's milk in the first month of its existence and will not accept any other food or liquid. Being born of a human mother the creature will retain some of humanity and human emotions and some of human weaknesses too. However, if it is fed its own mother's blood as the first meal after 1 month of its birth, then this will kill this creature's heart and all traces of humanity in it and it will become a true beast devoid of any human emotions or weakness.

This tr-brid will grow very fast achieving 6 months growth in just 1 month. In 3 years that child will become an 18 year old adult and will realize his/her full powers. Since this child will be matching in strength with an immortal vampire/wolf, both will be unable to kill each other but will be able to seriously

injure and weaken each other. But the only creature which will truly have powers to kill this creature will be the hybrid of an immortal vampire and an immortal slayer.

Vaidehi was excited: So this is what we have to do with this unique power of mine. We have to find a human girl and then I need to transfer my spirit into her. Then through her we have to give birth to a vampire-werewolf-human tri-brid who will be strong enough to fight Karan and Divya. But what is this about a hybrid of an immortal vampire and an immortal slayer?

Ansh: Sounds nonsense to me. Slayers are not immortals. They age and die like normal humans.

Vaidehi: But then why is such a thing mentioned here?

Ansh: A figment of one's imagination. See let's check the facts and possibilities. First: vampires cannot reproduce. It has never been heard of. Even a powerful vampire like you needs help of a human to do that. What are the chances of there being another powerful vampire like you who can transfer his/her spirits to humans. Even if there is, then also the only immortal vampire is Karan as that compound is the only way to achieve immortality and Karan does not have this power. Secondly, there are no immortal slayers. Thirdly, slayers kill vampires and not mate with them and lastly, even if there is a miraculous female immortal slayer and Karan can miraculously reproduce, then by your own admission, he will not be interested in mating for another 2 centuries, right. It took him 200 years to get over you and that too because Tarana was your look-alike, then it is next to impossible that he will mate with someone so soon. All we have to do is protect this tri-brid till it gains its full powers and then unleash him on Karan.

Vaidehi was convinced and so asked: So who is going to be our scapegoat for this mission?

Ansh: Don't worry about that. I know the perfect girl for this job. And she is already crazy for me.

Ansh and Vaidehi had to go back near Shimla to lure Mini into their trap. But Ansh was worried that they may be caught. Vaidehi brought out two black robes for them to wear.

Ansh: What the hell? Do you think that we can hide ourselves from vampires and werewolves by wearing these veils? They can recognize us by our smell. They don't need to see our faces to recognize us. We cannot cheat them by wearing these stupid veils.

Vaidehi: You Idiot! This is to block our smell only. I found these in that slayer Vijendra's house. Those slayers wear these to block their smell from vampires and werewolves. We too may be able to block our smell by wearing these robes.

Ansh finally understood and they went to Shimla, where very easily Ansh managed to get Mini to come to him. When Mini reached there, Ansh gave her a laced drink, which made her unconscious. Ansh was waiting for Vaidehi to return and was getting furious that she cannot control her thirst even during this important mission. But Vaidehi had caught scent of a dumb-witted human and so she has mercilessly drained him dry and left Vikky Agarwal's body unattended on the highway.

Ansh and Vaidehi soon carried the unconscious Mini back to Andaman where Vaidehi performed some spells from that ancient book and transferred her spirit in Mini's body and made her her slave. Mini was to remain in this possessed state till she delivered Ansh's baby. When she woke up, she was confused about her surroundings. She was partially herself till now though she was losing herself fast.

She asked Ansh: Baby, where have you brought me? And how come I am unconscious?

Ansh: I am so sorry babes. You know how my own sister killed my mom and is after my life. The minute you reached that hotel, some of her men had followed you there and they attacked you. I somehow managed to save you from them and

so I decided to escape and come back here in Andaman where we can live happily together.

Mini: But I am feeling something strange Ansh. As if someone is possessing my mind.

Ansh: It's just a matter of few minutes dear. You have just woken up.

And within 30 minutes, Mini was completely possessed. She could see, hear and realize what's happening to and with her, but had no control over her own mind and actions. She could see when Ansh came closer to her, but she could not stop him. A part of her wanted to scream at him for being so fast, but she just had no more control over her senses or her body. She felt her lips moving and talking dirty to Ansh, but the voice was not hers and the words were not hers. She saw Ansh unzipping her short frock and she wanted to stop him, but to her shock she saw her own hands matching his actions and unbuttoning his shirt. She wanted to run away from there but was shocked to see herself pulling Ansh closer to herself and locking his lips with hers. She just did not know what was happening when she saw Ansh lying naked on top of her bare body and felt her body responding to his touches and closeness, whereas her mind wanted to scream and kill Ansh at that moment. She was scared and afraid of herself and everything around her. Her body was not in control of her mind. Something was wrong, terribly wrong. Mini could feel it, yet could do nothing about it. She was shocked beyond words when she felt Ansh entering her. Her mind was screaming in horror but she felt her body moan in pleasure.

On the other hand, Vaidehi was experiencing altogether different feelings. She was experiencing this pleasure first time in her 200 years. Karunesh had been too virtuous to do anything though she had tried seducing him many times. Once she had deliberately thrown him in the pool in the middle of the night so that he would have to remove his clothes. She had seductively stroked his chest then, but all Karunesh ever did was kiss her

forehead. She had died without ever experiencing the ultimate pleasure as no one in her vast line of play boys appealed to her as much as Karunesh. She had wanted him to do be the first one to make her feel a complete woman, but he had been her life's biggest disappointment. She had remained a mummified corpse for 200 years and now for the first time as a vampire, she was experiencing this carnal pleasure though not completely. Being a werewolf, Ansh's smell was repulsive to Vaidehi's vampire senses and so she has kept a distance from him, but by transferring her soul in Mini at least she could now feel like a woman even if only mentally.

Chapter 15 – Wedding Bells

6 months later in Shimla

Ajay had not been able to forgive himself for not being able to save his friend. Though Kiara had kept reminding him that he had left for Lakshadweep the moment Vijendra has called, Ajay was still not coming to terms that he could not save his friend. On top of that, it has been 6 months, but they still have not been able to figure out which vampire had killed Vikky Agarwal and left his body there. There was no vampire smell near him, which made the entire council guess that it must have been Vaidehi and she must have stolen that smell hiding robe from Vijendra's house. But what puzzled them all was that what has brought Vaidehi to Shimla and so near danger. Also, the fact that there were no other attacks made them feel that Vaidehi was no longer around, further confusing them as to what motive could have possibly brought her here.

Ultimately Kiara came up with a brilliant suggestion to divert Ajay's attention:

Ajay, you have always been the one to ask us to stay away from emotions and now you are refusing to come out of mourning. I agree that it is unfortunate that we could not save Vijendra, but stop blaming yourself for it. In fact, Vijendra called us very late. He should have called us a week back, and we would have all gone there and finish Ansh and Vaidehi off. But, now it is too late to regret over what cannot be undone. And I want you to give attention to something important now.

Ajay: What is so important?

Kiara: Karan and Tarana's marriage. Yes Ajay, they have been engaged for a year and a half now. They are through with their graduation also, so I think it is high time that they get married.

Ajay: Hmm... I think it is a good idea. When do you want the wedding to be?

Kiara: As soon as possible. How about next week?

Ajay: ok. Let's ask Karan and Tarana the kind of wedding they would want to have. They can have any kind of wedding. It hardly matters in our supernatural world.

Ajay and Kiara called Karan and Tarana to the hall to discuss the wedding with them. They both were very happy to hear this. Kiara asked Tarana the kind of wedding she would want.

Tarana: I don't know. Having studied in missionary schools, the church weddings always seemed so fairytale like to me, but Bollywood has made me dream of a big fat Indian Wedding too, so I am super confused about what to do.

Kiara thought for a moment and then asked: What do you like most about a Christian Wedding?

Tarana: The Bride's gown, and the sealing of the vows.

Kiara: And Indian wedding?

Tarana: The saat pheras and the huge pomp and show.

Kiara: Done then, we will begin your wedding with the vows and end it with the saat pheras. Pomp and show will of course be there. And you will be getting married in a gown of your choice. This will be a wedding with a difference.

Tarana: Wow! Really? That sounds superb.

Kiara: Ok then. The wedding is next week and so as per all the rituals in the world, Tarana will be staying in Divya's room till then.

Karan was super happy to see his Tarana beaming in happiness but also a bit frustrated that he will have to stay away from Tarana for a whole week. But, the delight and excitement on Tarana's face was worth anything.

The next one week went in preparations for wedding and lots and lots of shopping. Tani who had been feeling low for last 6 months since Vikky's death, suddenly had some excitement to

look for. Karan had tried every night to sneak into Tarana's room, but each time he had found Divya cleverly and smartly guarding the room's entry points. Finally the mehendi and sangeet evening arrived and the guests started arriving for the Mehendi and Sangeet party. Tani was helping Tarana get ready and Tarana was complaining why she was dressed in her usual capris. She forced her into one of her dresses much to Tani's chagrin. The rest of the ceremony went well with everyone enjoying dancing and playing various games. But, Karan and Tarana only had eyes for each other. Finally, Karan was asked to leave by Kiara as it was time for Mehendi and he was told that now he will get to see her only at the wedding altar as it was considered inauspicious. Karan reluctantly left. The night went with Rocky and other college friends teasing Karan and he brilliantly tossing it off with his cool attitude and Tani, Divya and their other friends teasing Tarana and her blushing.

Finally the wedding evening arrived and the entire Shimla was present to see their favorite couple getting tied in matrimony knot. Karan was standing in the hall dressed in a black suit with a red shirt. He along with all the guests was waiting for his beautiful bride to come down for the wedding. Tani and Divya brought Tarana downstairs. She was dressed in a beige colored shoulder-less gown with Golden thread embroidery and protruding roses on her gown along with matching gold beads jewellery. Karan could not take his eyes off his Tarana who was looking divine, elegant and sexy all at the same time. The gown was hugging Tarana's petite figure sexily and showing off some of her milky white cleavage, driving Karan insane by arousing his desires.

Tani and Divya took Tarana straight to the wedding mandap, and Rocky brought Karan there. Karan and Tarana took the saat pheras holding their hands while the pundit and the church priest chanted the wedding mantras and vows. It was a surreal heavenly and holy feeling where Karan and Tarana were being bound by not just one religious belief but two. It was as if all the

Gods were showering their blessings on this magical couple. Everyone was mesmerized except the ever-skeptical Ashish Agarwal whose hatred for vampires has further increased with Vikky's death and he unreasonably considered the Singhania's as being responsible since they could not catch that unknown vampire who killed Vikky. He could not help himself from commenting:

What kind of weird wedding is this? Making mockery of two religions!!

