

## MizzLaura COMING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

### Coming Home For Christmas #Chapter 101 - Read Coming Home For Christmas Chapter 101

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat

Lacey's POV

"It's a match but it's not a sibling match like we expected..it' a different kind of match"

"What do you mean?"

Logan asks me as I stand there glaring at my dad

Ill bet every dollar I have as well as all of my prized possessions that this prick knew all about this and he kept it hidden to protect his

precious golden child

"What Lacey's trying to say is that Chloe and Alex are our niece and nephew which can only mean one thing"

"Luca's the father..unless you've got another son out there that we don't know about old man"

Liam growls at our father who glares at him

"Watch your tongue, boy or ll."

"You'll what?"

A deep, strong and very powerful voice says and I was shocked when I looked behind my dad and I saw my cousin standing there

"Klayton?..what are you doing here? I thought you went back to North Carolina"

"I did, principessa but I had to come back for a meeting and I thought I'd check in on you while I'm here"

Klayton said whilst eyeing up my dad like he was dog crap on the bottom of his expensive shoe

"How did you know we were here?"

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat. v7)

"Justin told me"

I look over at my brother who just shrugged his shoulders as he smirked cheekily at me

"Baby, can you and Benjamin take our two elders and the kids for something to drink, please? I don't want them to be a witness to grown

folk business"

"Sure babe, come along ma'am, sir"

Cassidy says as she and Benjamin help escort Michael, Grace and the kids out of the room

Michael and Grace both gave me a nervous look as they left and I gave them a reassuring smile before they did, not that they needed it

because they'll soon realise that Cassidy and Ben are sweethearts and won't hurt them

As soon as they were gone, Klayton fixed my father with a glare so intense and scary, I almost wet myself from it

"So..what were you about to threaten my cousin with James, hmm?"

"I wasn't gonna threaten him, Klayton"

"It's Don to people like you and are you sure you weren't gonna threaten him because from the tone of your voice and you saying watch

your tongue, boy ..it kinda sounds like a threat to me"

Klayton says whilst stroking his stubbly chin

"I just want my kids to show me some respect, Don"

My dad said the word Don in a mocking kind of way earning him a crack to the jaw from Klayton

"AAHHHHI"

"r+, I've been waiting so long to do that, how does it feel, dad?"

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Klayton asked whilst using the same tone my dad did when calling him dad

"I don't know how it felt for him but it sure felt good for me to see"

Liam says excitedly as he wraps his arm around my shoulders and kisses my temple

"So, what are you all doing here? it's a bit of an odd place for a family reunion, isn't it, Lacey?"

"We're here to find out if GiGi was telling the truth or if she was lying to us"

"And?..what's the verdict?"

Klayton asks as he looks around at us

"I'm not the father just like I told Logan I wasn't"

My dad said whilst glaring at Logan who responded by flipping him off

"I'm not even gonna get into why you two are together right now" Klayton said while rubbing his forehead

"So, who's the father then if it's not dad of the year over here?" "It's the other dad of the year, Klay..it's Luca"

I say and Klayton looks at me with a gobsmacked/confused expression

"That's the gay one, right?"

"Yes"

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"It's complicated"

Myself and my dad answer at the same time

When I realised what he said, I looked at him like what the f\*\*k? and so did Klayton

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat. ~)

"How's it complicated, moron? either Luca's gay, straight or he likes a bit of both which one is it?"

Klayton asked my dad who wasn't happy at all with his question and I could tell this just from his jaw which was clenched so tight I'm

surprised it hasn't dislocated yet

"Like I said, it's complicated...Luca is gay but every now and then he likes to have a one-night stand with a woman"

Oh my god

"Does Dylan know about this?"

"Who gives a s\*\*t, cugina?"

Klayton asks while rolling his eyes and I glare at him

"You're lucky you're my favourite cousin otherwise you'd be six feet under with that glare, Lacey"

Hey"

"What about us?"

Justin and Liam whined sounding offended and I chuckled slightly

"Shut up, idiotas"

"Anyway, back to Luca..."

I said but was interrupted by my dad

"I don't know how to really explain it but the way he once explained it to me is that when he's drunk..."

"Which is always"

Liam says earning himself a glare from our dad

"When he's drunk, he doesn't have a preference"

This is crazy

"Ok, let's start from the beginning, how old is the elder kid?"

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat. 7

hair

Klayton asks as I run my hand through my hair

"She's ten"

"Is she?"

"Yeah, why? what's with the face?"

I ask Klayton who looked like he was thinking

"Are you sure Luca is her father?"

"Yeah, why?"

geen

Klayton groans as he rubs his hand over his face and through his

"What? what's wrong?" "She's ten, principessa..do the math?"

I didn't understand where he was going with this at first but then I remembered Luca's age, specifically what age he turned this year

"There's no way"

"The legal age of consent in New York is seventeen and Luca is twenty-six, I also don't need to tell you of all people, Lacey, how long it takes for a woman to have a baby so there's a chance Chloe was conceived when Luca was only fifteen"

ngengn Liam said as he ran a hand through his short hair

"How old is GiGi?"

Justin asks shocked

"She was a year below us, Justin, she was twenty-eight" "Was? what do you mean she was?"

"She's dead, GiGi's dead"

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I said bluntly and the room instantly fell silent but it was only for a brief moment when my dad's angry voice suddenly roared throughout

the room

"So, you're telling me my son was raped by this b\*\*\*h and we can't even get justice for him because the w\*\*\*e is dead?"

