

Mia's pov.

I have been feeling unwell for two weeks now. My condition was getting worse. I had ignored my condition for so far. I hated visiting hospitals and getting medicine. But I have to go for a checkup before it is too late. So I decided to go to the doctor in the morning in between my class break. I had an appointment.

I was sitting in a gynecologist's clinic waiting for my turn. My name was called.

"Mrs. Mia Leonardi?" The receptionist asked.

"Yes," I replied.

"You can go inside." She informed me.

I stood up and thanked her. I went to see the doctor.

I knocked on the door and entered . She was a brunette in a white coat with a stethoscope hanging in her neck.

"Mia Leonardi?" She asked to confirm.

I nodded.

"Please take a seat," She gestured towards the chair available on her opposite side.

I settled on the chair , then she asked,

"So tell me what kind of trouble you are facing."

"Doctor, nowadays, I am feeling kind of sick. Sometimes, out of nowhere, I start feeling nauseous and my head starts spinning. I never skip a meal or exhaust myself, but still my condition gets worse day by day." I explained my sickness symptoms.

She nodded her head and wrote it down on a paper.

"So you are married?" She asked to confirm.

"Yeah!" I replied.

"And sexually active?" She asked.

I rolled my eyes and screamed in my mind . What was a married couple supposed to do? But I replied yes.

"Alright Mrs Leonardi, we will run some tests on you and you will get a report tomorrow morning. Then come to meet me again with the reports." She stated.

"Ok, doctor, thank you," I said and left the room.

I went to the laboratory where I gave my samples for the tests my doctor had prescribed.

Then again I went to school to resume my classes. Thank God ! I made it up on time to

“Where were you, Mia?” Emma asked.

“ I went to see a doctor. Actually, I am not feeling well nowadays and my sickness increases day by day. So I thought it would be better to see the doctor on time.” I told her with a shrug.

“Why didn't you tell me? I would have accompanied you to the clinic,” Emma suggested.

“Oh no, that was not necessary. Otherwise I have asked you. By the way, I need your help in selecting a gift for Xavier,” I said, and felt like a slight blush spread on my cheek.

“Oh really? What's the occasion?” She asked.

“His birthday is coming next month.” I informed her, grinning.

“Oh wow ! So it will be a big celebration then.” She chirped.

“Of course! There will be a big celebration. But I want to plan a surprise for him. It is the first time I have wanted to do something for him. He always used to surprise me. This time I want to make his birthday very special.” I disclosed my plan.

“Awe, that's very sweet and kinda cute.” Emma said, placing a hand on her cheek and looking at me with adoration.

I laughed and said again, “That's why I wanted to start shopping from today and I want you and Adam to help me with this.” I demanded.

“Of course babe! We are always available for you.” She offered.

We both giggled but had to stop because the teacher had come to the classroom. After school was over, Emma and Adam accompanied me to the shopping mall.

We have searched through so many shops. But I could not find anything special for Xavier. Actually, he had everything . So I could not think about what to give him as his birthday present that would be unique and new to him.

Then I realised that we didn't have any of our wedding pictures or our picture together in our house.

I found it very exciting to make some collages of our wedding pictures and, of course, I have a full month, so I could click more of our romantic moments together secretly and get them printed and fixed in some beautiful frames.

Yes ,that would be a great idea. So we decided to go to some photo shop to select some frames and book them for Xavier's birthday.

After returning from the shopping mall, I felt exhausted and tired, as if I had been away

That's why I thought it was necessary to see a doctor. I have just been waiting for the results to come out tomorrow. So that my doctor could start medication. I just prayed in my heart that nothing serious would come out as the result of the test and it would be just some lack of nutrition and low energy levels. I made up my mind to eat more and avoid skipping meals, which I used to do when I was studying.

Xavier came in the evening on time, to my surprise. I didn't tell Xavier about it anymore, but I decided to hide the fact until the result came out. Otherwise he would be worried. I knew he already had so many things to be worried about.

