

## BAtB Fanfiction: Aftermath of a Nightmare

### Part 1



I wake screaming  
And realize it was a nightmare.  
I didn't kill him  
Vincent is not dead  
It felt so vivid, so real.  
The tear, the blood,  
The lifeless eyes frozen,  
Staring at me in pain, hurt, betrayal.



My heart hammers in terror...still  
Where did it come from?  
Why did my mind go there?  
Was it the words of my damned father  
or the ultimatum by Gabe...  
Oh my God!

Gabe...

I turn and see him in this bed.  
What have I done?  
How did I get here?  
Not with my Vincent but  
with the very man who tried to kill him,  
kill me...if not for Vincent.  
How did I betray him this way?  
Leave Vincent?  
Walk away?  
Choose Gabe over Vincent?

I can't...

I won't...

What have I done?  
How did I get here?  
Vincent and I were meant to be.  
I told him that,  
Hit him over the head with it.  
Said countless times  
I accepted who he was  
But when he came back changed  
Through no fault of his own:  
Tortured,  
Controlled by my monstrous father,  
Memories erased,  
I didn't hold true.  
I pushed and pushed and pushed; used him, his beast...  
What did JT say?  
"It's hard to be Dr Jekyll when  
everyone wants Mr Hyde..."

My Vincent who even through his beast has shown more...  
humanity than all of us.

We all betrayed him.  
Tried to mold him to what we wanted to see  
And he has tried so hard for so long to feel worthy.  
Fighting his beast.  
Wanting to be a man and we wouldn't let him.  
Pushed him to Tori, his beast taking over  
Didn't see his pain, his struggle.  
The emptiness he felt,  
But seeking what little warmth he could find  
With someone who understood him better than I did...  
For a time.  
And I should have  
Understood!  
I loved him more than life

But I shot him  
Yes, I say to myself  
I did it for him,  
but in his state he could only see  
The betrayal  
The anguish.  
That was real  
I did that  
I swore to protect him  
I didn't keep my promise  
I protected a monster instead



Can I live...  
A life without Vincent?  
It's not possible  
My heart wouldn't survive  
Who am I?  
What have I become?  
How did I get here?  
In this place with...Gabe?

No.  
No longer.  
I can't!  
I won't  
Do this anymore.  
Vincent what have I done?  
How do we return to each other?  
JT said you were doing this for me.  
Beast cold turkey he called it -  
Desperate to be the man I fell in love with  
And you are that man again.  
I was blind, didn't see  
When you went public  
You wanted that with me once  
Picket fences...

You saved me time and time again  
Saved Tess  
Saved JT  
Even saved Gabe  
For me.  
Because, because...  
You love me still, I know that now  
If you can do this for me  
I can do no less for you.  
To be worthy of you  
I start by making a choice.

"I CHOOSE YOU VINCENT."

## Part 2

I stand outside the boathouse door  
Fear trickles up and down my spine  
I want to turn the handle  
Go inside and never leave him again  
I want so much to say I'm sorry  
For doubting him, leaving him  
I want to tell him  
That I accept all of who he is  
And mean it  
To love him once more – without reservation  
But...

Fear, guilt, rejection, loss; they assault me  
Will he let me back in  
After all that has happened?  
That I know he feels he has done to me  
That I in return have done to him  
We let go of each other  
Lost our way  
Can we find that way back  
To what we had?  
Or is it too late?  
He said he wants me back to JT but...  
Now I've been with Gabe  
The man who tried to kill him  
Will he accept my aberration?  
Or condemn me for it as I condemn myself...

I place my hand against the door  
I breathe in and out  
Steady myself  
Whisper against the cool metal  
"Vincent – I know you can hear me  
Hear my heartbeat  
Know my fear  
Losing you - that's my nightmare  
Living a life without you in it

It wouldn't be a life  
I am so sorry  
For everything that's been done to you  
By Gabe, my father, me...  
I can't change it even as I wish I could  
Go back in time  
Hold on tighter to your hand  
Listen when you said Gabe wasn't to be trusted  
Know better than to doubt your instincts  
He may be good now but at what cost?  
Us?"

I hear breathing on the other side of the door  
He is there, listening, silent  
Does he condemn me  
or is he willing to give me, us, another chance?

"Vincent," I choke on his name  
"I, I lost my way.  
I didn't know what to do or how to do it  
When we found you  
Changed by my father  
The horrors that must have been inflicted  
I can't even imagine  
and then...  
when you open yourself to me again I push you away  
Yet you tried again and again, fighting your beast  
Taking solace in Tori but even then managing to fight her beastly pull, break free  
And what do I do?  
I choose... Gabe?"  
I almost spit out his name  
"That I could do that to you  
is beyond even my comprehension and yet I did  
Forgive me?"

"Catherine..." his voice caresses  
from behind the door  
"there's nothing to forgive.  
I've done things, such terrible things  
...to you.  
I didn't mean to but I did.  
I didn't remember you and then it came back in fragments  
As if in a dream  
Memories are there now but incomplete  
I'm not the same man I was  
I don't know how to do this  
I want to but...  
Because I love you so much  
I want you to be happy  
You deserve that more than anything.  
If that happiness is elsewhere, even with Gabe..."

He truly loves me and I can only wonder at him.  
Who else but Vincent would sacrifice his happiness for mine?  
"Vincent, my happiness is with you  
I said once that my normal was with you  
I meant it then and even though we've been lost to each other I mean it now  
I love you Vincent..."