He growled and I rolled my eyes

"Yeah, not that you could've done anything anyway dad and you most likely would've been laughed out of court because Luca went back

for more, six years later"

"I can't +++ believe this"

My dad grows as he picks something up from the table behind him and throws it against the nearest wall

"Calm down, dad, you need to relax"

"WHY SHOULD I?"

"Because we need to focus on the future now and focus on fixing this f\*\*k up of a family, starting with getting Luca some help"

Justin says to our father

"It's not gonna be that simple, Justin"

"What do you mean, Klay?"

Klayton lets out a breath as he sits down on the arm of the couch behind him

"I've been looking into GiGi for some time now, especially since you and Logan called me here and I found something which could possibly

break this family for good...it'll definitely end whatever father-daughter relationship you guys have got because even if you didn't do it,

James, I can almost guarantee that you knew about it"

"Knew about what?"

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat. ~)

Klayton briefly looks at my dad before looking at me with an expression like he wishes I wasn't here because he didn't want me to hear what

he's gotta say

"I'm so sorry, Lace"

"Sorry about what?"

Lask confused

"Do you remember that four million hit GiGi put out on you and your kids?"

"She did what?"

Liam growled as Klayton held his hand up telling him to be quiet

"Do you remember, kid?"

"Yeah, I remember, Klay, how could I forget"

Isay feeling angry before a wave of confusion went over me

"Wait, why are you bringing this up?"

Task Klayton who was silent for a few seconds before he answered me

"The money was deposited to her from a Carpenter, Lace"

"What?"

lask as I stumble a little

Ifelt like I'd had the wind knocked out of me and Logan was quickly by my side to keep me upright

"Relax babe, it's ok"

"It's ok? are you being serious, Logan?"

I glare at my husband before narrowing my glare at my dad

"Who gave her the money?"

Task him but he didn't answer me causing me to lose control of

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat. a myself

I stormed over to my dad and slapped him hard across the face several times before I was pulled away by Logan

"Calm down, babe"

"I can't calm down, Logan, I need to know which one of them gave that b\*\*\*h the money"

"Think of our baby, Lacey and calm down"

Logan sternly whispered in my ear and I took several deep breaths to calm myself down but I was still pretty angry

"Who gave GiGi the money, dad?"

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Task him again and this time he was smart enough to answer me

"It wasn't me but I think... think [ may be inadvertently involved"

"What do you mean?"

Liam asks our dad whose eyes remained on me

"Not too long back, Luca asked me for four million dollars, he told me he was interested in starting his own business and he wanted me to

be an investor in it"

/ can't believe this

"But instead, he gave the money to GiGi and she was gonna use that money to have my wife and children executed"

Logan says earning shocked looks from my brothers and a whimper from my dad

"LL didn't know, I swear, Lacey..I swear I had no clue"



“And that makes you innocent, does it, dad?...you think just because you didn't know then that means you're innocent?...you still gave her

the money, it may not have directly come from you but you still gave it to her and the funny thing is that she was gonna have your daughter

and your

Chapter 101 - Lacey's Threat. wa grandchildren killed with your own f+\*\*\*\*g money" I say with a chuckle

“How does that make you feel, dad, hmm? are you relieved she failed?...or are you gutted she didn't succeed?”

I ask with a stoic expression on my face while my dad looks like he's just been punched in the gut

“How can you say that, Lacey? you're my daughter”

“Exactly, I'm your daughter, not your son, so you can stop acting like you give a\*\*t now”

“But I do care, Lace..look, I know you won't believe me when I say this, sweetheart but I love you, Lacey, I love you so freaking much and I'm

so sorry for everything I've put you through, I just want your forgiveness and to be in yours and my grandchildren's lives”

He says and I shake my head

“You're right, I don't believe you”

I say while glaring at him

“I know you don't and I'll happily take a lie detector test and answer

any questions you wanna ask me, Lace, I'll answer anything you want if it means I can prove to you that I'm telling you the truth”

“You'll probably blow it up, Pinocchio”

I say and everyone but my dad laughed

When the laughter died down, I looked at my poor excuse for a father who looked hurt and beaten down by everything but I still had one

more question to ask him

"Did you know Luca had two other children out there?"

Task my dad who briefly looked at Logan before looking back at me

and nodding his head

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Bastard

"And you both left them to suffer"

I said as I let out a shaky breath

I then pull away from Logan and step closer to my dad who looks nervous and nervous he should be because I'm about to blow his golden

boy's world wide apart

"Luca's got until midnight on Christmas day to accept Klayton's offer for help and if he doesn't, then I'm gonna step in and call social

services on

him and I promise you that I'll do everything within my power to make sure all of his kids are taken away from him, do you understand me?"

"You can't do that, Lacey"

My dad growled

"Actually, I can"

I shout back at him

"He's twenty-six and he's got five kids now, dad, five..he's got a ten-year-old, a four-year-old, a three-year-old and two newborns, none of

which want, need or deserve an alcoholic for a father..quite frankly, dad, they deserve better than that"

"Lacey's right, dad, it's time we all stopped coddling him and he got some help...he can't go on like this, none of us can"

“Justin's right, Luca's actions have destroyed this family and it needs to stop now”

Justin and Liam chimed in and I felt relieved to know that they were on my side with this

“This isn't a threat dad, it's a promise, so tell your golden boy the clock is ticking”

I say before leaving the room

I really hope Luca takes me seriously and accepts Klayton's offer but something tells me it's gonna take more than just me and my words to

wake my big brother up

Chapter 102 - A Family Christmas Together - Part 1

Lacey's POV

"So, this is Christmas and who have you done? another year over and no one has made me c\*m and so this is Christmas, I wished I'd had

fun, the rear and the front fun, the S and the M"

“Really, Abigail?”