When he took me in his protective and strong arms, I forgot all the fear and doubts and slept peacefully.

The next morning, time was moving at a painfully slow speed. I was waiting for a call from the laboratory about my test result. It was really difficult for me to hide something from Xavier because he had asked for the 10th time since morning what I was worried about.

And I didn't like to lie to him and I had to say, "It's nothing ,Xavier. I am alright."

I went to school and the first class was also over.

I was going towards the library with Emma and Adam. Just then, my phone began ringing. I picked up and saw an unknown number flashing on the screen.

"Mia Leonardi?" A voice asked on the phone.

"Yes, speaking." I replied.

"I am calling from the laboratory. We have your test results." He informed me.

My heart started throbbing in my chest. Holding my breath, I was waiting for them to disclose the result.

"Yes, you can tell me on the phone." I told him.

'Ma'am, you are 6 weeks pregnant," he announced.

What? I am pregnant ? My mind took a few seconds to process what I had just heard.

I released the breath I was holding and a sense of happiness filled my heart.

"We have sent your report to your doctor. I suggest seeing your gynecologist again to get your prescription." The voice on the phone was suggesting me and I was listening to every instruction.

Unable to wait more, I decided to go to see the doctor right now.

"Ummm... Emma, I have to go to see my doctor. So I am going to the clinic and then I will

"Is everything alright, Mia? If you want, I can come with you." She offered.

"Yeah... yeah... everything is alright. Just a routine check up." I lied again.

I didn't want to disclose this news to anyone before Xavier. I was so excited about telling him this good news. I quickly called the gynecologist to make an appointment.

When I reached the clinic, I didn't have to wait any longer. She called me in after one patient.

"Mia, how are you?" the Doctor asked, grinning. Maybe she had seen the test result.

"Please take a seat. I have your test reports and everything is perfectly fine. The reason for your nausea and head spinning is that you are six weeks pregnant. And it's normal in early pregnancy to have such symptoms." She explained.

She paused for a few seconds, "My only concern is that you are still very young, only 18 years old. Are you ready for this pregnancy and having kids?" She asked and I frowned at what she meant.

I always wanted to have my own family and having kids with Xavier was a blessing.

I nodded my head. "Yes doctor, I am completely ready to start a family."

She smiled and started scribbling on paper.

"OK then, I am prescribing some supplements to you. You should take them on time and take good care of yourself and if you have any problem, you can contact me anytime, okay. This is my personal number." She circled a number on the prescription.

"Thank you doctor." I exited the clinic and ordered the driver to drive directly to Xavier's office. I could not wait to give him this news personally. I wanted to see his reaction when I told him that he was going to be a dad.

I was sure he would also be over the moon like me after hearing this news.

Mia's pov.

I was so happy. I wanted to tell Xavier first , about my pregnancy. I could not wait. I went straight to his office . His secretary wanted to stop me.

"Ma'am, Mr. Leonardi is busy. Please wait for sometime. Let me inform him about you." Xavier's secretary said.

"No, no. Please don't inform him . I want to give him a surprise because the news I have can't wait," I said, grinning, darting directly towards his office.

I was his wife and this news couldn't wait. I was sure he would be as happy as I was this time. I held the door knob and was about to twist it to open the door when I heard someone saying,

"I am sure you have heard about Mia's mother and how her character was.You already knew why Antonio disgusted his wife." I heard. It was Xavier's father.

"Dad, you don't need to remind me of that?" Xavier's frustrated voice came through the door.

After a long silence, again I heard his father's saying,

"Xavier, I hope you remember that you have to be in this marriage only for three years according to the contract." Why was he reminding Xavier? I was now confused, listening to their conversation, dumbfounded.

"I know that very well, dad." Xavier's bored voice connected to my ear. Why was he listening to this nonsense?

"So you know that you don't have to pretend to be in love with Mia." His father stated it and my heart sank into my stomach.

He was pretending to care , to be possessive, to ... love? My hand involuntarily touched my stomach.