Tani overheard this and snapped back: It all depends on how you perceive it Dad. For us it seems that all Gods are blessing them together and it is giving us a very holy and pure feeling. And please, at least for today, if you can't say anything good to them, then better not say anything. And as it is it hardly makes a difference how Karan and Tarana get married as they are truly made for each other and no one can separate them.

Ashish was left speechless at his daughter's such strong support for Tarana and Karan and so he decided to keep his mouth shut.

Just then, the time came for Karan and Tarana to take their vows as the priest asked Karan: Do you, Karan Singhania, son of Ajay Singhania take Miss Tarana Sharma as your lawfully wedded wife and promise to stand by her till the end of eternity?

Karan: I do.

Priest to Tarana: Do you, Tarana Sharma, daughter of Anita Sharma take Mr. Karan Singhania as your lawfully wedded husband and promise to stand by him till the end of eternity.

Tarana: I do.

But the Earth below Ashish and Kusum's feet had shaken. Kusum knew that finally Ashish has come to know that his lost daughter was no one other than Tarana and Ashish could not believe that the girl whose wedding he was attending as a guest was his own lost daughter. He had half a mind to go and snatch

her away from Karan then and there and call off the wedding, but Kusum held him back.

Kusum: No Ashish, stop. Everybody is looking. Don't create a scene here.

Ashish: Kusum, I don't care. She is my daughter and she is marrying that weird Karan Singhania! I won't let this marriage take place.

Kusum: But the marriage has already taken place Ashish.

And just then the priests announced: We now pronounce Karan and Tarana as man and wife and addressing Karan: You may kiss the bride.

Karan held Tarana's face and pressed his lips to hers. He began with a soft kiss, but soon the passion built up and his desires which he has been holding back for a week, overflowed and the kiss grew intense. Tarana too was kissing him back with equal passion making all the guests giggle at them and pass glances to each other. Only Ashish looked crestfallen but Kusum assured him:

Ashish look how happy Tarana is with Karan. And ever since Tarana has come to this town, we all have seen her and Karan's love and Karan also said that they have been in love for ages. God has made them for each other. We all know that no one can love Tarana the way Karan does and Singhania's have also always treated Tarana as their own daughter and never even questioned her about her parentage. No other house can be better than this for Tarana.

Tani just overheard the last sentence and agreed with Kusum: You are right mom. Karan and Tarana are made for each other. And they are going to be forever together. And this party is so rocking man! I can't wait for their next wedding.

Kusum: Next wedding?

Tani: Yeah, God knows how many times Karan and Tarana will have to get married. I guess they will have to marry every five

years. I just hope that at least their next wedding takes place in India only.

Ashish and Kusum were looking at her with confused expressions, but finally Kusum said: you got drunk again?? Isn't it? That's why you are talking such non-sense. This girl is never going to change. God knows what will be her future and how Rocky will handle her after marriage.

Just then Rocky came and said: Don't worry aunty I will handle everything. You just arrange for the wedding.

Kusum: Hmm.. it seems I will have to get you two married soon.

Tani: oh hello I am not getting married for another three months.

Rocky, Kusum, Ashish: Why???

Tani: Duh..Karan and Tarana will return from their honeymoon after 3 months and I am not getting married without Tarana's presence.

Kusum: Fine then. After three months I am definitely marrying you off.

Tani: ok. Cool.

And she walked off while Kusum just sighed: God, what should I do with this girl? Girls are supposed to feel shy on the mention of their marriage but look at this girl. She is behaving as if I am planning some casual party instead of her wedding.

Karan and Tarana were now dancing for the first dance on and everyone was lost in their passionate chemistry. As soon as the dance finished, Kiara announced: It's time for you to leave for your honeymoon Karan. Your private jet is ready and waiting on the terrace for you.

Tarana: Ok, I'll just change

Karan: Tarana, it's a private jet. We have the full cabin to ourselves. You don't have to change now (he winked at her and Tarana blushed).

Kiara(smiling): Ok now go. Your luggage has already been sent to your flight.

With that Karan and Tarana went to the terrace to board their flight.

Tarana was surprised to see that the pilot of the plane was also a vampire named Rudra. She gave confused looks, so Kiara explained: Well, a normal human will not be able to prevent the plane from crashing because of your intense love making and while you both may not even have noticed it, the poor chap would have lost his life.

Tarana blushed at Kiara's brazen remarks. But, Karan just smirked. They were just arranging their luggage in their private cabin, when the flight suddenly took off making both of them lose balance and they fell together on the bed, with Tarana falling on top of Karan. The moment their bodies touched, it sent sparks inside and both got lost in the passion that they saw in each other's eyes. Tarana had fallen at such an angle that her low-cut gown was exposing her cleavage to Karan, arousing his desires which he was having hard time controlling for the last one week. Tarana too had missed Karan in the last one week and they both were burning in passion for each other. They could not control any longer and began kissing each other passionately. The upward movement of the plane was further accelerating the already fast movement of Tarana's chest and her breasts were ready to pop out of her gown. Karan's hands were caressing Tarana's bare shoulders from the back. He soon unzipped her gown and took it off her. The sight which greeted him drove his senses crazy. Tarana was wearing a strapless two piece bikini set made entirely of lace and net with just a few tiny bowstrings to hold them up. There was little left to imagination. It was now Tarana's turn to free Karan from his clothes and she quickly removed all his clothes leaving nothing on. Karan then untied all the bowstrings of Tarana's innerwears with his teeth. They caressed and kissed each other's bodies like they had never done before. The variations in the plane's movements were making them bump into each other, adding more sensuality and passion to their already burning hot love making.

Tarana began seductively tracing patterns on Karan's raised manhood, while Karan started stroking Tarana's moist bottom with his fingers. His fingers alternated between stroking her sensitive are and going deep inside her, sending Tarana into new sexual heights. With his free hand, Karan traced patterns on Tarana's chest before putting his mouth on her raised breast and sucking at it like a baby, while inserting the finger of his other hand inside Tarana with a strong force. Tarana moaned in passion and excitement. She could not hold it anymore and rode on him and gently took his raised manhood inside her and began rocking up and down, while Karan kept sucking at her nipples and occasionally biting them. Then Karan turned her to be on top of her and they both continued making hard passionate love. The jerks of the flight were making Karan reach depths he has never reached before and stroke Tarana at sensitive untouched parts making her scream in pleasure. Karan was enjoying seeing the way he was making Tarana feel.

It was taking all of Rudra's vampiric superpowers to keep the flight in control. Kiara and Ajay have been right in their warning. Nothing can stop Karan and Tarana when they are together. He was having hard time remaining in senses imagining what these two must have been doing at the moment. How he wished someone was there for him too.

Soon the flight landed in Singhanian's private island and Karan and Tarana came to their senses. They quickly got dressed and got down from their flight. The sight in front of her eyes both amazed Tarana as well as made her blush. She was standing on top of a beautiful cottage which she could feel had multiple layers of wrought iron used in its construction. From the top, she could see the beautiful garden surrounding the cottage. She could not wait to explore inside the cottage. Rudra bid them good bye and told them that he would be returning after 15 days for next part of their long honeymoon across the world. As soon as Rudra left, Karan lifted Tarana in his arms and pushed a pillar which opened a trap door to enter inside the cottage.

Karan flew down the stairs carrying Tarana and placed her down only after reaching their bedroom which had beautiful orchid and lilies drawn across the wall tiles. Tarana looked around and found the room very beautiful. She was about to suggest that she wants to see the remainder of the house, but Karan sealed her lips with his own and quickly tore off her clothes. Though he has been making love to her all throughout the flight, but Karan could never have enough of her. He did not even have the patience to reach the bed and began kissing and touching her aggressively. Tarana too gave in and they both ended up making rough aggressive love right there on the floor.

After two hours of intense love making on the floor, Tarana expressed her desire to have a shower, so Karan took her to the bathroom and pressed the shower button. The water started washing off the sweat from their bodies and they began seductively drinking water off each other's bodies. Karan also let the bath tub got filled and poured shower gel in it. Karan entered the bath tub now filled with rich lather and pulled Tarana who fell on top of him with her womanhood automatically resting on his manhood, driving both of them crazy. They both enjoyed bathing together with Karan inside her. They scrubbed each other with Karan taking special care in scrubbing her breasts. Their bathing and love making continued for another hour when growling in Tarana's stomach finally made both of them realize their other needs too. Karan helped wash off the shower gel off Tarana's body by scrubbing with his hands, again paying special attention to her breasts and her bottom. He then wiped her dry, making sure to tease her by applying more pressure while wiping her sensitive areas. Finally Tarana came to their room and Karan helped her get into a sexy negligee. Tarana protested to wear proper clothes, but Karan brushed it off saying it will just add too much of work for him later in removing them, making Tarana blush.

Karan cooked instant noodles and Tomato Soup for Tarana and after feeding her Tarana insisted on taking a look at the rest of

the cottage. Karan let her look around for a few minutes, but by the time she reached the hall, Karan could not take it any longer and so pulled Tarana on top of him on the love seat in the hall. They made warm, soft tender love there and Tarana drifted off to sleep in Karan's arms after it.

From next morning onwards, as Karan had promised Tarana, he showed her all throughout the New Zealand during the day and they both made love each and every night of their honeymoon. Next 15 days passed like this and then Rudra came to take them to their next destination – Europe. Karan and Tarana spent their honeymoon travelling across the world and finally after 3 months they returned back to Shimla to attend Tani-Rocky's wedding.

Chapter 16 – Birth of Powerhouses

Andaman Islands

For the last nine months Mini has been living in a state of trance. She did not know what was going around her. It was as if she was living through her or for that matter any woman's worst nightmare. Ansh was super sweet to her, but he was addressing her as Vaidehi, on top of it, she herself was responding as if she herself was Vaidehi. It seemed that someone other than herself was also residing in her body, and controlling all her actions. But how was that possible. That happens only in some C grade horror movies. But no, either something similar was happening with her or she was in a state of long sleep having the weirdest nightmare possible. In either of the cases, she was afraid that she was on verge of losing herself. If she was dreaming, then why the hell was she not waking up and if this was all real, then she had no idea how she was going to find herself back again. On top of it, she could clearly see that she was pregnant. That scoundrel Ansh had planted his seed in her, without even asking her permission.

She had been wondering over this state of hers for months now and finally she had come to realize that it was not a dream, but a real life horror. And the only possible explanation to all this, no matter how improbable it seemed was that someone was indeed possessing her body and her name was Vaidehi and in order to give birth to Ansh and Vaidehi's baby, her body was used. But, then who was Vaidehi and where was she and what was she? And what about Ansh? Were these people humans or something else? She wanted those answers. But sadly for her, she was trapped in her own body. Her body was not in control of herself, and on top of it, the baby was probably killing her from inside and draining her of her energies. How was that possible? But she has found a probable solution to it a few

months back, though she did not want to admit it. 3 months back, her body had stopped accepting any food, and she has been shocked when the woman possessing her body had ordered Ansh to get her blood.

