



Pity

Grace

" Let me see. " Tristin lifts his hand towards me, disregarding my words altogether.

I sigh sarcastically. " there is no need. I know just how much you care about these things. "

" Grace. " His voice hardens.

I press my lips in a thin line and get to my wobbly legs. I need to get this through my head—if Ethan is a calculative man, Tristin is not too different.

They are men of power, bred and raised into this cruel world to get whatever they want at any cost. Their care is only reserved for the people they find useful.

" I told you before, I will pay the price for your help. And I know that's what you want. So as long as we are on the same side, you can drop the nice act and remain your true self—the man you were just now. The man who didn't think twice before saying... " I trail off, unable to keep going.

My gaze lowers to his neutral eyes. For a second there, I was comparing him to others in my life, and believing that he is a little better than them.

In that moment, I forgot who he is and why I am here.

" You still care about him, don't you? You care about what he thinks of you and me. " Tristin's lips curl into a cold smirk.

My shoulders stiffen. " that's not really your business. Whether I care

about him or not, you don't have the right to say those things about me. Because you and I both know, there is nothing between us and never will be. "

" Is that so? " He gets up, towering over me dangerously.

Unconsciously, I take my hand off the side of my head and stumble one step back.

My voice rises as I say, " Yes. So why did you try to make Ethan believe that there is? How dare you try to bring my child into this?! " 1

Suddenly, his eyes become crueler, a certain threatening emotion flickering across them. His palm closes around my upper arm and pulls me in.

I gasp, my eyes widening at the sudden jerk. " Tristin. "

He leans down, glaring into my eyes. " You have no idea what else I can dare to do. That's why I suggest...don't raise your voice at me. I am not your enemy yet. Don't do anything to turn me into one, Little Butterfly. "

I don't struggle, don't try to pull away. Like a statue, I stand my ground, glaring back at him.

" And whether you care about Ethan or not is my fucking business because the moment you go back to him and choose to be on his side will be the moment you become my enemy. I will not... " His eyes trace the path of the warm liquid down my cheek, as his voice lowers. " take pity on you. "

" Right now, do you pity me? " I blurt, my head tilting to the side.

Tristin's gaze meets my eyes. His lips part slightly but no words leave his mouth. He searches my eyes, a frown forming between his brows.

It feels like an eternity passes just like this. I wait and he struggles to answer.

Slowly, his hold loosens over my arm. Then, he lets go and steps away.

" Now that I think about it, I don't think I do. " He admits, tearing his gaze from mine and looking at the side of my head instead.

" You will be better off without that pity. " I step forth and jab his chest. " Because the moment you do, you will realize how wrong you are. I am a woman who has nothing to lose Tristin, and if you can think you can take anything from me, or harm me by becoming my enemy, you are wrong. If Ethan Calder can not scare me, you can't either, Tristin Roberto. Get this through your head. "

His brows lift, his eyes taking in my finger on his chest before he looks at me and smiles in amusement. Not the usual smirk, or grin that sets me off, but a small smile as if he finds my words funny.

" Never try to bring my child into your revenge plan again. " I whisper, pulling my hand back to my side.

" I won't if it hurts you. " His voice softens.

I blink. Is he joking or mocking me? How did he just go from threatening me to complying with my words?

Tristin raises his hand towards me for the second time. I freeze, watching his frown as his fingers lightly brush against the wound on my head.

" You are bleeding. Let me call the doctor to make sure you are alright. " He takes his hand away.

" No need. I have to go back after the lunch break. " I tell him, touching my head again.

It hurts, but I can't bring myself to care. I have suffered wounds worse than this scratch on my head.

" You are taking the rest of the day off. " Tristin picks the receiver and says.

" I am not. " I scowl at him. " stop deciding everything for me. "

" I am the Boss. I can— "

" Tristin. " I interrupt, wanting to focus on the main issue here despite feeling the dull ache in my head and somewhere in my heart.

He pauses, the receiver hanging in the air. I swallow, refusing to look at the divorce papers that still lie on the ground beside my feet.

" Did you send him the divorce papers? " I ask, staring at him.

" You want to divorce him, don't you? You were delaying sending him the papers so I helped you. " His face becomes a mask of indifference.

" Do you actually believe he will let me go this easily? " I scoff, pointing at the papers. " he will never sign them because he wants to make me suffer more. I don't know what goes through his head after everything he did, but I just know, Ethan will never back down. That's why I didn't send him the papers. It's useless. "

A brief silence ensues between us. Tristin's eyes flicker to my head, before lowering to the papers.

" Do you have a plan in mind? " He questions as a smirk pulls at his lips.



I nod slowly. "the only way he will give up is when his beloved woman is in deep trouble."

"Lily Whitlock." Tristin whispers, looking up at me.

"Yes, Lily Whitlock. He will do everything to save her." I lean in and grab some tissues from the tissue box placed over his desk.

"I have some things that can help you." Tristin rounds the table and comes to stand in front of me.

Unconsciously, I crane my neck, paying attention to the big height difference between us. I barely reach his shoulders when I am not wearing heels.

"I am meeting her tonight. She will give me everything that will help me destroy her and Ethan Calder." I reply, a wicked idea brewing in my head.

After Ethan's shenanigans today, he is in for a surprise bigger than before. If he doesn't care about the video circulating everywhere, he will definitely care about the one he will be getting tomorrow.



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