"I am not pretending anything, dad." Xavier's cold and stern voice again hit my brain and forced me to think about what his sweet act was meant for. He was not pretending and didn't love me. Then what did he want? I continued listening to them.

"So why haven't you taken her signature on the power of attorney of the Valerio Empire?" His father shouted at him.

Oh! Now I understood. They wanted the Valerio Empire.

"How many times do we have to discuss this, dad? I am tired of it now." Xavier said in his unexpectedly calm voice. He said? He didn't offend or deny? He also wanted my Empire?

oxygen for me. I had to leave this place immediately.

I could not bear to stand there and listen to him knowing all the nonsense about my mother. Just like other people, he also thought the same about me. He never trusted me. He never loved me .

I really hated him for that. Because I know all the rumours were false, not even a single one was true about my mother. My mum was innocent and pure.

He didn't love me. All his caring and sweet side to me was just to win my trust so that I could sign on those papers. He was with me for my empire.

I broke down into tears and left his office instantly.

O God! I couldn't breathe. I couldn't really breathe. I tried to suck in a large amount of air.

It's really hurting. I felt so much pain in my heart that it was unbearable. I could not understand what I would do now. I have no place to go, no one to trust . They were all greedy and selfish and wanted only money and power. They didn't care for feelings and love.

What if he didn't want this child? This thought shook me to my core. I wouldn't let anything happen to my baby. My baby will not have to live a life like me.

I would go far away from here. Nobody could search for me . Nobody could reach me. Yes, I had decided. First of all, I had to get out of here. Xavier had assigned so many bodyguards. How could I alone be able to trick these bodyguards? I needed help.

I thought of making a call to Emma. She picked up the call instantly.

“Mia, where are you? What did your doctor say? Are you OK?” She asked worriedly.

“Emma, I need your help. I cannot trust anybody here. I want to go away. I want to run away from here so far that nobody can reach me.” I said, sobbing on the phone.

“What happened? Why are you crying? Mia, calm down and tell me in detail.” She tried to soothe me over the phone.

“Xavier doesn't love me. He only wants my Empire. I am pregnant, Emma. I want to go away from here. I don't want to live with these selfish people who only want my property and wealth.” I cried over the phone.

“Okay ... okay.. relax and tell me where you are. Adam and I are coming for you.” She said.

I wiped my cheeks with the back of my palm.

“I am at the Leonardi enterprises and my bodyguards are standing outside the building. I don't want anyone to notice me when I leave. If Xavier knows that I am planning to run away ,

why I need your help to get me out of this place." I asked for her help. I couldn't think of anybody else.

If I went to my father, he would send me back to Xavier. Because no one could understand my situation.

I waited for Emma and Adam to come and get me out of here. After a time, I got Emma's call.

"Where are you, Mia? We are here for you. Come to the lobby. We have arrangements. We will get you out of this place and will help you to move into a safe place." She said.

I quickly headed towards the lobby, hiding carefully from everyone's eyes, and found Emma and Adam standing there.

As soon as they saw me, they hurried towards me and covered me from both sides. They led me towards the restroom.

Emma hugged me, "What's wrong, Mia? Why were you crying over the phone? Tell me."

I told her everything about Xavier and his father's conversation.

She sighed. "We never thought about this side of Xavier. He looks so much in love with you. He seems to always care for you. But looks can be deceptive and it is now proved. But don't worry Mia, we are with you. You quickly changed into these clothes."

And they handed me a packet. I looked at them in confusion.

"You need to change your clothes into a housekeeping uniform for the staff of this office and wear this large cap to hide your face. We will help you get out successfully," Adam said.

Then I noticed that they were both also wearing housekeeping uniforms. I quickly changed into this uniform and we slowly and carefully made our way towards the outside.

My heart was pounding loudly in my chest when we reached near the bodyguards and when a bodyguard glanced towards us, Adam and Emma quickly hid me in a side to cut their glances at me.

They led me towards a van waiting for us. When we settled inside the van, Adam asked me, "Do you have any place where you want to go?"