What shocked her further was when she found herself greedily drinking up that blood. So what did that mean, was Vaidehi a vampire? And did that mean that the baby inside her was a vampire baby and that is why she was turning so weak, as probably that baby was feeding on her from inside? She was going mad at these shocking but only possible explanations about her condition. But as desperate times bring out the best and worst in anyone, Mini's brain too has started working smartly in this time. She now has been pretending to be always in trance without any knowledge of what was happening around her, but actually her mind has been carefully observing everything to find any clue about her situation and any possible escape route. From all Ansh and Vaidehi's conversation, it was clear that all they were concerned about was the baby. It seemed that the baby was the only thing important to them and they badly wanted it. So she was pinning her hopes on maybe she will be set free once the baby is born and considering that she has been here for 9 months, and feeling her own body's changes, it seemed that the baby could be out any moment, and then she maybe finally free. As she was rejoicing at that thought, she felt her body go through contractions and heard the voice inside her scream for Ansh.

But Ansh did not come alone. Mini was shocked to see Tarana with Ansh, but surprisingly Ansh was addressing her as Vaidehi. Mini's mind started spinning again. How was this possible? Tarana had always seemed to be in love with Karan and as much as she might have made fun of her, Mini had never ever considered her as such an evil heart. In fact, it was the purity of her heart which has made her envious of her as she knew she could win over anyone with her pure heart. And how come

Tarana was a vampire? Before she could grasp the situation, Ansh asked Vaidehi:

I think its time for baby to be born, so maybe you should leave her body now.

Vaidehi: You will always stay a dumb smelly animal. If I come out of her body right now, then she will die giving birth to our child. But our child needs her milk for his first month. And so we will have to keep her alive for one month and to remain alive, she needs my strength and power. Once our child comes out safely and my powers heal her body, then I will leave her weak body. And then, next full moon night we will feed this stupid girl's blood to our child and make him the most dreaded creature of the world.

Ansh: but how will we bring this child out?

Vaidehi: by using your strength. Only a werewolf can tear apart a vampire's body, you will also have to do the same thing to take this child out.

Ansh: but you can also do it.

Vaidehi: I will not be able to control myself seeing her blood. And we have to keep her alive for another one month. A mother's milk makes the mother child bond as the strongest bond in the world, but when this child will drink the blood of his birth and feeding mother, then he will lose all humanity inside him and he will become a true devil who will be almost invincible. Your sister will never be able to stand against him.

Ansh: and Karan?

Vaidehi: I am sure he would already be half-dead in the sad memories of his beloved Tarana.

Ansh: But that was one and a half year back.

Vaidehi: He took 200 years to forget me. He won't forget her that soon and easily. That reminds me that it was good that you attacked Tarana before me and bit her too. That way her route to return back was finished forever. Had only I attacked her, then Karunesh could have brought her back as a vampire.

Mini could neither believe nor understand what she was hearing. Did it mean that Vaidehi was merely a look-alike of Tarana? Well that indeed was possible, but what did they mean that they had killed Tarana a year and a half back, when Tarana was very much alive and living with Karan when she herself was kidnapped. And Karan being a 200 years old vampire was the biggest shock to her. But before she could ponder further on this matter, the baby made an attempt to get out of her body and that made Mini scream in pain. Vaidehi quickly exited the room and Ansh transformed into his wolf form then and there, shocking the living daylight out of her. He tore her apart to take the baby boy out and Mini fell unconscious. Vaidehi's powers started healing her body and once she was healed, Vaidehi exited her body. The original Vaidehi returned back to the room and held the baby in her arms and gave an evil proud victorious smile. She then named him Prince as according to her he will help her conquer the world.

When Mini regained her consciousness, Vaidehi ordered her to feed the child and Mini silently obeyed. She herself decided to go for hunt and began searching for her robe. Ansh asked her what she was searching for and Vaidehi replied that she was looking for her robe.

Ansh: But what's the need? Who will be looking for us here in the jungle?

Vaidehi: But I don't want to give them any chance to search me out. This jungle is filled with wild animals and vampires often roam around in such areas for their preys. If someone smells us out in such a circumstance, then they will reach here following us. That is why I don't step out without this robe as it blocks out our smell.

Vaidehi soon found the robe, while Mini made a mental note about this. As the days passed Mini began plotting ways to escape from this place. She did not know whether she will be able to save her son too or not, but no way was she going to let these psychos kill his humanity by feeding him his own mother's

blood. Yes, Mini will have to escape, not for herself, but for her son to keep the hope of his return to humanity alive. She had been wondering where she will go after escaping from here as Ansh and Vaidehi were sure to follow her, and the only possible option seemed to be Karan. He might be a vampire, but Mini could clearly see the difference between Karan and Vaidehi. All her life, Mini has lived a shallow and hollow life, but having faced the worst possible horror, she could now clearly differentiate between good and bad and Karan and Tarana were as good as anyone can be. And by Ansh and Vaidehi's own talks, Mini knew that if there is anybody who can help her against them, then it was Karan and Divya. One day she overheard Ansh and Vaidehi talking over a book,

Vaidehi: Anything new in this book?

Ansh: no the same old stuff about how silver can hurt a vampire painfully.

Vaidehi: I guess we have discovered all the secrets of this book and it is useless for us now. But we will still have to keep it closely guarded as the secret to finish Prince is in this book and we cannot let our enemies know about the way to destroy our strongest weapon

Ansh: You still believe that non-sense. Don't worry, no one can kill Prince. He is as good as an immortal.

Vaidehi: yeah maybe you are right.

Mini made a mental note about silver and decided to steal the book along with that robe when she escapes. But she decided to strengthen the bond between herself and Prince as much as she can by staying on till the full moon night and pray to God for her moment of escape.

Shimla

Ever since their return back to India, Tarana had been busy helping Tani for her wedding preparations. The wedding was just 3 weeks away and Tani had not even bought her wedding

lehenga yet since she wanted to get married in her capris only. None of Kusum's efforts or scolding had any effect on her. And so, Kusum handed the responsibility of putting brains in Tani's head to Tarana, who accepted it laughingly. When Tani refused to agree, Tarana threatened her of using her powers on her if she does not agree. Finally Tani had to agree. During these three weeks Ashish tried many times to strike a conversation with Tarana, but Kusum had already warned her about Ashish knowing the truth now, so Tarana was avoiding him like a plague. She had never accepted him as part of her life and now, that her world has changed so much, there was no way she was going to allow him in, especially considering the unjustified hatred Ashish had towards vampires. Finally Tani and Rocky were married and they left for their honeymoon and Ashish decided to confront Tarana about being his daughter.

He went to the Singhania mansion after a week where they were having a meeting with the entire superiors council. He overheard their conversation and came to know that Singhania's were vampires. He was shocked and furious and barged in their hall and started dragging Tarana along with him.

Tarana protested and screamed: What are you doing uncle?

Ashish: Stop this drama Tarana. We both know that what the real relationship between us is. And I will not let you stay with these monsters.

Tarana: What do you mean? You are only my friend Tani's father. And you have no right to say such things about my family.

Ashish: How can these monsters be your family? Your family is with us.

Before, Tarana could say anything, Karan interrupted: What family are you talking of? Tarana is my wife and this is her family.

Ashish: I refuse to accept this marriage. A monster and a human can never marry. This marriage is meaning less.

Karan: Your accepting or not accepting makes no difference to anyone. The law accepts this marriage and Tarana being a legal adult can take her life decisions herself. And you are just her friend's father, so you have no right to interfere in her life. After all what is the relationship between you and Tarana?

Ashish: I don't consider it necessary to explain my relationship with Tarana to you.

Karan(laughing): Why don't you say it clearly that you do not have the guts to admit the truth in front of the whole world. That is why you waited till Tani's wedding to talk to Tarana. But what answer will you give to the world that why and with what right have you separated a girl from her love, her family, her husband?

Ashish: I don't care about the world, but I will not let my daughter stay with you monsters. And I will finish all you monsters off. I will call slayers in the town to finish off all you monsters.

Tarana could not take this anymore and screamed, "Stop This!" and she fainted. Everyone was shocked and Karan rushed to her and tried to bring her back to senses. Ashish too rushed to her and started saying: Tarana, open your eyes. Someone call the doctor please.

But no one responded. It was unnatural for a slayer to faint like this. They were looking at Divya, who was even more confused as an immortal slayer was supposed to be even stronger. Ashish cried again to call a doctor, but seeing no response, he took out his cell to dial doctor's number, but Ajay snatched the phone away.

Ashish: What the hell? Tarana needs a doctor.

Ajay: Mr. Agarwal, Tarana is our daughter-in-law, and we know what is best for her and what we have to do.

Ashish: Tarana is my daughter and she is a human. She needs a doctor right now.

Karan: Tarana was your daughter. Now she is my wife and I can take care of her very well. And it is because of your visit here

that there was such a tense atmosphere that she fainted. You may please leave from here.

Ashish: I will not leave till Tarana comes back to her senses. Why don't you people call a doctor?

Kiara: Doctor can't help Tarana.

Ashish: What do you mean? Tarana is a normal human.

Kiara: No she was a normal human. Now she is an immortal slayer. (addressing Divya): Divya, please check and try to find out that why Tarana has fainted like this.

Divya who was actually a qualified doctor, bent down near Tarana and held her hand in hers to check her pulse. She was surprised and placed her hand on her stomach. Her eyes opened in shock and amazement and she exclaimed: How is this possible?

Everyone: Why? What has happened to Tarana?

Divya: She is pregnant.

Everyone in the room was shocked while Tarana came back into her senses. She was surprised to see everyone in this shocked state and asked what was wrong. Divya told her that she was pregnant and Tarana felt mixed emotions of shock, happiness and concern.

She asked: Divya, are you sure, I mean is that even possible?

Divya: How am I supposed to know Tarana? You and Karan are one of a kind. But, it is true that you indeed are pregnant.

Ashish was furious to know this and shouted: I will not allow my daughter to have a monster's child. Tarana, enough of your tantrums and stubbornness! I am taking you to a doctor right now and I will get this spawn removed from you. You will not give birth to an abomination.

Tarana got furious hearing such words about her baby and shouted at Ashish: Enough! Enough of your non-sense! Now if you dare to say even a word against my baby, then I will kill you with my own hands. And since you are thinking of getting my

family killed through slayers, then let me tell you one thing: I am the most powerful slayer in the world. And because of that, technically I am the queen of all slayers in the world. No slayer will dare to stand against me. And you died for me the day you left my mother and now my world has changed. My world and family is with Karan. I don't need you and your interference in my life. You are only Tani's dad for me and that is the only reason why I am stopping my family to do anything against you, otherwise we do not allow any such human to live who comes to know our secrets but does not understand us. Your daughter Tani is far more sensible than you who can distinguish between right and wrong.

