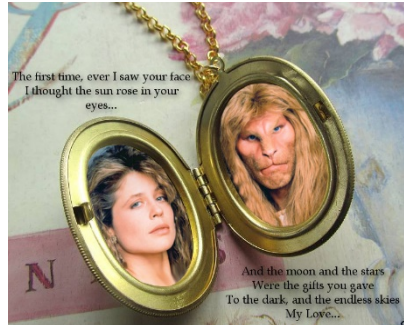


# Sunday, April 12, 1992

## Judith Nolan



*"In the universe, there are things that are known, and things that are unknown, and in between, there are doors..."*

*William Blake*



They lay side by side in the semi-darkness, the only illumination coming from the city lights gleaming beyond the French doors of her apartment. Catherine rested with her head and one arm flung across Vincent's bare chest, her naked leg entwined between his. She sighed her deep contentment, turning her head to press a kiss to the warm, golden skin of his chest before settling back again.

"Tell me what you are thinking right now. What you're feeling."

Vincent's chest rose and fell with the depth of his ragged sigh. "That I was not alive until the night I found you, Catherine. You opened such doors for me. Showed me things I had never dared to dream could be possible. You allowed the light to shine in on the darkest places of my soul and made them whole with your touch. For that alone I shall be eternally grateful."

"Not bad..." Catherine approved, lifting her head to smile at him. "And now, here we are again, five years later. We were too preoccupied to notice earlier. It's almost dawn. Happy anniversary, my love. I truly love you more than life itself."

"Not bad indeed..." Vincent whispered teasingly, kissing a lingering path along the soft skin of her upper arm as he rose from the bed, turning to her. Cradling her soft beauty in his embrace, he laid Catherine on her back, seeing her smile as she waited breathlessly for their

loving to begin again — as it always would — for there could only ever be one for the other. And the sensual hunger blossoming anew between them was unbounded.

Vincent looked down at her, this seemingly fragile beauty with her deep core of boundless inner strength, and he felt humbled. *And eternally grateful she had come into his life, one dark night in the park. Was it only by pure chance he had found her there?* He would never know. And perhaps that was for the best.

“Happy anniversary, my heart and soul...” he whispered, as he lowered his mouth to hers, and the world spun away into oblivion once more...