"No, I don't have any place. I just don't know where I will go. I just.... I just want to go very far from here ... to any place."

"Ok babe, I have a place to hide. If you want, we can take you there." Emma proposed.

"I am so thankful to you both. That would be great, I just have to escape and I can't thank

They both smiled at me and gave each other a look which I didn't understand. I closed my eyes and thought in my mind that this time I would be able to escape from this miserable life. That was enough for me. Now I wanted to be free from all pain and suffering.

Xavier's pov.

I didn't know why my father came to my office today, to meet me and why he was talking about Mia and her mother. What did he want to tell me?

"I am sure you have heard about Mia's mother and how her character was. You already know why Antonio disgusted his wife." My father asked.

"Dad, you don't need to remind me of that." I was getting frustrated now. What did he want to prove? I didn't like to hear anything bad about Mia.

After a long silence, dad spoke again,

"Xavier, I hope you remember that you have to be in this marriage only for three years according to the contract."

"I know that very well, dad." I said in my bored voice. Only if he knew what I had in my mind for this three-year contract thing.

"So you know that you don't have to pretend to be in love with Mia." My dad said and only if he knew what I felt for her.

"I am not pretending anything, dad." I said sternly. Because I actually love her.

"So why haven't you taken her signature on the power of attorney of the Valerio Empire?" He shouted.

"How many times do we have to discuss this, dad? I am tired of it now," I said.

"No Xavier, I am tired of you. You are behaving like a disobedient son. I taught you better. You are mixing your personal life with business together. Have you forgotten how we reached this height that no one can touch us? But I think, because of you being an emotional fool, I am about to lose all my power and position." He said between gritting his teeth.

"If you cannot make her sign the papers. I will do it myself. You just wait and watch." He added, and now he made me lose my self control. I didn't want Mia to face my dad. I looked straight into his eyes.

"What do you want to prove, dad? Why are you reminding me of all these things? Can't you bear to see that I am happy in this marriage? I'm happy with Mia. You want me to become the old Xavier, a sad, heartless, ruthless Xavier who never knew how to smile, how to be happy in his life, how to live for himself." I said with disgust.

How could a father be so selfish that he could not see his own son being happy in his life with the woman he loved more than his life?

"And if you want me to leave Mia, I would like to let you know that this is never going to

anything in my life. So never think about taking her away from me." I warned him.

So what if he was my father? I had all the right to fight for my love.

A smile appeared on his face which surprised me, making me dumbfounded. My father never smiled at me.

"This is exactly what I want to hear from your mouth . Xavier, I wanted you to accept that you really want her in your life. Because in spite of the rumours about Mia , I know her personally. She is nothing like that. She is a pure soul like her mother. Antonio was young and crazily in love with Andrea. So he could not see beyond the rumours nor was he ready to listen to anyone. But Mia is also a helpless, poor and innocent girl. Don't make her sad ever in her life. I want you to take care of her forever."

I was confused. " But ..but a few moments ago you .."

He cut me in.

"Yes, I was provoking you. Everyone can see your love for her in your eyes. But you aren't ready to declare it. I wanted you to accept this. But you kept pretending as if you were unaffected by her." He clapped on my shoulder and continued,

"But I really want her to sign the power of attorney because I will never let anyone come in between my business. I worked so hard throughout my life to reach this position and this title of Supremo Mafia king is passed to you through me. It is also a result of my hard work."

Alright , so he was not as bad as I thought of him.

"Please dad, leave her alone and her Valerio Empire. She has suffered all her life and now she has got something she really deserves. We have no right to own her Empire. It's my request to please forget about her Empire. I promise you that I will work harder than you and never disappoint you." I was surprisingly very calm and I asked for the first time in my life in front of my father, which is quite the opposite of my personality.

Mia had definitely brought some changes to me and was all positive.

My father sighed. "Ok son, I think we can work on that."

After my dad left, I thought about the conversation between my father and I once more. I really needed to confess my love to Mia before it was too late.