Ashish: What, what do you mean? How does Tani know all this?
Karan: Because Tarana sacrificed her human life to save Tani's life. And I don't consider telling you anything more as necessary so you may please leave as we have to discuss few important family matters.

Andaman Islands

Finally Mini got the opportunity she has been waiting for. Ansh had taken Prince to some other place to prepare for the rituals of the full moon night which was tonight, leaving Mini alone with Vaidehi. In their overconfidence on their supernatural powers, Ansh and Vaidehi had returned Mini her bag after just taking out her cell phone. Little did they know that inside the bag was a secret pocket in which Mini had hidden a silver knife gifted to her by a superstitious aunt as a good luck charm. She had hidden it then to avoid being ridiculed, but today she was blessing her aunt. Also, what Ansh and Vaidehi had not bothered to notice was that inside her bag, there was a purse which had 2 silver detachable chains which Mini had detached and locked in her purse itself. Without wasting a single moment, she took all these out and stabbed Vaidehi with the silver knife multiple times, Vaidehi fought back to bite her, but she could only brush her teeth against her skin when Mini stabbed her

again and again, making her burn in pain. When she had inflicted sufficient injuries on Vaidehi so as to make her unable to fight back, she quickly tied her up with the silver chains, put on her robe, grabbed the ancient book and rushed out of the cottage and ran towards the road. She ran as fast as she could but she was losing her strength as just by brushing her teeth against her, Vaidehi had managed to inject her venom inside her which was spreading. She reached the road and almost collapsed in front of a jeep.

Tani and Rocky who on Tani's insistence had changed their honeymoon destination from Maldives to Andaman in just a week were shocked to see Mini collapsing in front of their jeep in this state.

Tani: Mini, Mini you are alive? Where were you till now? We were thinking that probably that night Vaidehi killed you also along with Vikky.

Mini: You know about Vaidehi?

Tani: Yes, but how do you know about her?

Just then Tani's eyes went towards Mini's neck, which were showing teeth marks and she exclaimed: Mini who did this to you? Was it Vaidehi?

Mini nodded her head and spoke in a broken painful voice: Please take me away from here Tani. If they find me then even the last ray of hope for my son will be wiped off.

Tani(shocked): Your son?? What do you mean?

Mini: Yes, though I gave birth to him, but he is a tri-brid. Vaidehi had possessed me.

Tani: and who is the father? Tell me Mini!

Mini: Ansh... That moron, he ra...

Tani's mouth was wide open in shock and she cursed him using all the profanities she could think of.

Mini: Tani, please take me away from here. They both want to feed my son my blood to kill his humanity and turn him into a dark devil.

Tani: Rocky, we need to get back to Shimla right now.

Rocky: but Tani we have just arrived here and we should first take Mini to hospital. As it is the next flight to Shimla is after 10 hours.

Tani(screaming): Do as I say Rocky. We need to get back to Shimla right now.

She then called up Tarana to update them about the situation.

Singhania Mansion

Karan: Divya, will there be any danger to Tarana from this baby?

Divya: Karan, Tarana is an immortal slayer. Her body is capable of carrying this baby. But I don't know how long will the baby take to come out. We will have to monitor Tarana each and every moment.

Superiors: But even more important is to take care of this baby's security. Karan and Tarana are the most powerful beings on Earth and their baby may be even more powerful having even more powers. So, if it falls in bad company or wrong hands, then they may use its powers for destructive purposes which may destroy this world. And if Ansh and Vaidehi ever find about this baby, then they will definitely try to get hold of him/her.

Just then Tarana's phone buzzed. It was Tani. Tarana was tensed right now so she picked the phone and said "Tani I'll talk to you later", but Tani interrupted her saying: Tarana its urgent and about Ansh and Vaidehi!!"

Tarana: What Ansh and Vaidehi? Have you found out where they are?

Superiors instructed Tarana to put the phone on speaker phone. Tani briefed her about Mini's story including Mini's condition, Ansh and Vaidehi's plan and the unavailability of a flight.

Superiors: Tani you reach the airport along with Mini. Rudra will reach there along with the Singhania's Jet. He will bring you

guys here. (addressing Rudra): You leave for Andaman immediately and bring Tani, Rocky and Mini safely here and make sure that Mini remains alive till she reaches here so that we can find about all Ansh and Vaidehi's plans by reading her mind. I don't know from where they got the idea of creating such a Tri-brid. How I wish that book was with us, maybe we would have found all our answers there.

Rudra proceeded to leave for Andaman and Divya suggested that she accompanies him in case Ansh catches up with them. Rudra and Divya reached Andaman airport at the same instant as Tani, Rocky and Mini reached there. Rocky was unable to understand anything happening around him, but every time he would try to open his mouth to ask anything, Tani would just shut him up. They boarded the plane and Rudra carried an almost unconscious Mini to the plane.

Divya: Rudra, the venom has spread throughout Mini's body, I don't think we will be able to save her.

Rudra: but we have to keep her alive till Shimla at all costs. There has to be a way out.

Divya: You feed her some of your blood maybe that will help her fight for some more time.

Rudra fanged out, slashed his wrist and fed his blood to Mini shocking living daylights out of Rocky who screamed and tried to get down the plane, only to be stopped by an unperturbed Tani who was casually holding Mini in her lap while Rudra was feeding her his blood.

Tani: Rocky, where are you going?

Rocky: Tani, what all is happening over here? Who are these people or rather what are they? And you are behaving as if you see all this on a daily basis.

Tani: Rocky just relax. I'll explain everything. But please hear me out completely and with an open mind.

Mini came back to her senses a little bit and so Rudra started the plane. Tani explained everything to Rocky who heard her out in a shocked state. Meanwhile, Divya noticed Mini clutching

to a book and so Divya asked about it to which Mini replied that Ansh and Vaidehi found everything in this book only. Divya excitedly called Karan to inform him that they have got the book too.

They landed on the terrace of Singhania Mansion and carried a very weak Mini down to the main hall. The superiors got hold of the book and found about this vampire-werewolf-human Tribrid and understood that only Karan and Tarana's baby will have the powers of defeating and killing him. They then performed a ritual so that everyone becomes telepathically connected. Mini was placed in the centre and all the vampires, Tarana, Divya, Tani and even Rocky stood in a circle around her. Then the superior with the mind reading power placed his hand on Mini's forehead and everyone could now see the horror Mini has been living with for the last 9 months. They all were furious and very angry to see how low Ansh and Vaidehi had stooped and Divya was feeling particularly disgusted to know that her own brother has done such a heinous act. But most affected was Rudra who felt like murdering both of them then and there. Rudra had lost his human life 100 years back trying to save a girl's innocence. He was found by a member of the vampire council in a nearly dead state and he turned him and included him in the council. But Rudra had never forgotten that incident and before turning a good vegetarian vampire, he had gone and killed those abusers. Today, seeing Mini's horror, his memories were revived and he wanted to avenge Mini's condition. He was clenching his fists in anger when superior's words caught his attention:

Mini it was indeed very courageous of you to escape from there and it was good that you managed to do that. This will help your son in retaining some of his humanity and he will remain bonded to you to an extent. But the sad thing is that the moment you die, this bond will break on its own. And Vaidehi's venom has already spread through your body. You have very little time. There is only one way to save you and that is to make

you a part of this dark world. i.e. to make you a vampire. But this decision would be yours. If you remain in this world as a vampire, then the bond between you and your son will remain intact and it may help Prince return back to good side if he wants to in future. But if you choose to die instead, then the bond between you and Prince will break and then he will become a complete puppet in Ansh and Vaidehi's hands and will lose any hope of ever returning to the good side. Now you have to decide that what do you want and you have to take this decision fast as you have very little time left.

Mini: If this is the only way to keep alive the hope for my son, then I am ready to be a vampire.

The Superior then asked Ajay to turn Mini, but Rudra requested if he could do it. The superior understood that Rudra has fallen for Mini and so granted him permission to go ahead who then carried the procedure for turning Mini and then left with her to settle in Amazon forests for some time. Mini too decided to accept his companionship in this new life of hers.

The superiors then informed Karan and Tarana that their baby will be the most powerful creature on the Earth and the only one with powers to defeat and kill Prince if need be. They also told them that their baby will be born within one month itself and will grow at the same rate as Prince and gain full powers after 3 years i.e. when the child turns 18 and will stop ageing after that. The Singhania's decided to shift from Shimla soon after the baby's birth and Tani insisted that she too will go wherever Tarana goes. Rocky who had finally come to terms with the reality and seen that even if they are non-humans, Karan and Tarana are still their same best buddies; suggested that they shift to London where he can look after his dad's business too.

Finally Karan and Tarana moved to their room to spend some time with their new found happiness. As soon as they entered

the room, Karan lifted Tarana up and did a circling dance with her to express his happiness. Karan and Tarana were too happy that like normal humans, they too were going to get a complete family. Karan put Tarana down and passionately kissed her on her juicy lips. Tarana too responded with the same passion and soon their desires took over them and they quickly undressed each other and made passionate love to each other. After an hour of loving each other passionately, they laid in each other's arms and caressing each other's faces just to feel the happiness of the moment. Karan moved one of his hands and moved it to Tarana's belly and tried feeling the gift of their love. Tarana's eyes welled with happy tears. Karan bent down and kissed her belly and spoke to their baby:

Hi baby. Dadda here. Take care of your mom and don't hurt her. We both love you lots.

Tarana was too touched with this and tears dropped down her eyes which Karan kissed away.

Andaman Islands

Ansh was waiting for Vaidehi to bring Mini for the ritual, but when she did not come for some time, He thought "seems like she does not even know how to look at a watch", so he returned to their cottage and found Vaidehi tied up in silver chains and screaming in pain. He quickly untied her and asked how did this happen?

Vaidehi(in a weak voice): that girl turned out to be too clever. She heard all our talks and there was a silver chain and knife in her bag. She attacked me with these and ran away.

Ansh: What?? You could not fight a mere mortal? And you still call yourself the most powerful vampire.

Vaidehi: It was only you who talked about that silver thing in front of her that day!

Ansh: Ok Ok whatever! Now stop fighting with me and let's find her. We have to complete that ritual before night is over.

Vaidehi: but how will we find her? She has taken away and worn that slayers' robe and it has been four hours since she ran away from here.

Ansh: But where can she go? She does not have any money.

Vaidehi: and yes I also almost bit her so I am sure that my venom must have spread through her. So maybe we will be able to find her.

Ansh and Vaidehi searched throughout the forests but could not find her anywhere. They reached the road but there too they could not find any trace of her.

Ansh: Now where has she disappeared?

Vaidehi: What if she returns back to Shimla?

Ansh: But how can she go there?

Vaidehi: By asking for help from some passer-by. These humans just love to help out any damsel in distress.

Ansh: Maybe. Then what should we do now?

Vaidehi: We will also have to go to Shimla.