“And so this is Christmas, for big and for strong men, Santa please send me one, It's been so freaking long and so happy Christmas, I've had

some black and some white, my pink and my purple dildos, have kept me up all night"

Abigail continues to sing while I laugh at her stupid made-up lyrics

“You're lucky the kids aren't here, Abigail, otherwise I'd string you up”

“Why? John Lennon's Christmas song is a classic one”

“Yeah, when you sing the correct lyrics, Abigail”

I say sounding stumped

“I think John Lennon would be turning in his grave if he heard your dirty lyrics”

“b\*\*\*h please, he'd love them”

Whatever you say, Abigail

“Anyway, why are you here? I thought you had a meeting today”

"It's been rearranged until the new year, so I'm as free as a bird until then, well, I've still got a few bits to sort out for your grand reveal party

on new years eve but apart from that, I'm as free as Prince Andrew is because

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm: ho J authorities are too afraid to arrest his privileged royal ass" She says and I chuckle

"Don't talk that way about the royals in front of Miss Teddy, Abs because she'll denounce you as one of her favourite aunties if you do"

"No, she won't, Lace, Teddy loves me" "Yes, I do"

Teddy appears out of nowhere and happily runs towards her

auntie is the owner.

"Hi, auntie" "Hey, baby, where's the rest of Monster's Inc?" "They're outside with my, daddy" Teddy says as Abby picks her up and places her

on her lap

"I thought you were joking about the party anyway, Abs" "Do I look like the type of person who jokes about parties?" "No" I say whilst

sighing tiredly

"I'm really not in the mood for a big party, Abs" "But..."

"Mummy, you have to have a party because you get to wear a beautiful new dress and so will I"

Teddy says and Abby fake gasps in a very dramatic way

"Now we have to have a big party, Lace so our beautiful Teddy can wear a nice new dress"

"Are you seriously blackmailing me with my own daughter, Abigail?"

Task annoyed but my annoyance quickly dissipated when I heard my

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm. wo husband's voice

"Who's blackmailing my missus?"

Logan asks in a cockney accent

“Daddy, you sound funny”

Teddy giggles and I smile at the pair

“I sound just like you, my darling”

Logan kisses our daughter's head and ruffles her hair before turning to look at me

“There's my baby, I've missed you, love” “I've missed you too”

Logan comes over to me and kisses my lips as he wraps his arms around my waist

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“Do you two mind? not in front of the impressionable”

Abby fake scolded us and I rolled my eyes

“I like seeing mummy and daddy kiss, it's cute, it's the boys who don't like it”

“Speaking of my boys, where are they?”

“They've gone back to the poolhouse with Chloe and Alex to play some games”

Logan said as he tried to grab some cookie dough from the bowl in front of me but I quickly slapped his hand away before his hand could

touch it

“Are you really gonna deny your husband a little bit of cookie dough, babe?”

“Go and wash your hands and then you can have some” I say with a smile and Logan huffs but does it anyway

Today is Christmas Eve and we're having a little get-together here

ay

tonight with our families, so I'm busy making some of my favourite treats

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm

for the event

I was hoping to do all of the food for our party but my over-protective husband refused because he didn't want me standing up for too

long or getting stressed out, so in the end, he agreed to let me do some baked goods but that's only because I threatened to cut him off

from s\*x if he didn't agree

Later That Night..

I'm currently in my room getting ready for tonight and I can't help but feel giddy about spending Christmas Eve with everyone that I love,

well, almost everyone

Both of my brothers will be attending tonight along with their partners and kids, Logan's family will also be here, as well as Carmella, Cade

and Abigail

I've also invited my grandparents but they're not sure if they'll be able to make it but they said they'll try, Klayton and his family will also be

absent because they wanted to spend Christmas in Cameron with all of their families which is a bummer but what can you do?

Right now, I'm standing in front of the mirror in my bathroom and looking at how beautiful I look and feel

don't know if it's my pregnancy or if it's because I'm just so blissfully happy but I feel stunning and my skin is practically glowing

I'm wearing a red, satin, bodycon dress which stops just below my knees and a pair of black heels which have got a shimmer to them, as

well as a little platform to them which Logan will probably b\*\*\*h about later on but I don't care because they look cute

As for everything else, my hair has been curled to give it a nice wavy look and the left side of my hair has been neatly tucked behind my ear,

my

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm

4 make-up is a natural look with soft browns and creams on my eyes, a black cat eyeliner and black mascara, I've also got some highlight on

my cheekbones and nude lips while my nails are just a plain black colour to match my heels

“Just when I thought my baby couldn't get any more beautiful, she proves me wrong”

I hear Logan's voice coming from my left side and my heart damn near stopped when I saw how sexy and delicious he looks in his maroon

suit and white shirt which was unbuttoned at the top showing off his smooth, tanned chest as well as some of his tattoos while his blonde

hair was styled in his usual combover

+k me, if wasn't already pregnant then I would've been after tonight

I thought to myself as I walked over to my beloved man and wrapped my arms around his neck and kissed his lips

“You look so handsome, my love”

“As always”

He says and I roll my eyes

“Cocky ass”

I said earning a slap on my ass from Logan

“Watch it, love, you don't want me to spank your ass later on when we're alone, do you?”

“You're gonna do it anyway, Logan because you can't resist touching my ass”

“True”

He says while chuckling

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I walked back over to the counter to clear up when Logan appeared

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm. o behind me

He had this weird look on his face as he looked at me which distracted me from what I was doing

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

"Because you're beautiful"

Logan said while kissing my cheek

"But also because you're missing something"

"And what's that?"