I had planned to confess my love and propose to Mia to marry me again. I told Matteo to make the arrangements done perfectly. I think by now everything will be done. I just called Matteo to check on the progress.

going to surprise Mia. I can't wait one more day," I asked impatiently.

"Yes Boss!!! All the arrangements are made as you wanted them. Everything is according to your instructions. All the best for tonight." He said and I could feel the grin in his voice.

I called Mia to tell her to get ready in the evening. I would send Sam to pick her up and bring her to the venue. I tried to call her but her phone was switched off. I tried so many times but still I could not connect to her. *Where was she?* I frowned at thinking. I called her bodyguard.

"Where is Mia?" I asked abruptly.

He was silent for a moment and then said, "Boss, madam has gone to meet you in your office and we are standing here outside of the building waiting for her."

What the hell?

Without wasting a moment, I quickly darted out of my office towards my secretary's desk.

"Did Mia come here to meet me?" I asked her in a threatening tone.

"Y... Yes sir, ma'am c...came here and I wanted to inform you. But she stopped me and went straight towards your office. She left after a few minutes. I thought she met you before leaving." She replied in a shaking voice.

What the hell is going on? She came here to meet me and still she didn't come inside my office. Why would she do that? I was clueless. Couldn't think of the reason behind her leaving without meeting me.

Oh. My. God.

Did she hear dad and my conversation? If so, how much did she listen? I closed my eyes to control my breathing, which had become heavy with the thought.

Oh fu.ck.

Did she misunderstand everything? My heart stopped beating in fear. In fear of losing her. No, this couldn't be happening. This wouldn't happen. I couldn't afford to lose her. She was my fuc.king life. My whole world seemed to crash down with the thought. How would I survive without her?

I quickly called Sam.

"Sam, find and locate Mia immediately." I roared on the phone.

"Boss.... what happened... I mean we can track her immediately with the help of the tracker in her ring." He said hesitantly and made my anger increase.

I just could not believe that she left me. I would fuc.king burn this whole world if I could not find her back. And once I find her, I will lock her inside my house and never let her go away from me.

Mia's pov.

The van was running on the road towards an unknown place. I had no idea where we were going. Emma said that they would take me to a place where Xavier could not reach. But I doubt it because I was living with him only for such a short time, I got to know how and what he was capable of.

"Oh no, they are chasing us." Adam said suddenly.

"Who is chasing?" I asked in confusion, trying to look outside.

He didn't reply to me but looked at Emma with a horror-filled face.

"Drive faster." She instructed the driver. Then she turned to me, "Do you have any tracker with you?" She asked me in a surprisingly rude tone.

"No, I don't have anything like that." I replied.

I didn't know what they were talking about. Because they made me leave my phone midway on the road.

"Who is following us?" I asked again.

"Your husband, Mia." She yelled at me, to my surprise. "I don't know how they tracked our location to reach us so fast." She said more to herself.

"But why are you shouting at me, Emma?" I asked her annoyingly. She didn't reply but scowled.

I looked back and saw some cars were following us.

"What will we do now?" I asked them.

They didn't reply to me and typed something on the phone. Adam made a call.

"They are behind us. Yes, we need help." He was asking someone for help. Now I have become suspicious. They were not telling me anything clearly and hiding a secret was not what I expected from them.

"Whom are you asking for help?" I pressed.

"It's nothing, Mia. We have some sources who are helping us in your escape from the grasp of Xavier." Adam replied nonchalantly.

"And who are they?" I asked again.

Because if they could go against Xavier, they must be as powerful and rich as him.

"You will find out very soon. Don't worry. We have got help." Adam said. He was relatively polite with me.

drive faster.”

I had never seen her like this. She was always calm and polite. I was really shocked to see this side of her.

“Relax Emma, we will think of something.” I tried to soothe her.

She shook her head and rubbed her forehead without paying any attention to me. I looked outside and realised we were going to the hillside.