Ansh: Are you out of your mind? Mini had already stolen one of the two robes. Our going to Shimla under such circumstance would mean inviting our death. Our enemies will easily sniff us out and kill us.

Vaidehi: so should we sit idle without doing anything.

Ansh: Yes for now that is what we will have to do. We have already got we wanted from Mini. Now we have to make Prince into the most dreaded creature on Earth so that people shiver in fear on the mere mention of his name. When Prince will turn 18 in 3 years, then we will face them and take our revenge.

Vaidehi: But where will we live till then? If that girl reaches Karunesh, then they will definitely come here to search for us. We have to get out of here, but how we do that in a way that ensures that they are unable to track us out?

Ansh: I know a way out. You wear this robe and take Prince with you to Malaysia. I will transform into a wolf and then will mix with the wolves in this jungle and reach the sea with them. Then I will swim across the sea so that the sea water spreads my

smell in all directions. That way they will not be able to smell us out.

With that Ansh and Vaidehi proceeded to reach Malaysia.

Singhania Mansion

The superiors had wanted to go to Andaman to hunt Ansh and Vaidehi down, but Karan had refused to leave Tarana's side for a single minute under this situation and Ajay told them that they would any way not be living there anymore.

The Singhania's were having fun time preparing for the welcome of their family's newest member. Kiara wanted to buy all the clothes available in all the shops of the city for her grandchild, but Ajay suggested that they should at least wait till child's birth to know whether it's a girl or a boy. He also reminded her that since the child will be growing at an exceptionally fast rate, they will need new sized clothes every 5 days. So, Kiara gave up the idea of shopping for clothes and instead bought down all the toy stores of Shimla and got a special big room built especially for her grand child to play. Divya too started collecting story books and picture books for her niece/nephew, while Tani was selecting bikes for the child. Rocky reminded her that even though a supernatural, the child will still take 3 years to ride a bike. Karan and Tarana could not help but laugh at the madness going on in their cute and unique family. But they were feeling a little sad that they will have to leave this city soon.

They came to their room and switched on their TV where a movie was coming in which the protagonist suffered from a rare disease which accelerated his ageing process tremendously. Instantly they got a brilliant idea of prolonging their stay here. They could use the excuse of their child suffering from the same disease and stay on here in Shimla. They went to discuss this matter with Ajay and Kiara who agreed that they can live in

Shimla for another 3 years with this excuse, but they will have to leave Shimla after that as the child will stop ageing after that.

The next one month passed in making preparations for baby's arrival. Karan was taking exceptional care of Tarana and making her rest completely. He could not thank his stars enough for bringing an angel like Tarana into his life who has fulfilled all his dreams and desires. To become a father is any man's dream, but Karan had never thought that it will be possible for him after losing his human life. But Tarana has made the impossible possible and Karan just could not contain his happiness in becoming a proud father soon. Soon the day arrived for the baby's arrival and Divya performed a complicated C-Section Delivery with Karan's help and delivered the cute little Karan and Tarana baby.

Chapter 17 – A Mother’s Call

3 years later

A heavily pregnant curly head girl was walking down the Epping forests adjoining her mansion in Manor Park, London. She had gone to a store on one corner of the forest to buy some snacks, against her husband’s protests. Her car had broken down while returning back, and so instead of waiting on the road for help, she had decided to take a night time stroll by taking the shortcut to her house through the forest. She had just reached the middle of the forest when she sensed someone following her. She turned back to see who her stalker was and was shocked to see a handsome young man standing dangerously close to her. Without feeling an ounce of fear, the girl asked:

Who the hell are you and why are you stalking me?

Boy: To have my double dinner (The boy moved his eyes towards girl’s belly making her shiver a little, but she was still unfazed)

Girl: What are you?

Boy: Interesting, You seem to be a smart girl, but unfortunately your smartness did not tell you not to walk alone in the forest in the middle of night. (with that he brought out his fangs)

Girl: Oh, so you are a vampire. Well you don’t scare me dear.

Boy(a little surprised): Really, lets see your reactions when I finish you and your baby off. And btw I am not exactly a vampire.

The boy was about to dig his fangs into the girl’s neck when she pushed him back with all her force and screamed with all her might: Arrrrrrr.....jjjjjjjj.....u.....nnnnnnnnnnnnnnnn..

Another killingly handsome young boy heard his name being called out. He recognized the voice and jumped out of his

balcony and rushed into the forest to reach the person calling him.

While covering his ears with his hands, the girl's stalker irritably remarked: Stop screaming you fool. And who the hell is this Arjun, you husband?

The girl: No, my nephew.

The boy(laughing sarcastically): Your nephew... You think a kid can save you from me? You really are a fool. There is no one for a mile in this forest. Now stop wasting my time.

With that, the boy again got hold of the girl and was about to dig his fangs in her when a pair of strong arms got hold of his neck, lifted him up in the air and threw him away with such force that he landed some 20 feet away. The boy was shocked. He was told that he is one of the most powerful creatures on the Earth and that his powers are same as a vampire named Karan and a she wolf named Divya, but they too will not be having a upper hand over him in any fight. But here was this handsome boy, who wasn't a vampire or a werewolf and yet had powers more than him. How was that possible? Had his parents missed out on some important piece of information? While he was wondering over this, the other boy addressed the girl and asked:

Maasi are you all right? What were you doing in the jungle at this time of the night? Where is your car? What if something had happened to you?

The girl: uff.. you are just like your Mom. So many questions in one go! We can discuss all this later. First, finish this jerk off. He is evil.

Arjun: Fine maasi. But you stay a little away from here. I don't want to hurt you or my little sister. As it would be impossible to tolerate Rocky uncle in Devdaas mode if anything happens to any of you.

Tani: sure Arjun, you be careful.

Arjun: Don't worry maasi.

With that Arjun attacked the boy and they both got indulged in a fiery duel. Arjun was clearly having an upper hand over the stalker and Tani too was cheering him on as if it was some sort of a football match going on. Within a few minutes, Arjun had overpowered the boy and had him slammed onto the floor. Tani egged him on: Go Arjun, kill this beast.

Arjun: With pleasure

And he was about to punch his hard wrist through the stalker's heart when his eyes fell on the boy's greenish eyes and the look inside them made Arjun gasp. He quickly retreated his steps and even helped the boy to get on his feet. Both Tani and that boy were confused at the sudden change in Arjun.

Tani: Arjun, what are you doing? Did this guy hypnotize you? Wake up and kill him. He is evil.

Arjun(in a shaking voice): No maasi, I can't.

Tani reached Arjun and grabbed his arm: What do you mean by you can't.

Arjun: Maasi, lets go home. Everyone must be worried for you.

Tani: But Arjun..

Arjun: No buts maasi. Let's just go home.

The other boy was so confused ad Arjun's sudden change of track that he could not think of attacking back for a moment. When he came to his senses, he was furious at almost losing a fight and so decided to follow them. But Arjun had already lifted a protesting Tani in his arms and had rushed to their house, where everyone was waiting for them except Karan and Tarana who were busy coochie-cooing in their room.

Rocky: Tani where were you? I told you not to go anywhere alone. And what happened? These people are saying that they heard your scream.

Tani: relax, it's just that my car broke down. I was taking the shortcut through jungle when a vampire tried to attack me, but I called up Arjun. (looking at Rocky's horror-filled expressions):

now please don't utter any melodramatic dialogues in front of me. I am fine, ok?

Kiara: that's ok. So Arjun, did you finish him off? Who was he by the way?

Tani: No aunty, that's what is surprising. He was about to kill him, but I don't know what happened at the end moment that he just left him, in fact helped him get on his feet and left him there alive.

Ajay: What? What am I hearing Arjun? You left an evil vampire alive, Why?

Kiara: Relax Ajay, if Arjun has done this, then there must be some reason behind it.

Arjun: Thanks Dadi.

Mini(who was now also living with them): whatever be the reason, an evil vampire has no right to live. Arjun, why didn't you finish him off?

(Mini had developed a strong hatred towards evil vampires as she lost her life and her son to one of them and so was now in the vampire council's team responsible for hunting down evil vampires)

Arjun(addressing Mini): Chachi, listen to me.

Mini: No, I don't want to hear anything on this subject, if you cannot finish him, I will finish him off.

Arjun: No chachi, you can't

Mini: Why can't I?

Arjun: Coz he is your son!!!!

Everyone was shocked to hear this revelation while Arjun continued: You know of my talent of reading anyone's mind including their past with just a look in their eyes; that is why I could not kill him. Through his eyes, I saw his past and came to know who he is.

Divya: I can't believe that Ansh bro has made Prince also an animal like him!

Arjun: Maybe we still can change him towards good side bua.

Mini was rooted to the spot and slowly blood tears escaped her eyes. In a shaky voice, she weakly muttered: Prince...

While Prince was standing outside the mansion wearing his father's robe, listening to everything going on. He was confused at this last point. What did they mean by him being that woman's son? He was Ansh and Vaidehi's son, but then why did a mere taking of his name from that woman's mouth made his heart feel a tinge? What was happening? What was the truth? Who was this Arjun who had more strength than him? He wasn't a complete vampire, but neither was he a human. What further shocked him was this family was all living together happily with love irrespective of the fact that four of them were vampires, one a she-wolf, two humans and this weird Arjun, who was neither of them. Whereas all his three years, he had changed places after places with just his parents Ansh and Vaidehi, who too could barely stand each other leave alone having any other relations or friends. He felt a pang of jealousy towards Arjun for having a complete family life. He decided to find out everything about them as well as his own birth and parentage. But, he did not want his parents to come to know of his plans. They had sent him to London just to finish some Karan Singhanian off, but that can wait according to Prince. First he needs to learn his own life's truths and understand why he has been deprived of all the love and care which Arjun seemed to be getting. He blocked his mind from Ansh and Vaidehi to carry out his own personal investigations. He was already enrolled in college here. And he will use his time to find his answers.

Karan Tarana's love session was disturbed by the commotion downstairs. Irritated, they decided to come down to see what all these discussions were about.

Karan and Tarana: What's happening guys? Why so much noise?

Arjun: Here come the Love-Birds for scolding us for disturbing their love session.

Tarana: Arjun!!! behave your self, I am your mom.

Arjun: Why, did I say something wrong? Do you and Dad have anything else to do at home?

Tani: Do you mean to say that outside the house they actually do something else?

Karan and Tarana: Shut up. And tell us what's going on here?

Arjun: Well...Prince is here.

Karan: What, You mean Mini's son?

Arjun: Yup. He was about to attack maasi, but she called me and I reached there on time.

Tarana: What, Tani you alright?

Tani: Of course, can't you see? I am standing here hale and hearty right in front of your eyes!

Tarana: God, it is useless talking to you!

Rudra(interrupting): I think we should inform the council.

Mini(coming out of trance): No Rudra, they'll kill him. They won't hear us out.