The door opens and my happiness smiles at me  
"I remember...and that I am so in love with you."

He takes me in his arms  
Holds me like he will never let me go  
I won't let him  
He is mine as much as I am his  
and as his beautiful mouth nears my lips  
I can but helplessly stare

"Vincent, I choose you."



### Part 3

Vincent draws me closer to him  
As if to merge our bodies  
While our lips seek to quench an unslakable thirst  
It's been so long since I felt this hunger.  
Thanksgiving at my father's a distant memory  
that dims in comparison with the thunder in our bodies  
We cling tightly to each other  
I now know why it would never have worked  
...with Gabe.

Alive, I've never felt this alive:  
Loved, cherished, desired, craved  
As Vincent makes me feel when he holds me,  
Kisses me



Adores me  
Nerve endings screaming  
Our bodies begging for union  
The growl that emanates from deep within him  
Thrills me, excites me  
Knowing he is more in control of his beast...  
My fingers find his robe,  
tearing at it, tossing it away  
As he makes short work of my clothes...

Oh God!  
His hands  
Travel across my body  
Seeking skin, caressing me into shaking oblivion.  
As the moon illuminates us  
we stand bare before each other.  
Renewed  
He steps back to drink me in  
It's intoxicating  
The smooth plains of his chest gleaming like a sculpture  
My very own Adonis!  
I giggle at the thought.

"What?" he smiles

"You're my very own Adonis..."  
I answer as my hands touch the surface of his skin

"Then you're my very own Aphrodite.."  
he growls once more as he sweeps me into arms that bind me to him

"Closer, I need you closer..." he breathes as his mouth crashes back towards mine  
"Never letting you go again."

His kiss deepens.  
He breathes life from my lips, as I breathe life from him  
I sigh deeply

He's a part of me and always will be  
How did I think I could be without him?  
Live without him?  
Love anybody but him?  
I shudder at how close I came to losing him.  
Vincent pauses  
Glowing liquid amber eyes search mine

I trace where the scar once was  
"I think I've been truly insane these last months.  
I almost lost you forever." I whisper

"You will never lose me Catherine."

I tremble as he caresses my name with his honey voice  
"We're together now. I am humbled that you chose me.  
Love me, accept me, knowing what I still am...find me worthy..."

"Vincent, I lost my way, lost sight of us.  
Never again.  
I won't let it happen.  
You're worthy.  
It's I that needs to be worthy.  
Of you."

Vincent shakes his head in disbelief.  
"How did I ever find you?"

I laugh happily, the first time in a long time

"What?" he questions

"You've said that before."

"Yes, I remember, back at the old warehouse."

I stare at him, "You remember?"

"Yes. That's not all I remember about the old warehouse..."  
as his hands caress my body, achingly familiar.

"Is that so?" I gasp as his fingers find my wanting softness

"Yes but no more talk. It's time to make new memories..."  
he vows as once again he finds my lips.

Lips that devour mine with savage intensity but also...reverence,  
as if to atone, silently declare just how much I mean to him.  
I hear his unspoken promise that we'll never be parted again  
As his mouth, hands, arms, body, tangle with mine,  
worshipping me with his very essence  
I press against his glorious strength, his sizzling heat, his hammering heart  
And I become needy, wantonly craving more of him  
My body screaming for unity and the wholeness that only he can provide  
Completion becomes my mantra



I moan as he lifts me high into his arms  
I wrap myself around him, naked skin on skin  
Kissing like we'll never stop.



I lace my fingers through his hair  
As he walks unerringly towards the stairs  
Ascends  
Eyes closed while yet kissing me  
As no 'normal' man can  
Senses in tune with me, the space around us  
Why did I ever doubt him?  
How can I not love his beast too?  
As the beast loves me  
I feel it and him – seemingly one  
At peace for perhaps the first time  
For me  
All for me  
For love of me  
It's at once glorious and terrifying.  
To be loved so much  
is a sacrament I now cherish beyond life

He is mine and I will never let him go again  
As we tumble to his bed  
I guide him into my centre and at that joining  
I almost cry with joy  
Bliss so sublime  
Overtakes me as we climb even higher  
To that plain where only we exist

Eyes lock  
Time stops  
...and Love forgives  
Two hearts beat as one  
Ecstasy follows

And realization dawns  
We're home in each other  
Vincent is my home  
Not my family, nor friends, nor place of birth  
Not my city nor my work  
Not my monstrous father  
Not Gabe  
Only Vincent  
He is my man *and* my beast  
He is also my heart  
My love  
My soul

"Vincent, I love you, now and always.  
Don't ever let me go."

"Catherine.  
I love you so very much.  
You're my humanity.  
My light and my life.  
I'll never leave you."

Vows spoken.  
Passion flares as we soar once more  
While love is sealed forever.  
Hearts and bodies irrevocably entwined  
Vincent's and mine.

**\*\*The End\*\***

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I hope you enjoyed my poem, 'Aftermath of a Nightmare'.

My next story features JT & Tess. As Vincent waits for Catherine on her rooftop in ep 216, Tess is at home contemplating the kiss with JT earlier that day. Then the doorbell rings...It's called "This Shouldn't Work" and is coming soon.

All of my BAAtB fan fiction is available at the links below -

Website: <http://www.batbpassion.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BATBPassion>

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