“Guys, why are we going towards the hill?” I asked, frowning. “How will we escape from there? We need to leave this town as soon as possible.”

I was very confused about what they had in their mind. Because I found it really foolish to go towards the hillside. We would have no escape from there .

“We cannot leave this town , Mia. Your husband is behind us. He will not let us leave so easily. Do you trust us?” Adam asked in a soft voice.

I could not reply because the change in their behaviour made me feel awkward. Could I really trust anyone in this world?

He held my hand and slightly squeezed it.

“Mia, we are your friends as well as your well wishers. Remember you wanted us to help you. Don't worry , we will help you to escape from your cheater husband.” He continued, justifying themselves.

I pulled away my hand and just stared outside, thinking about whom to trust.

A car came suddenly in front of us, making our car stop abruptly. We jerked forward and I clenched my stomach in fear to shield it from any hurt.

“s**t !” Emma and Adam cursed in unison.

“Is the help coming?” Emma asked Adam, and Adam looked at his phone. He nodded to her.

“We need to run, Mia,” Emma said to me.

They opened the door and we immediately stepped out of the car. We started running in opposite directions.

“MIA !” I heard my name echoing in the valley.

I turned and saw Xavier running towards me with his men.

“NO. Don't come near.” I screamed, holding up my hand.

He halted and stretched his hand to stop his men coming behind him.

"No. I don't want to listen to anything. Just go away. Leave me alone." I cried and tears started rolling down my cheeks.

"Why do you want to escape from me? Mia, what happened? Talk to me." He pleaded, but I wouldn't believe his act this time. He would not make me fool by his fake concern.

"No, Xavier, you can't make me fool this time. I have heard everything." I shouted, retreating my steps.

"Mia, you misunderstood. Please give me one chance to explain, baby girl." His eyes were also pleading. My traitor, foolish heart, wanted to believe him again. But this time I had to think with my brain.

"No, Xavier. I know you are very good at manipulating everyone. You have made me believe that you really care for me, but you don't and I know it." I yelled while walking backward.

He began to run towards me.

"No. Stop. I said, don't come near me." I cried again and he stopped just then.

"Ok. Ok. You stop crying." He said in a painful voice.

He stretched a hand towards me when he saw that I was still walking backwards.

"Please, Mia, stop and listen to me. Please baby, give me a chance to explain. Don't do this." He said, looking into my eyes with so much emotion that it made my heart turn 180 degrees again. I was just a step away from believing him once again and running into his arms.

I shook my head. No, I couldn't be weak this time. I couldn't afford to look at his face, into his eyes. I turned on my heel and started running towards Emma and Adam.

"Mia!" He shouted.

"I. Love.You." Xavier's loud voice reverberated throughout the valley, making me turn towards him.

I could not believe what I was hearing.

I saw tears in his eyes. Was he crying?

"I love you, Mia. I. Love. You. So. Much. Please don't leave me. I won't survive without you."
" He yelled his confession.

O God. I always wanted to hear this. And looking into his eyes, I came to know that he wasn't lying. His tearful eyes said that he really loves me as much as I love him.

his head.

“Please ! Don't go away. I can't live without you. I wanted to confess this for so long. I really love you, baby girl. More than anything in this world. More than my life. Just come back to me. I will do anything and everything you want . Just come back. Don't leave me.Please!” He said, biting his lips as if he was controlling himself from crying more.

He loved me. He really loved me. God! I was so happy to hear that. But looking into his eyes made me cry more. I really misunderstood him. He always loved me so much. I was the one who couldn't see this. He was not lying. He truly loved me, otherwise he never needed to cry and beg in front of me. In front of his men. In front of this whole world. Only a man in love could do that. I was so foolish to not see his love for me.

I wanted to say that I loved him too.

"I love..." Just as I started, the loud sound of a chopper plane suppressed my voice and the fast wind started blowing dust, making us close our eyes.