Arjun: Chachi is right chachu. We should not involve Council in this matter. Chachi has suffered a lot for Prince's sake. Only to keep his way to return to goodness open, did she accept this vampire life. We can't let her sacrifices go waste.

Karan: Arjun is right. Prince belongs with us and now, we have to bring him back to where he belongs.

Rudra: How? You all are forgetting that he has been raised by that Ansh and Vaidehi who have nothing to do with any goodness and do not have even an iota of humanity in them. Do you think they would have told Prince the truth about his birth, that how Vaidehi possessed Mini's body and then that Ansh robbed her of her innocence in that condition? No. Don't forget that for Prince Ansh and Vaidehi are his parents, not Mini and now they have made Prince also a monster like them.

Tarana: No Rudra. Mini has given birth to Prince. She has fed him. And a mother and child's bond is the strongest bond in the world. I am sure, if we talk to Prince, then he will surely understand.

Rudra: Even I want Mini to get her son back. I have seen her missing him desperately day and night. But it is not as easy as you guys are thinking. Prince being here can't be a mere coincidence. I am sure that Ansh and Vaidehi have found out that we are here.

Karan: But we can't sit idle not trying anything. And as it is we are not in any danger from Prince. I and Divya are as strong as Prince and Tarana is stronger than us and Arjun is most powerful. We have nothing to lose. So, I think we should try and talk to him.

Finally Rudra agreed.

They decided to find Prince and talk to him soon. Meanwhile Prince had been listening to everything and was confused and shocked at these revelations. Jen and Vaidehi had fed him a weird story of human Vaidehi falling for the werewolf Ansh which made his own clan their enemy and they joined their natural enemies to terminate Ansh and it was that immortal vampire Karan Singhania who had bitten Vaidehi while she was carrying Prince. As a result, Prince had turned out to be a hybrid, while Vaidehi had changed into a vampire. Though Prince had often wondered, that what happened to that strong love later as he rarely ever saw Ansh and Vaidehi on good terms with each other, but they have again brushed off his doubts saying that it's the basic vampire and werewolf instincts to hate each other, but they still loved each other. Prince had accepted all this finding no other plausible answer to his questions. But tonight, listening to the conversation going on in this family, he was wondering if indeed there was some other secret regarding his birth? Was he a tri-brid instead of a hybrid? Had Ansh and Vaidehi really used this woman Mini and wronged her so horribly? His mind was puzzled at what to believe or what not to believe. One part of his mind was wondering why would Ansh and Vaidehi do such horrible acts, and why should he trust these strangers, but the other part of his mind was telling him that all Ansh and Vaidehi had ever wanted was power and that

is why they had sent him to London to finish Singhanias off all alone knowing fully well that they themselves cannot fight him; whereas, this family wanted to protect him. They were even ready to go against their own council members to protect him.

At least he now knew that this was the Karan Singhanias whom Ansh and Vaidehi wanted him to finish as according to their information he was residing with Ansh's own sister Divya. Yet another confusion for his mind was Tarana. He had heard Ansh and Vaidehi often say that it will be easy to finish Karan off if he can be trapped alone as he would still be mourning Tarana's death and would be desiring his own death each and every moment. Then, who was this Tarana? And how was she more powerful than the immortal Karan and Divya. And was Arjun her and Karan's hybrid, then what powers did he have that made him most powerful? It was a pity that his vampire senses could only hear the Singhanias family conversation through closed doors, but could not see past the heavy curtains to see how this Tarana looked. If only he could look at her, he would know if she is same Tarana or not as Vaidehi has often said that Tarana was her look-alike and that drinking her blood has given her immense powers, though Ansh and Vaidehi have always been cautious about telling Prince when this happened, since Prince could clearly remember everything from 4 months after his birth onwards. They have made excuses that Vaidehi had come across her in her initial vampire days and Prince had accepted that. But now he decided to follow this family closely to know the other side of the story.

Next Morning

Karan and Tarana and Arjun are going somewhere in car, with Karan driving, Tarana obviously sitting next to him and Arjun sitting on the backseat.

Karan: Arjun I hope you remember everything by heart.

Arjun: ya ya how many times will you ask me to revise it? From today I am beginning my college where you are a trustee and Mom is the cultural secretary. And you guys are my brother and sister-in-law and not my parents outside the house.

Karan: Good.

Arjun: Though I can see a major advantage with this plan. If Tarana is my sister-in-law then I am her brother-in-law, right?

Karan(confused): ya, so?

Arjun: So what, being just a brother-in-law I can easily flirt with her. And if I flirt with a hot chic like Tarana, then all the guys will be jealous of me and all the girls will run after me.

Karan: Arjun!!!!!! Don't forget, she is your mom.

Arjun: Ufff... first you say that remember she is your bhabhi then you say that don't forget she is your mom. First decide what should I remember and what should I forget. Or is it that you are feeling jealous that after my entry in college, no girl will run after you?

Karan: Arjun!!!!!!! I don't need any other girl's attention. I have my soul mate with me.

Arjun(fake yawning): How boring, you are going to spend your entire immortal life with one woman. I can already see you slipping, you know. I know behind mom's back, you flirt with that sexy Chemistry teacher and last year's Ms Fresher too. That's why you are so worried about me entering the same college as obviously, once I enter the college, no one will give you a second look. You would start appearing too old and boring now.

Karan slammed brakes on the car, screamed at Arjun and before he could remove his seat belt, Arjun bolted out of the car knowing full well that he has spoken too much now. Karan too rushed behind him and Tarana kept calling Karan.. Arjun in vain. Finally she gave up and just muttered:

Men!!! All are same!! Vampire, Human, Hybrids, make no difference. Always fighting at the slightest trigger most of the time involving girls.

While she was muttering all this, she sensed a supernatural presence dangerously close to her. Instinctively, she turned back and threw a hard punch making Prince fell on the floor, who was surprised to see his mom Vaidehi's replica standing in front of him. He could smell that she was human, but he could also sense a powerful aura surrounding her. He now knew that Tarana whom Vaidehi had thought to be dead, was alive, but how? And what was this Tarana now, that she was so strong and powerful.

Tarana: Who are you?

Prince: What are you? And how are you alive after ma killed you?

Tarana understood that this must be Prince, so she asked: Prince??

Prince: Ya, and you are Tarana, right?

Tarana: Yes, I am Tarana.

Prince: How are you alive? Ma and papa said that they killed you and that you died.

Tarana: well they did kill me. But Karan's love brought me back.

Prince: What are you now?

Tarana: Before I answer that, I want to know, what brings you here? It can't be merely a coincidence.

Prince: To tell you the truth, ma papa sent me to kill your Karan.

Tarana: Hmm... and why are you telling me all this?

Prince: Because I am confused. I'll admit that I followed your son last night and heard your entire family conversation and that has left me confused about what is truth and what are lies.

Tarana: What does your own heart says Prince?

Prince: My heart has not been taught to think or feel. The only emotion taught to my heart is hatred and revenge.

Tarana: What did Ansh and Vaidehi told you about your birth?

Prince: That Karan bit Ma when she was carrying me and that made her a vampire and me a hybrid.

Tarana: Ha, what a joke? First of all you are not a hybrid, but a tri-brid and Vaidehi was already a vampire when she possessed Mini's body and Ansh raped her.

Prince flinched at that word which did not go unnoticed by Tarana.

Tarana: I can see that somewhere you do have your humanity intact in you, that is why you can feel hatred for this shameful act.

Prince: But how and why do I trust you guys? What proof do you have to back yourself up?

Tarana: Well that's easy, I can show you Vaidehi's history on the web.

Prince: On web, how?

Tarana: Because Vaidehi was a famous princess when she was a human.

With that Tarana brought out her laptop from car, connected to the net and showed Prince Vaidehi Pandher's history. Prince was shocked to learn that Vaidehi was indeed a 200 year old princess.

Prince: I cannot believe it. This is absolutely shocking. Then, why did they do this to me? Why did they create me?

Tarana then narrated the whole Karunesh-Vaidehi story, how Gomz brought her back, how she nearly killed her, then escaped with Ansh, how they murdered an old slayer and got hold of an ancient book containing all supernatural secrets. She then explained that how the only things that Ansh and Vaidehi want are power and revenge. This last point at least wasn't so different from Prince's own observation. He had always felt that his parents were together not because of love, but as a matter of convenience and for the want of achieving a common goal. But his mind still did not want to jump to conclusions without more concrete defense.

Prince: Whatever you are saying can be true, but I still don't know why I should trust you and suspect them who have raised me up till now?

Meanwhile, Karan and Arjun have returned back and had heard the conversation between Tarana and Prince. So, Arjun answered Prince's question:

Well I can show you your own past Prince.

Prince: You can?

Arjun: Yes, I have a talent to see anyone's past, which is why I left you alive that day, as I came to know that you were Mini chachi's son. We can perform a simple ritual to connect our minds temporarily and then I can show you whatever I see about you.

Prince: I guess, I will think about it, but first tell me what are you and how come you are more powerful than me?

Karan: Because Arjun is the miracle mentioned in our ancient books, which no one thought could ever be possible. He is the hybrid of an immortal vampire and an immortal slayer.

Prince: Immortal slayer, so is that what Tarana is now? But how?

Karan: Well that was one of the uses of that immortality compound which only Divya knew about. Ansh and Vaidehi thought that slayers can never be immortal so there is no question of anyone ever overpowering you and that is why they wanted you as their biggest weapon against us.

Prince: and even after knowing this, you guys want to help me rather than kill me? Why?

Arjun: Coz what you are, is not your fault buddy, it's the fault of the circumstances and the evilness of Ansh and Vaidehi.

Prince: I don't know whom to believe and whom to not?

Karan: Take your own time and make your own judgments. The bond you have with Mini will guide you towards the right path.

Prince left from there in a confused state to reach the same college where Arjun was joining. The moment Arjun stepped

out of his car, with his Gucci glares on, every girl in the college just turned towards him and started drooling over him. Arjun gave a naughty “I told You” smirk to Karan who just rolled his eyes while Tarana could not stop giggling recalling a similar incident with Karan just 6 years back in their College.

One of the bimbos drooling over Arjun approached him and in a fake seductive voice tried flirting with him: “Hey baby! I am Kate. You new to this college?”

Arjun(flirting back): Yes baby. And I am so glad to meet a hot chic like you on my very first day.

Kate: Wow! So let me show you around.

Arjun: Sure honey.

Arjun left with Kate after giving a wink to Karan while Tarana just gave a thumbs up to him. Arjun went along a few blocks with Kate and then asked her to show him the trustees’ office as he has some work there. Kate dropped him there and he promised her to see her again soon. Arjun entered the trustee office without knocking only to find Karan and Tarana engaged in a passionate lip-lock. He just rolled his eyes and commented: Ahem Ahem! This is college guys not your bedroom.

Karan Tarana broke away embarrassed and then to cover up the embarrassment, Karan scolded Arjun:

Why did you not knock before entering? Where are your manners?