"This"

Logan wrapped his arms around me and produced a red velvet box for me, he opened it up and I gasped when I saw a beautiful red

diamond and

platinum jewellery set which featured a pair of earrings, a necklace and a bracelet and the design on each one was like a pear drop

"This is beautiful, who's is it?"

"It's yours"

What?

I looked up at Logan who smiled down at me

"Happy Christmas, baby"

Logan kisses me before placing his forehead against mine

"Thank you, love, you didn't have to"

I wasn't expecting anything from him because he's already given me everything I wanted

"I know but I wanted to"

Logan said as he helped me put the necklace and bracelet on giving me kisses on my neck and wrist as he did while I put my earrings on



"Now that you've given me my gift, it's only fair that I should give you yours"

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm: wy

Isay as I reach for the gift box which I had hidden behind my feminine hygiene products so that Logan wouldn't find it

"You got me a gift?"

"Of course, did you think I wasn't gonna get you anything?"

Task and Logan looks at me shocked

"Babe, you've made my lifelong dream come true by marrying me and becoming my wife, you've given me three beautiful and amazing

children and you're currently pregnant with our next child or children, you've given me everything I've ever wanted or needed"

"So, you don't want this then?"

Task with a smirk as I shake the box in my hand

"Well, I didn't say that, did I?"

Sort of but whatever

I thought to myself with a chuckle

"Happy Christmas, my love"

I give Logan his present and his eyes immediately lit up when he saw the platinum Cartier watch which I've also had engraved with a

personal message on the back

It's nothing major just two L's with two hearts and an infinity sign which is a symbol that our love is for eternity

"Thank you, babe"

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Logan says before kissing me

"I've been looking to get myself a new watch for ages but I can't seem to find it in me to replace the one I've already got"

"Why not?"

"My parents got me it for my eighteenth, so it's sentimental to me"

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Logan said as he took the watch out of the box and replaced the one on his wrist with it

"It's perfect, babe just like you"

I smiled at my husband as he cupped my face and kissed my lips

"Urght!, dude seriously, why are you always kissing our mum?" Dayton's disgusted voice interrupts us

I looked behind my husband and I mentally awwed when I saw my

three babies looking so freaking cute

Dayton and Logan Junior are wearing a navy blue suit with a waistcoat and tie, a white shirt and black shoes and their hair has been styled

just like their fathers

As for Teddy, she's wearing a navy blue tutu-style dress, the top is filled with roses, the skirt is glittery and in the middle of it is a big bow

and her hair has been styled into two braids with navy blue ribbons on them

"Aww, you guys look so cute, who did your hair?"

Task confused

Normally, I do their hair but I didn't today, so who did?

"Dad did"

"Daddy did mine as well"

Teddy said whilst looking at her dad like he was the centre of her entire universe which he most likely is, to be honest with you

"Hmm, seems like daddy can do everything"

I say with a chuckle as Logan picks up our daughter

"Daddy can do everything, can't I kids?"

"Yep"

"yeah"

Chapter 102 - A Family Christm. ao "Daddy's amazing" Teddy says while hugging her dad

"Hmm, I'll remember this is in eight months, superman" I say and Logan glares at me playfully

"What's happening in eight months?" "Duh, summer Dayton...and people say you're smart" Teddy said while rolling her eyes

"Actually kids..."

"Logan, we should head downstairs now, our guests will be arriving soon"

Tinterrupt my husband whilst telling him with my eyes to shut up

We've decided to keep our pregnancy a secret until we're at least

three months along but this husband of mine is determined to squeal the news to everyone before we even make it that far

"Ok, let's go guys, it's time for daddy's dream to come true" Logan says as he smiles brightly at our three bundles

"What dream is that then, love?"

Logan smiles at me as he leans down and kisses my lips before resting his forehead against mine

"My girl finally came home and now we're having our first Christmas together as a family"

Oh god, my heart

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. ww Chapter 103 - A Family Christmas Together - Part 2

“The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree is the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other’

~ Burton Hills

Lacey's POV

It's honestly crazy how much of a difference a year can make to one's life

This time last year, the kids and I spent Christmas Eve with Carmella in our matching Christmas pyjamas watching our favourite movies and

eating takeaway and junk food

Now a year later, I'm married to the love of my life, I'm pregnant and I'm dressed in a beautiful dress while I'm surrounded by everyone that

Tlove

I feel so happy and blessed right now because of the people I'm surrounded by and yes, I know my parents aren't here and neither is Luca

but there's always next year or the year after that if Luca pulls his finger out of his ass and takes Klayton up on his offer and gets help

Anyway, I'm just standing here and watching my three babies having fun with their cousins and opening up some of the gifts that have

been bought for them

My eyes were specifically on Liam and Dayton and I swear it was like watching Liam as a little boy and Liam as a grown-ass adult because of

how similar they are in looks, in their mannerisms and their personalities

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It was brought out of my thoughts when I felt a pair of strong arms wrap around my waist

"Why are you standing alone, love?"

Logan asks while nuzzling his face in my neck

“Because I'm enjoying the view”

"Babe, I'm behind you, you can't see me"

He says and I roll my eyes while chuckling

"I meant the view in front of me, everyone looks so happy"

"Are you happy?"

He asks me and I turn my head and look at Logan with a smile

"I am so happy, my love, in fact, I think this is the happiest I've ever been in my life and it's all thanks to you"

"Me? why me?"