I heard the sound of a gun firing and then someone picked me up. I struggled and threw my hands and legs to make their hold loose on me. But they carried me towards the chopper and threw me inside. Emma and Adam instantly sat beside me blocking me from both sides and the chopper took off.

I looked outside and shouted Xavier's name. But I doubt he would be able to listen to my voice in the loud sound of this chopper.

“Where are you taking me?” I shouted, looking at Emma and Adam. They both smiled cunningly and Emma said , “You are in the custody of Don Nikolai.”

“What ? Who is this Don Nikolai?” I frowned.

“You will find out very soon.” Adam said, smirking at me.

Oh God ! Please help me.

What the hell did Don Nikolai want from me and, most importantly, who was he? I have never heard of him. I prayed in my heart that please God, save me and my baby. I just found out Xavier loved me and I lost him immediately.

“She has a tracker.” A man said, running a scanner on me. “Her ring.”

I looked at my hand. Before I could understand, Emma abruptly snatched my ring from my finger and threw it outside. I watched as it fell into the sea.

Xavier's pov.

We were finally able to track Mia's location. I was able to reach her on time before she left the city. I was shocked to see a boy and a girl with her. I couldn't see their faces as their back was towards us and they were running away. I guessed they would be Emma and Adam. I remember she mentioned them as her friends. Why the hell were they helping her to run away? I found it somewhat suspicious.

She wanted to run away from me and was not ready to listen to me. It just broke my heart to see her walking away from me with hate and disgust in her innocent blue eyes. My Mia hated me? Fu.ck.

Before I knew it I was begging her to come back and admitting how much I love her. I was ready to do anything to convince her.

She stopped running but started crying even more. I furrowed. She covered her mouth with her hand and closed her eyes, tears were streaming down from her beautiful eyes onto her cheeks. I couldn't understand.

She opened her eyes and began to say something. Just then, her voice became inaudible when the loud sound of a chopper made us deaf and its blowing heavy wind forced us to close our eyes. Then, out of nowhere, gun firing started.

My men covered me instantly and pulled me safely inside my bulletproof car.

"MIA!" I shouted her name.

"Leave me you fuc.king fools." I yelled at them.

"But boss, they are firing outside. We need to protect you first. It's our foremost duty,"

Sam replied.

"Save her rather. I won't leave anyone if anything happens to her." I growled.

Sam nodded and opened the door. Holding his gun out, he ran towards Mia. I also ran behind him. But we were late. The chopper had already taken off and Mia was not there.

The earth beneath my feet started shaking. I looked around, running here and there, screaming her name like a mad man. She was nowhere.

"MIA!!!"

I fell on my knees and shouted, looking towards the sky in hope that she could hear my voice and come back to me.

"We are not getting the signal. Something is wrong with the tracker," Sam said.

'How the fu.ck is this possible? Try again.' I ordered.

"Maybe they found out that the ring had a tracker and they destroyed it or maybe she is out of our range." Sam was guessing the possibilities.

"Who the hell dares to abduct my wife?" I roared in my frustration, throwing the table placed in front of me, breaking it into two pieces.

"Xavier, I got some details about that chopper." Matteo came, running. "The chopper belongs to a Russian owner."

'Russian' the word clicked into my mind. But I was not sure about that.

"I think we have to wait for any call or demand from the kidnappers," he added.

"I can't, Matteo. I can't sit and wait for some news about Mia. I am scared to my death. I never felt so helpless in my entire life. I was never so afraid about anything before Mia. If anything happens to her, if they make a single scratch or cause pain to her, I won't leave any one alive." I declared.

"Calm down, Xavier. Nothing could happen to her. She will be alright." Matteo tried to comfort me.

But I knew that until I could see her from my own eyes and feel her warmth in my arms, I could not be sure that she was safe and all right.

"Boss, the Russian supremo wants to talk to you." Sam came running, holding the phone in his hand.

I clenched my jaw before taking the phone and putting it on my ear,

"Don Nikolai!" I called his name with hatred and disgust.