Arjun: You are forgetting that being a supernatural I can sense how many people are present in a room without peeping in. I sensed that it is just you two inside, so did not stop knocking, because I obviously did not expect you guys to be smooching in office also. I mean don’t you guys have enough of each other every single night?

Karan: Shut up and tell what brings you here?

Arjun: How can I shut up and tell at the same time?

Karan(rolling his eyes): come to the point.

Arjun: ok ok, just got bored of that Kate, so entered here, going back. But you two please don't get started here again. It's not good to be so desperate.

Tarana rushed out of the room thoroughly embarrassed. While Arjun too left the room leaving Karan alone with his naughty thoughts regarding Tarana. It was true that for the last 5 years, he has spent each and every night loving his Tarana, but still they just don't seem to be getting enough of each other. If they had their way, they would just lock themselves in a room and keep loving each other till eternity.

Meanwhile Arjun met another blonde outside the office waiting for him. Arjun gave her her turn to walk him round the college. By the end of the day Arjun have had around 100 rounds of the college with 200 different girls each walking him around half of the college. Prince had been silently observing everything, both Arjun playfulness as well as his friendly relationship with his parents. And that made him feel both jealous of Arjun as well as feel furious at Ansh and Vaidehi who never gave him love and never allowed him to make any friends. All he got was a constant hammering of hatred for Singhania family and teaching about revenge as the way of life. Due to his fast and unnatural growth he has not been able to attend regular school and so never had any friend in life. But this Arjun has been raised with so much love and has such a friendly nature that Prince could easily see what he has been unrightfully deprived of. Ever since his birth Prince has just been existing and surviving whereas Arjun has been living in the true sense of the word.

While Prince was engrossed in his thoughts, his cell phone buzzed. He got worried seeing the number. Nonetheless he picked up the phone and barely had he said hello, when Ansh started blasting at him from the other end: Where the hell are you?

Prince(calmly): London.

Ansh: London!!! What the hell are you doing there?

Prince: Trying to get some formal college education, since I could never really have a formal school education.

Ansh: What???? We sent you to Shimla to kill those Singhania's, and you instead moved to London for studying. You have till eternity to study. First concentrate on killing the Singhania's, else they will find you and kill you. Once they are finished off, you can do whatever you want. Now you better move back to Shimla right now.

Prince: If I move back to Shimla, I would never be able to kill the Singhania's.

Ansh: What do you mean?

Prince: I went to Shimla and from there only I got to know that the Singhania's have moved to London. I am looking out for them while studying side by side. Is that a problem to you?

Ansh: Oh, but this can be risky. What if they identify you?

Prince: I always wear that robe below my clothes so no chance of that.

Ansh: That's ok. But how come we are never able to connect to you mentally?

Prince: Must be the robe. Have you both ever tried connecting to each other with the robe on?

Ansh: hmm... no, never had the need. Oh ok, that must be the reason then. Take care of yourself and finish those Singhania's off the minute you find them.

Prince: Sure.

Malaysia

Vaidehi: What did he say? Where is he?

Ansh: London. Singhania's have moved from Shimla and now live in London. He will search them there only and will also go to college side by side.

Vaidehi: College??? How come he has suddenly become interested in studies? Something seems to be wrong. I think we should also go there.

Ansh: but they will kill us.

Vaidehi: no only Singhania's have gone to London not the entire vampire council and werewolves. Ajay and Kiara are weak, we can easily handle them. And if we fight with Karan and Divya separately, then we can at least injure them enough for Prince to be able to finish them off.

Ansh: I think you are right. I will just make arrangements for us to leave for London.

London

Prince had momentarily connected his mind to Ansh and Vaidehi to know what their next plan would be. And as he had expected or rather feared, they were now going to come to London. Which means that if he has to find out the truth regarding his birth, then he will have to seek it right away or else it would be too late. He went to Singhania Mansion a bit hesitantly, not knowing how the other residents will react to his arrival, but Arjun, Karan and Tarana's warm attitude has given him some confidence. The door was opened by Rocky who asked who he was and Prince casually replied:

I am Prince. Here to meet Arjun.

Rocky: Oh My God!!! You are the one who attacked my wife that night. And now you have come here too. How dare you? I won't let you anywhere near her.

Prince(rolling his eyes): I am not here to meet her, but Arjun and I can see that your wife is definitely much braver and smarter than you. I wonder how she married a jerk like you?

Rocky(Raising his finger at him): Listen Mr....

But before he could complete his sentence, Tani called from behind:

Who is it Rocky?

Prince seized his chance and gently pushed Rocky aside to enter the house and addressed Tani: Hi Tani. I am sorry about that day. But I want to meet Arjun, its really very urgent.

Tani: Oh Prince(as if she was meeting some long-time friend)! Sure, Come in. I'll just call Arjun. Or better still you can directly go to his room. His room is on 2nd floor, 3rd room from right.

Prince: Thanks Tani.

Prince went to Arjun's room where he was watching some old family videos. Singhania's have recorded videos for each and every day of Arjun's fast growing years. On the screen were flashing images of a naughty Arjun being chased after by Karan and Tarana for taking his meals. There were videos with Arjun going to regular school and enjoying with other kids which made Arjun feel sad again. In one video, Ajay was giving a piggy back ride to little Arjun and in another, Arjun was wetting Kiara with garden hose. In yet another video, Divya was shopping for new toys and clothes for Arjun while in another Tani was trying to smuggle him to the bar, only to be stopped by a very angry looking Tarana.

Arjun sensed Prince in his room and looked back. He then addressed Prince: Prince, you here?

Prince: Ya, You said that with a simple ritual, you can show me the truth regarding my birth, right?

Arjun: Yes Prince.

Prince: Can we do this now? This confusion is driving me mad. The sooner I learn the truth, the better it will be for me.

Arjun: Sure Prince. But I would need Mini chachi for that too, but she has gone to hunt. Let's do one thing. Let's search her in forest itself. We will do the ritual there only.

Arjun and Prince left for the jungle informing Ajay and Kiara about where they were going and what they were going to do. Kiara wished them luck. They reached the jungle and followed Mini's scent. Mini had just finished hunting a wild grizzly when she sensed Arjun along with someone very familiar yet a stranger. She looked back to see who this familiar stranger was and the moment she looked at him, she could see a hint of her reflection in his eyes. Her instincts immediately told her that he

was her long lost son. She moved towards him and caressed his face with her hands. Her dead heart was overwhelming with emotions when she managed to choke out: "Prince, My son!"

Chapter 18 – The Final Face Off

Prince so felt a sudden wave of love by the mere touch of Mini. His heart was telling him to hug her, but he was still confused and so he just asked Arjun to start the ritual. With a simple exchange of few blood drops, Arjun connected Prince with his mind so that he can see whatever Arjun could read in Mini's past, and soon images of Mini's life flashed before Prince. How she was a happy going bimbo of college who got attracted to a hot guy Ansh and made the worst mistake of her life by going to meet him on a date. He could see how Ansh had served her a laced drink and then Ansh and Vaidehi had kidnapped her and brought her to Andaman away from her family, friends and her life. He could relive the horror of that night, when Vaidehi had possessed her body and Ansh had taken away her honour without any second thought or an iota of guilt. He could feel all the emotions which Mini went through in those 9 months realizing how she has been used by 2 powerful super naturals to serve their ambition and revenge. He could then see how despite all this Mini had lovingly fed him her milk in his first month of existence. He could read that the only reason Mini had to leave him there and escape alone was to keep the hope of her son's return to goodness alive as else, those evil Ansh and Vaidehi would have fed him his own mother's blood and killed the humanity inside him forever. The next image he got was of how Mini has cleverly and bravely fought against a powerful vampire to escape from her clutches just to keep the door to goodness open for her son. He saw that how in her dying state Mini chose to be a vampire just to keep her bond with her son intact. Prince could not take this anymore. He fell down on the floor and cried his heart out. Mini and Arjun went near him and consoled him.

Meanwhile Ansh and Vaidehi reached London and went to meet Prince at the college hostel. As soon as they stepped into the

college, they could smell Karan. They were overjoyed to sense their enemy so near and so they followed their scent all the way to the Singhania house. Ajay sensed a danger coming but Karan and Tarana were not at home as they had gone out to a college colleague's wedding. He mentally relayed to Karan and Tarana and Arjun about the danger, and all of them started rushing back to the house. Meanwhile he, Rudra and Divya formed a protective cover outside the house while Kiara went to guard Tani and Rocky. They all waited for to face the enemy now.

Just as they were preparing to meet their enemies outside the house, Kiara called out to Divya as Tani's contractions have started and there was simply no time to take her to the hospital. Ansh and Vaidehi were too near. Rudra and Ajay assured her that they will keep them at bay till Karan and Tarana and Arjun arrive and that she should go help Tani. Reluctantly Divya went inside and just then Ansh and Vaidehi reached there.

Vaidehi: aah this is going to be too easy. We just have to finish off these weaklings now. Where have your powerful followers vanished Ajay.

Ajay: I can deal with you by myself.

Vaidehi: We will see about it.

And with that she attacked Ajay, but he swiftly ducked aside, making Vaidehi fall on the ground, but before he could attack her, Vaidehi quickly got back to her feet. Ansh was meanwhile fighting with Rudra.

In the forests, Arjun and Mini got the SOS call of Ajay and got alert about the trouble there. They urged Prince too join them, but he was too broken right now. He cried out:

How can I be of any help? My whole existence is a curse. My life, my birth is a shame and it brought my mother's death. I deserve to rot.

Mini: No son, don't blame yourself for their evil act. And this is the time for your redemption. Help us fight those who are responsible for all this.

But Prince was too shaken to move. Suddenly Mini got a flash of Rudra losing out to Ansh and so she rushed to his aid with one last request to Prince to help them. Meanwhile Vaidehi was proving to be too strong for Ajay. She had him overpowered fast and was about to kill him when she was sent flying in the air with a strong kick in her stomach. A surprised Vaidehi landed on her feet and turned around to see who had so much power to attack her. She was shocked to see a smiling Tarana standing there while Karan was helping Ajay to get back on his feet.

Tarana: Karan, take Dad inside. I will deal with this mad woman myself. After all she is my main culprit.

Karan: Are you sure, you can handle it?

Tarana: Absolutely. Just go and heal him up.

Karan: ok.

Vaidehi was even more shocked to see that Karan was coolly leaving Tarana alone with her. Her biggest shock was Tarana being alive even after she and Ansh killed him. She could smell that Tarana smelled like a human, but her smell has changed and it was a much more powerful smell now. But nonetheless she was still a human, and so Vaidehi thought that she can deal with her easily.

Vaidehi: I see that you are still alive even after I myself and Ansh killed you. No problem, I'll finish that job now. Your Karan is a fool to leave a mere human to deal with me, one of the strongest vampires. Looks like he is bored of you now and wants to get rid of you.