Logan asks confused

"Because if it wasn't for you storming back into my life like a crazy ass storm then we wouldn't be here now, would we?..although, a huge

part of me does wish that I never left in the first place because maybe then we wouldn't have lost out on so much together, especially you"

I say while feeling guilt enter my heart as Logan rests his forehead against mine

"Don't dwell on the past love, we're together now and we're happy, that's all that matters, right?"

"Right"

I say with a smile

Logan then kissed my lips as one of his hands rested on my flat stomach

"I can't wait to meet our new baby, Lace, I can't wait to find out what

Chapter 103 - A Family Christmas. So we're having and to pick out names and get the nursery sorted out and I can't wait to see our three

babies with their new sibling"

Oh baby, you're not helping my guilt here

Most of what he just said is what he should've experienced with our first babies but he missed out on all of that because of me

"I hope you're also looking forward to sleepless nights, dirty nappies and no s\*x, babe"

"No sx?"

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Logan shouted sounding very shocked and also kind of scared

A faint blush appeared on my cheeks as I looked around at everyone who was looking at us with confused and amused expressions

"Excuse us, everyone"

I quickly grab Logan's wrist and drag his shocked ass to the empty kitchen

"Yes babe, no sx"

"But..but why?"

/s he being for real right now?

"Logan...you do realise that my body is gonna change, right? I'm gonna get big and there's gonna be days when I'm uncomfortable and in

pain or really tired and have no energy, not to mention, I'll probably have a caesarean section again which means at the most, I won't be

able to have s\* for around...six or eight weeks"

"Please tell me you're joking"

"Well, 'm not sure about the last one because you weren't there when

Thad the triplets so s\*x wasn't exactly on my mind if 'm being honest with you but I'm guessing the timeframe is accurate because I'm

having surgery after all"

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. Ro J

Logan looked genuinely shocked, hurt and sad at the thought of not having s\*x with me and I couldn't help but chuckle at him

He looks so cute

"Don't worry, baby, I'll still look after you"

Isaid as wrapped my arms around his neck and kissed his lips

"You'd better, love because I'm not looking forward to having blue balls for the next year or so"

He said and I rolled my eyes while chuckling

"Oh my god, why are men so freaking dramatic?"

"What do you mean?"

He asks me and I look at him like what the f\*\*k?

"Logan, do you know what women have to go through while they're pregnant with their baby? and then there's actually having the baby

and everything that comes afterwards and you're standing here talking about blue balls that you can easily relieve with a quick handshake

with those five friends of yours at the end of your wrist...bitch please with that s\*\*t"

I tell him before walking away

Men don't realise that the miracle of life is more like the draining of a life for the mom or at least that's how it felt for me with my first

pregnancy

"Dinner's ready, everybody"

Our head maid said just as I had walked back into the living room

Everyone then headed towards our dining room which has been decorated so beautifully by our staff

The room has been styled in red, green and gold colours and

decorations and to be honest with you, it kind of looks like a royal dining

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. @ hall

"Wow sis, you've gone all out for us, haven't you?"

Justin asks me and I smile brightly at him

“It's the first time I've spent Christmas with more than just Carmella and the kids, so of course I was gonna go all out”

I didn't say this to be like poor woe is me, I'm so hard done by because

I didn't and I'm not

I simply said it because I'm happy that I finally get to host the family Christmas that I've always wanted to host and I certainly never

intended for Justin or Liam to feel guilty about my words but that's exactly what happened

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“Sorry, I didn't mean to make you guys feel guilty, I'm just so happy to be hosting Christmas with you all, that's all”

“We're happy as well, kid”

Liam said while side-hugging me and kissing my temple

We all took our seats and I couldn't help but beam with happiness and contentment as I looked around the table at my beautiful family

Logan's parents David and Ruth were happily conversing with Michael and Grace who didn't seem at all intimidated by the wealth and

power which was surrounding them while my triplets along with Chloe, Alex and Elijah were all talking amongst themselves as well

I thought Elijah would be uncomfortable being here because he doesn't like loud noises or huge crowds but he seemed really happy and

content today which I'm guessing is because of the ear defenders he's wearing

Carmella and Cade looked so happy with each other as they conversed with Abby, Ryker and Tiffany but it was my brothers who made

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. ww me feel even happier



Justin and Liam were talking with Sabrina and Rachel while their daughters interacted with each other and baby James lay asleep in his

mom's arms

It made me feel so happy to see how stress-free and relaxed they both were but more importantly, I was happy that they were here with me

and that we didn't allow our father or Luca to completely break us apart

Justin caught me staring at them and he smiled and winked at me before mouthing //ove you to me and I mouthed it back to him just as a

voice I wasn't expecting to hear tonight was heard

"Is there room for three more?"

I look towards the entrance and my smile got bigger if that's even possible when I saw my grams and gramps standing there

"Grams, gramps, you guys made it"

"Of course we did, lambchop, do you really think I worked so hard to get you to come home for Christmas just to miss it?"

My gramps asked me as he came over to me and kissed my head

"Wait, grams..did you just say three?"