"Don Xavier! Missing your wife?" And he laughed on the phone. So my doubt was right. That bastard kidnapped my Mia.

"How dare you kidnap my wife? Now I don't have any doubt that you don't deserve to be a Mafia king who uses women for your revenge." I spat out.

He laughed again. "You are not in a situation to insult me when your wife and your baby are in danger."

My baby? What the hell did he mean by that? Then all that happened, clicked to my mind.

Fu.ck .Fu.ck. Fu.ck.

How could I miss that? *Mia was pregnant. With my baby.* That's why they planned to

O God! I wanted to be happy and relished this news by announcing to the whole world that I was going to be a dad. But first of all, I had to worry about Mia and my baby and their safety. I had to get them back as soon as possible.

“What do you want, Don Nikolai?” I asked in my cold voice.

“You know very well what I want. I want you to merge your Mafia into the Russian mafia and agree on our conditions to provide me with access to your area.” He revealed his evil plan.

“In your fuc.king dreams. I would never do that.” I growled.

“It seems you don't love your wife and your unborn baby. So, the information was wrong that you can turn the world upside down for her.” He mocked me.

“I don't need to prove my love for my wife to you,” I said sternly.

“OK , so you won't be bothered if I kill her mercilessly or should I sell her to a brothel?” He said and laughed again.

“Don't you dare to touch her. I will fuc.king kill you and burn your entire Mafia Empire.” I roared on the phone.

“You dare to shout at me and I won't give you another warning before killing her brutally.” He warned dangerously.

I had to clench my fists and squeeze my eyes tight to calm down my anger.

I had to act wisely. I could not afford to anger Don Nikolai as long as Mia was in his custody. I have to think fast to get her back.

“Don't hide behind my wife, Don Nikolai. Just return her and then we will talk man to man.” I proposed.

“I am not a fool, Don Xavier. I planned this for months. You have only two choices , either agree to my terms and conditions or forget your wife.” Placing his terms in front of me, he disconnected the call without waiting for my reply.

I looked around and everyone in my gang was watching curiously and intently, eager to know my next decision for a plan of action.

Matteo came forward and placed his brotherly hand on my shoulder and squeezed it slightly to comfort me.

“I want her back at any cost. I want her to be safe. I don't have time to think. I can't take the risk knowing that she is carrying my baby.” I said in a flow.

Everyone started buzzing about the latest news I broke.

"That's great news, Xavier. Congratulations, brother! We would have celebrated if the situation had been different. But very soon we will get her back ." Matteo hugged me and congratulated me by clapping my back.

I was scared to think about her situation. Being pregnant, she needed to be taken care of and pampered by me, not in the custody of a fuc.king mad Mafia supremo. She should be surrounded by her family. Not amongst the killers and murderers.

I just could not think about the situation she was in. I just needed to reach her as soon as possible. But how could I agree with their terms and conditions?

"What the hell does he want?" Matteo asked.

"He wants me to agree to his terms and conditions which he put in front of us earlier." I told him.

"We can never allow them in our country to sell drugs and prostitution. That's against our ethics," Matteo stated.

"The Mafia has no ethics, Matteo. They only know how to get power and wealth anyhow, from anywhere." I told him the supreme rule of the Mafia.

"So, are you going to agree with their conditions?" Matteo asked in disbelief. I never bowed in front of anyone, but I was never so helpless either.

"Do I have any other choice? I have to agree , if I want my wife and baby safe." I closed my eyes and said in a defeated voice.

For the first time in my life, I felt so helpless. Dad was right, emotions made us weak and we got to do a foolish thing we never thought of.

I sighed aloud, exhaling an air in frustration.

Now I could understand my dad being cold-hearted and ruthless towards everyone.

"Matteo, contact Don Nikolai. Inform him that I am ready to agree to his conditions and to sign the deal. But first, I want to see Mia." I instructed him. "Make all the arrangements to go to Russia immediately. Inform Don Nikolai that we are coming to meet him. My Mia must be safe and be taken care of properly as she is pregnant."