Tarana: Or maybe he thinks handling you is such a child's play that even a mere human can handle it.

Vaidehi: ha ha ha. You think, you, a mere weak human, can defeat me!!

Tarana: this weak human has just kicked you off into the air. Vaidehi was shocked to realize that Tarana was right. Tarana was no ordinary weak human anymore. She had changed, but into what, she did not know that.

She asked: What are you?

Tarana: Finally you realized that I am no longer the ordinary human girl Tarana whom you killed that night. Now, let me tell you what I am. I am your deadliest enemy and a human stronger than even Karan and Divya who are the strongest vampire and werewolf respectively. I am your death, an immortal slayer.

Vaidehi: An immortal slayer, how's that possible?

Tarana: The compound brought me back and changed me. It was one of the uses of that compound.

Vaidehi: Whatever, lets see if you really can beat me. After all it was your blood which sired me. So, I don't think you can kill me ever.

Tarana was confused, but nonetheless this was not the time to think about this. She readied herself for the fight and Tarana and Vaidehi began fighting like two warrior princesses. Both were an equal match for each other and were fighting it out to win over the other, but since the same blood ran in their veins, none of them was able to gain an upper hand over the other. The battle was getting fiercer. One of Vaidehi's punches managed to hit Tarana on her temple and she fell on the ground, giving Vaidehi time and chance to gain an upper hand, but before she could proceed with her attack, a pair of strong masculine arms pushed her away. Vaidehi was shocked and confused to see an unknown handsome boy guarding Tarana from her.

Tarana: Arjun, you came.

Arjun: How could I not come mom? (then addressing Vaidehi): No one dares mess with Arjun Singhania's mom.

Vaidehi looked at Arjun in amazement. Standing in front of her was the world's most powerful creature, even stronger than Prince. Ansh had laughed at the possibility of such a creature, but here he was standing in front of her in flesh and blood – the hybrid of the immortal slayer and the immortal vampire. Arjun was not looking the fun loving flirty Arjun Singhania at this time, but the most dangerous and powerful predator on Earth. One look at him and Vaidehi knew that the battle was lost now. Their only hope was if she could manage to escape again. She tried connecting to Ansh, but Arjun guessed her game plan and with one swift action he pulled the oak log he had picked from the forest and with one strong blow staked it through Vaidehi's evil dead heart, finishing her evilness forever.

On the other hand, Rudra had been overpowered by Ansh and he was about to finish him off, when Mini came to his rescue and pushed Ansh away from Rudra. Ansh was shocked to see Mini as a vampire now, but right now was not the time to think about that as there were two vampires against one werewolf now, though one of them was badly injured. Mini helped Rudra get to his feet and asked him to get indoors, while she will deal with him.

Rudra: no, you won't be able to handle him single-handedly. .

Mini: No Rudra, he is my culprit, I only have to finish him off. You go inside and get yourself healed.

A reluctant Rudra left Mini alone to fight with Ansh and entered inside. He knew that Mini was right. Being a council member, she was better trained for fighting and also Rudra's injuries had made him vulnerable for attack right now. He left so that Mini could concentrate on fighting rather than on him. Ansh and Mini started fighting a fierce battle now. In between the fight, Ansh was also wondering about these changes in Mini.

Ansh: How did you end up becoming a vampire?

Mini: Because your crazy vampire girl friend had bitten me, leaving me with no choice but to accept this vampire life.

Ansh: But these guys converted you, else you could have died peacefully then, rather than die a painful death at my hands now.

Mini: We will see who dies, Ansh! But I could not let myself die then and lose my son's road to humanity forever.

Ansh(laughing): ha ha, you really think that Prince will ever move towards humanity even now. Forget it Mini. I and Vaidehi had filled his heart and mind with only hatred and revenge feelings. He does not know you, but considers us as his parents. And he is here in London. Soon he will finish off all of you.

Mini: Do not underestimate a mother-son's bond Ansh. I am sure, when the time comes, my bond with him will make him choose the right path.

Ansh: Oh enough of your nonsense.

All throughout this talk, Ansh and Mini had been fighting too and now Ansh threw a heavy punch in Mini's direction which made her lose her balance and fall. Just then Prince arrived there. Ansh was overjoyed seeing him there. He handed the wooden stake he had been carrying to Prince and asked: Finish this leech off Prince. She is one of the enemies.

Prince took the stake without any expressions, nodded his head in agreement and then with one strong blow, he pushed the stake right through Ansh's evil black heart. Ansh was shocked at the sudden change in Prince's attitude and even saw him helping Mini get up.

Ansh: what, What have you done, Why?

Mini: Did I not tell you that a mother-child's bond is the strongest bond in the world? Now see for yourself

Prince: I now know everything my so-called Dad. I know how you and Vaidehi used mom to create a weapon like me. I cannot undo the atrocities you both had committed on my mother. But I can surely avenge her and that is what I have done.

Ansh: You lied to us. You knew who Singhania's were, yet you let us come here and get us killed.

Prince: When did you ever spoke the truth to me? All my life you have only fed me lies for your benefit. And I lied to avenge everything you have done. So, Goodbye my so-called Dad.

Just as Prince uttered these words, the last breath of life escaped Ansh and he too was dead.

Tarana and Arjun witnessed Prince killing Ansh and were happy to see that finally Prince had realized the truth and has chosen the right path. But, they got confused as Prince started moving away from there.

Mini called him back: Prince! Where are you going?

Prince: To the hostel. I don't have any other place to stay.

Mini: What are you saying Prince? You are my son. You will stay with me now.

Prince: But...

Mini: No Buts Prince. I have stayed away from you long enough. I won't be able to stay away from you any longer. I chose this life just in the hope that one day I will be able to get you back. And now that I have you back, I won't let you go anywhere else.

Just then Rudra, Karan and Ajay also came out. Karan had healed them all. Rudra also showed his agreement with Mini and said:

Prince, for the last three years, I have seen Mini craving for you. Don't leave her now. I may not have given birth to you and I was not there for you for all these years, but I will try to be a good father to you from now on. Please give me a chance. Please give your mother a chance.

Prince was touched beyond words and he just went and hugged Mini and Rudra, while Karan proudly hugged Tarana and Arjun for successfully killing the evil Vaidehi. While they were having

their emotional family moments, they were suddenly shaken with the wailing of a baby. Tarana excitedly exclaimed, "Tani!!! The baby has arrived."

All of them rushed upstairs and saw Divya and Kiara lovingly cradling a sweet lovely and pretty baby girl in their arms, while Rocky was lovingly hugging a tired Tani. Tarana and Arjun were the first to rush to the baby and hold her in their arms. Arjun was very happy to see his baby sister and started talking to her:

Hey lil princess, I am your big brother. I can see that you are going to be the prettiest girl in the world, after all you are Arjun Singhania's sister. And since you are going to be loved by one and all, I think the best name for you would be Chahat. And I am sure those idiot boys will all be after you once you grow up, but you don't worry. If someone dares to bother you na, then I will break all his bones.

Everyone laughed at Arjun's conversation with little Chahat. Prince was looking at her from a distance, still a little confused about his place in the family. Arjun sensed it and handed Chahat in his arms. Prince took her in his arms very carefully, afraid of dropping her. He moved his eyes to her pretty face and one look at her and he could not move his eyes from her. Her innocent beauty instantly captured his heart. For Prince, the rest of the world ceased to exist at that moment. His world was now this little Chahat. He knew that his sun will now rise with opening of her eye-lids and his days would now end with her sleep. He kept staring at her for what seemed to be an eternity, unaware of the people around him, who were all waiting for their turn to hold Chahat. Everyone was confused at the way Prince was just spell-bounded by Chahat, when Divya suddenly exclaimed:

OMG!! Prince has fallen in love with Chahat!!!
Everyone: What????

Prince too came to senses hearing this and asked: What???
How's that possible? She is just a baby.

Divya: You cannot help it prince. Being a supernatural, you are governed by supernatural rules of nature. And the rule of of our world does not lay any age limit for falling in love with anyone. You have found your soul mate in Chahat and there's nothing anyone can do about it. I am sure Chahat's going to love the devotion you are going to shower on her.

Prince: But..

Divya: what But Prince? You still do not believe me? Then try thinking about staying away from her, try it.

Prince tried to think running away from this place to somewhere else, but he found Chahat's thoughts always chasing him. He understood that Divya was right. Unknowingly, he had indeed fallen for Chahat and there's nothing he can do about it. His whole existence was now bound to her.

Arjun: wow. So Chahat already got her first suitor. Great buddy, now you can help me grind all those other loser boys who will dare to look at her.

And for the first time in his long life, Prince could not help himself from smiling and laughing. He had finally found his family and even his soul mate, something he never thought would happen.

Everyone was happy to realize that even the lives which they had been made to believe to be cursed and dark, had finally found a ray of light. They have found love and happiness even in a supposedly cursed existence. They could not help but link all this to the day Tarana had come in to Karan's life as that was the beginning of their eternal journey of emerging from dark shadows into bright sunlight and experiencing and sharing love and warmth of a family. The vampires and werewolves have been living like animals for centuries, but it has been a mere

human Tarana who have helped them rediscover their human side and be part of the bright world again. Though Tarana had lost her mortal life in this journey, but the love and happiness she had found in return was truly priceless. She was happy that now all their worries were gone. Her best friend from her human life was still with her. Her love and her soul mate was hers forever and her son was the most adorable son a woman could have. She was also happy for Prince as he had finally found his place in the family but she still have one more desire left and she expressed it loud for everyone “I wonder, when will Arjun find his true love, his soul mate?”

Arjun(in mock horror): What????? You expect me to spend my entire immortal existence, tied to one girl????? No ways Mom!!!! Not happening!!!! Since I am 18 till I die in true literal sense, I am going to enjoy flirting with all the girls in the world all across the ages. Don't even think of tying me down to one girl for my entire existence. I am going to enjoy my long-long life to the fullest.

Karan and Tarana just rolled their eyes and everyone just laughed at Arjun's born-flirt nature.

Glossary

Explanations of the Hindi words used to address various relations as per Indian context

Aunty – Used to address any elder woman of parent’s age

Bua – Father’s sister

Chachu – Father’s Brother

Chachi – Father’s Sister

Dadi – Paternal Grandmother

Dadu/Dada – Paternal Grand Father

Ma – Mother

Pa/Papa - Father

Maasi – Mother’s Sister

Uncle - to address any elder man of parent’s age



**STOP DREAMING
AND BECOME AN
AUTHOR YOURSELF
TODAY!**



It's Free, Easy and Fun!

At our sister website, Foboko.com, we provide you with a free 'Social Publishing Wizard' which guides you every step of the eBook creation/writing process and let's your friends or the entire community help along the way!

LOGON ONTO FOBOKO.COM

↪ and get your story told!

FOBOKO.COM