A confused Liam asks our grandmother

"Yes son, I did..your grandfather, me and good old Tanqueray"

My grams said whilst holding up one of her favourite bottles of gin and kissing it

This woman

My grandparents take their seats and food was served to us not long afterwards  
Content ©

Thank god, I thought I was gonna have to eat Logan if I had to wait any longer

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. yo "Before we dig in, I'd like to make a toast" "We can't make a toast, honey, Lacey doesn't have any

champers" My grams said and I rolled my eyes

"I don't drink, grams, I haven't drank alcohol since I was in my teens"

"You ain't no kin to me child, if you don't drink any alcohol"

Lord give me strength

I thought to myself as everyone chuckled

"Gramps, make your toast I've got orange juice"

"Thank you, lambchop"

My grandfather smiled at me before addressing everyone

"I would like to make a toast to my family and our dear friends, I feel

so blessed to stand here with my beautiful wife and three generations of Carpenters all in one room, it truly is a blessing"

My grandfather says as he looks around at all of us happily

I briefly looked down at my lap when I felt a comforting grip on my hand before looking up at my husband who was smiling at me like I was

the only girl in his world

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God, I love this man so much

"Many years ago, I read a quote that said Christmas isn't about the gifts we bring, it's about the gift we are to people and it's true because

the happiness we share, the love we give each other and how much we care for one another is the best gift we can give our loved ones"

"Amen to that, Duke"

David raised his glass to my gramps who did the same with his glass

"Logan"

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. we

My gramps says as he turns to face us

"Thank you for being our lambchop's superhero, thank you for loving her the way that you do and for not giving her a hard time over the

kids because if I know my lambchop like I do then I can tell you with an honest heart that she would've done things differently six years ago

if she knew about your feelings for her and also, if she didn't feel so cornered and scared by her father's ways...that girl hasn't got it in her to

purposefully keep those kids from you or to purposefully hurt you for that matter"

"I know that, sir" Logan says with a smile

"I don't mean any offence to my grandsons when I say this because I love you boys the world I really do but Lacey is something special to

me and Bunny..she's not just our granddaughter, she's also the daughter we never had"

My gramps says and I gasp

"Gramps"

Isaid barely above a whisper as I dabbed my tears away with a napkin before they could fall

"We love you so much, Lacey and we're so proud of the woman you've become, you're a wonderful wife to Logan and the best mother

those triplets could ask for"

"Gramps is right mummy, you're amazing"

"Thank you, my princess"

Isay while smiling at my daughter

"You deserve all of the happiness in the world, Lacey and you also deserve this"

Duke says whilst waving an envelope in his hand before coming and

Chapter 103 - A Family Christm. Ww handing it to me

"Happy Christmas, lambchop"

My grandfather hugs me and kisses my cheek while I looked confused as fk

I briefly looked around at everyone before opening up the envelope and my eyeballs nearly fell out of their sockets when I saw what was

inside of it

"Gramps..what the hell? what is this?"

Task shocked

"I'm taking on the role as the father of the bride and I'm paying for your wedding, lambchop\*

My grandfather says leaving me feeling shocked and confused

"I'm already married, gramps...you were there"

Isay in a duh tone

"Yes but your brothers and sisters-in-law weren't there, Lace, your nieces and nephews weren't present and neither was Logan's family..."

"Not to mention, weddings are the perfect excuse for a big, massive piss-up, darling"

Oh my god

"Grams, there are children present"

I scolded my grandmother who just shrugged her shoulders as she smirked at me

"You deserve the wedding of your dreams, Lacey...all you have to do is name the time and the place, sweetheart and I'll be there happily

waiting to sign any damn cheque you need me to sign"

Oh my god

I stood up from my chair and happily embraced both of my

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day

Logan's POW

I never used to be one to fuss over Christmas, not because I'm a hater or anything like that but because I always believed it was a holiday

that was all about family and kids, two things that I never had

I mean, [had my parents, my siblings and my nephew but I never had a wife or children of my own who I could spoil and spend Christmas

with, so I always preferred to spend most of the holidays working but now I'm excited to celebrate Christmas with my Lacey and our three

babies

I'm excited to see both my wife and kid's reactions when they receive their gifts and I'm also excited to just enjoy the ambience and

atmosphere of the day

Lacey hasn't asked for anything and I've literally had to squeeze ideas out of Carmella and Abby because she wasn't giving me anything to

go on, I also tried to ask Bunny for ideas but all she said was buy that girl a case of

the best champagne and tell her to liven her ass up

Just thinking about this has me rolling my eyes because Lace doesn't like to drink which is her own personal choice and she's entitled to that

but

I guess my grandmother-in-law thinks that drinking alcohol is something that is passed down the hereditary line and it's a slap in the face

that her grandchild doesn't enjoy drinking like she does

Speaking of Lace's grandparents, I can't get their words from last night out of my head

It was so beautiful and such a heartwarming moment when Duke said that he and Bunny see my Lacey more as their daughter than their

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. WwW granddaughter and that they're willing to pay for our entire wedding as the parents of the bride

It says a lot and I know it touched my wife in a way that I don't think she's ever been touched before because she's got so much love and

affection for her grandparents and she idolises and adores them both so freaking much, probably more so than she ever did for her actual

parents

I looked down at my wife when she started to stir in her sleep and I watched as she snuggled herself even closer to me than she already was

I couldn't help but smile at my beautiful and peaceful-looking wife as I kissed her head and gently caressed my fingers through her hair

After everyone went home last night, Lacey and I cleaned up and put the kids to bed before we retreated to our bedroom and spent most

of the night unwrapping each other and getting lost in one another

We were up until way after midnight making love to each other before having a nice hot bubble bath together and eventually falling asleep Content ©

in each other's arms

It was the perfect end to the perfect Christmas Eve and I honestly couldn't have asked for a better ending to be honest with you

Now, it's eight o'clock in the morning and I'm peacefully lying with my wife in my arms as I watch the snow fall outside whilst literally feeling

like a kid at Christmas because I just wanted my little family to hurry up and wake up so that we could get the day started

Someone up above must've heard my wish because not too long later, I heard the sound of a door creaking open and I saw the light from

the hallway out of the corner of my eye

I looked towards the door to my room and I smiled brightly when I saw

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. Ww

my three gorgeous kids standing there and they looked so cute in their matching pyjamas

"Hey, babies"

"Hi daddy, is mummy still asleep?"

Teddy asks me as they approach the bed

"Mmm-hmm, yes she is"

I say whilst nodding my head slightly as I look down at my sleeping

wife before looking back at my triplets

"How long have you guys been awake?" "Not long, dad, Teddy woke us up like she always does" Logan Junior groaned as he rubbed his eye

with his little fist

"It didn't take much, Logan, all I said was Lo, Dayton and you guys jumped up shouting Santa's been"

Teddy says while rolling her eyes and I chuckle

"It's still early, guys..." I said before being cut off by Dayton

"We normally wake up this early, dad and mum always cooks us a big breakfast before we open our presents"

Wait, what?

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"Wait, you guys have breakfast before you open your presents?" I ask my kids and they nod their heads while smiling

"And you've got the restraint for that, Day?"

"Mmm-hmm, food is life, dad"

He says and I chuckle

Dayton is a massive foodie just like his mother, so it's not surprising that he'd put food over new toys

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. W

"Mmm, Logan...Logan, who are you talking to?"

Lacey asks as she slowly wakes up from her slumber

"The kids, babe"

Lacey opens her eyes and briefly looks at me before looking at our babies and smiling

"Good morning, my loves"

"Morning, mummy"

The kids say in unison which was cute but kind of creepy at the same time

"What time is it?" "It doesn't matter, mummy, it's Christmas" Teddy says and we both chuckle

"Well then Miss Teddy, since it's Christmas and time doesn't matter, let your momma sleep for five more minutes"

"But mum, I'm hungry" Dayton whines

"Really, Dayton? that's so shocking"

Lacey said sarcastically as she pulled away from me and got out of bed

I was a little annoyed about this but not that much because I finally get to spend Christmas day with my family

Lacey's POV

Logan and I headed downstairs with the kids and we were both confused when we smelled the scent of food coming from the kitchen and

the dining room

"I thought you gave our staff a few days off for Christmas?"

Task Logan

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. WwW

"Tdid"

What the hell?

We walked into our dining room and our eyes widened as our mouths gaped open when we saw a whole smorgasbord of food on the table

"What in the twelve days of Christmas is this?"

"Good morning, auntie and uncle"



Chloe greeted us with a smile as we stood there in shock, well, Logan and I did, the kids however had already taken their seats next to their cousins

"Chloe..what's going on here, sweetheart? who cooked all of this food?"

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"We did"

Grace says from behind us as she and Michael walk into the dining room with trays of orange juice and coffee in their hands

"What's going on?"

"We made breakfast for you guys"

"But why?"

Task shocked

"Because we wanted to repay you both for everything that you've done for us, you didn't have to help us but you did and you've given

these kids the best Christmas they've ever had"

"But we didn't do it to get something back, Grace"

I said with a slight sob as I felt Logan embrace me from behind to give me some comfort, not that I really needed it

"We know, sweetheart, we just wanted to show our gratitude to you both, that's all"

Grace said whilst cupping my face and kissing my cheek

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. Ww

"Besides Lacey, my wife is an incredible baker and she makes the most delicious croissants and muffins"

Michael said with so much pride in his voice while Grace just blushed from the compliment

"Well, thank you guys, it smells amazing"

Tsay with a smile as I looked over at the kids who were already eating some food which irked me, so I went over to the table and fixed a

plate for each of them

Call me crazy, call me OCD but I really don't like it when people just grab food off shared plates with their hands instead of using a utensil, I

think it's gross and nasty, especially with kids even if they are my own

"Lacey baby sit down, the kids can take care of themselves" "Dad's right, mum, we're big boys and girls now" "I know you are, honey"

Tsay as I kiss Logan Junior's head before going to sit next to my husband who had filled a plate up for me

"Thank you, babe" "You're welcome, love"

I give Logan a kiss before digging into my food and the first thing I reached for on my plate was the croissant which I was dying to try after

Michael's glowing review of them and oh my god, they were so delicious and buttery

"Damn, these are so good"

I moaned at the delicious taste

"I told you so"

Michael once again said proudly

"You're both just being nice"

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. Ww

Grace blushed and I smiled at her

"Actually Grace, I'm being serious, these are the best croissants I've ever had, have you ever thought about opening up your own bakery?"

Task Grace who scoffs

“At my age? child, please”

"You're not that old, Grace"

“I'm nearly fifty, Logan”

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"And?"

Logan asks confused

“My nonna used to tell me age is just a number and you're never too old to start something new, besides, if you opened up your own

bakery then it would be a great investment for you, not to mention you'd both have something to pass onto your grandchildren in the

future”

Logan tells Michael and Grace who looked like they were both thinking seriously about what he said

Hopefully, they'll take this idea and run with it and if they do, then I'll happily invest in it with them, not to mention, I'll be a frequent

customer as well

After breakfast, we all went into the living area where it quickly became a warzone of wrapping paper and boxes being thrown everywhere

as both Grace and I tried to clear up as much as possible whilst being in the

moment with the kids

There were a lot of surprised and shocked gasps as well as a LOT of of

my gods and look what! got from the kids which is always good for us parents to hear and it makes all of the stress of finding the perfect

presents worth it when we see their happy and excited faces

Logan and I had also bought some gifts for Michael and Grace which

Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. WZ they were super grateful for but there was one gift we had for them which we hoped would put their

minds and hearts at ease when it came to Chloe and Alex

"Michael, Grace, I'm sorry if this is way too personal and you can tell us to back off if it is but do you guys have a will of any kind?"

Logan asks them and they both smile at us

"The short answer is no, we've never seen the point in having one because we don't have anything that's worthy enough to put in a will, I

mean, what are we gonna leave our kids? a broken old car and some family

photos?"

Michael says sadly

"Well, a will isn't just for what you want to leave for those left behind, sometimes a will is there to protect the ones that we love who still

need to be cared for and in your case, that would be Chloe and Alex"

"Hmm... never thought of that"

Michael said whilst looking at his grandchildren with guilt

"Look, I know this isn't the time or place to bring something like this up and we're not trying to be morbid, we just want to be practical and

think about the kid's future, so Lace and I would like to know if one day you'd be ok with sitting down with our lawyer and creating a will

and if you are...how would you both feel about naming Lace and I as legal guardians for your grandchildren if the worst were to happen to

you guys?"

Logan asked the couple and they both gasped, Grace had even covered her mouth with both of her hands, that's how shocked she was

"Are you being serious?"

Grace asks and I smile

## Chapter 104 - Christmas Day. W

"Yes, we are...those two kids are our family as well and we want you both to feel happy and content in the fact that no matter what happens,

they'll always have a loving home here with us"

"Oh my...you both are angels sent from god, do you know that?"

Grace said as tears rolled down her cheeks while I smiled and looked at my husband

"We'll do it, we'll happily sign anything you want us to sign if it means they'll always have a happy home"

Michael sobbed and I couldn't resist hugging him

"Please don't cry, Michael"

"They're happy tears, sweetheart"

"Grams, gramps, are you ok? why are you crying?" Aconcerned Chloe asks her grandparents

"We're fine, Chloe my love, we're just happy that's all, so very

happy" Grace said as the pair hugged their grandchildren

It was a beautiful moment to see and I felt my heart swell with pride and happiness at the good deed Logan and I are doing

## Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Underneath The Mistletoe

Lacey's POV

"Grace, please let me help you"

I plead with Grace as I swing back and forth on one of the bar stools in the kitchen like a child

"Nope, sorry darling, you've been banished to only eating the food today not making it"

Urghtt

Damn you Logan Black

Idon't know for sure if Logan is the one who has banished me but it's got his name written all over it, if you ask me

"Can I at least wash or chop something? I feel bad just sitting here while you're cooking for all of us"

"That falls under helping, so no you can't"

Grace said with a chuckle and I groaned

"Also, don't feel bad that I'm doing all of this on my own, honey

because I don't mind it, besides, didn't your husband say earlier that age is just a number?"

Grace asks me with a smile

"I wasn't offering my help because I think you're too old, Grace"

I say while rolling my eyes

"I know that sweetheart and you should be lucky that you weren't

because if you were then I'd chase you all around this huge mansion with my spatula for being so cheeky"

She says and we both chuckle

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Underne. ~

This morning, after we were all done opening our gifts, we all went to the theatre room and watched some old holiday movies together

We watched some classics like A Christmas Carol and The Polar Express but then my children decided they wanted to watch Home Alone

which is a movie that I honestly can't stand and I don't get the hype around

it but my kids love it, so while they were watching it, I took a little nap

Later on, the kids played with some of their new toys and games while Logan and Michael put together some of the bigger toys which was

honestly comical to watch because I don't think Logan has ever used a drill or a screwdriver before in his life and he seemed to struggle with

using them at first

I know I shouldn't laugh at him but! couldn't help myself

Anyway, while they were all busy, I had a quick shower and got ready for the day and got the kids ready before coming downstairs to make

a start on dinner but when I got to the kitchen, I found Grace was already in here working her ass off

Mmm”

I moaned when the smell of turkey hit my nose

I looked over at the cooker and I saw Grace checking on it to see how it was doing

“That looks so delicious”

“That's because it is... mmm, I love turkey around Christmas”

Grace said with a sad smile

“Are you ok, Grace?”

“I'm fine, honey”

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She said while nodding her head as she closed the oven door

"Are you sure? you look like you're sad"

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Underneath

Grace lets out a sigh as she comes and stands in front of the kitchen island

“I was just thinking about my daughter”

She says shocking me

“You were thinking about GiGi?”

Task her and she nods her head

"Yeah...Michael and I really tried with her, you know? we always wanted her to live a good life and be successful even when she fell pregnant

with Chloe, we always encouraged her to go to school and make something of herself but she always wanted the glitz and the glamour and

she never wanted to work hard like her dad and I always did, in fact, she used to mock us for it"

"There's nothing wrong with working hard, Grace"

"I know that and you know that but Giana didn't"

Grace said as she let out a sigh and what she said next confused and intrigued me

Does she know about GiGi's demise?

"I just hope wherever she is now, she's at peace, that's all that I wish for as her mom..that she's at peace"

"I'm sure she is at peace, Grace"

Isay with a smile as I give her hand a comforting squeeze

The doorbell suddenly started ringing and I was once again confused as to who it could be

My brothers are spending Christmas with both our parents and their partner's parents and my grandparents are spending the day together,

50, who could be knocking on my door?

I stood up from the stool I was sitting on and headed towards the front

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Underne door feeling intrigued to see who it is

When I opened the door, I was shocked to see my parent's butler Martin standing there dressed in his usual suit and overcoat and he had

his signature cheeky smile plastered on his face

"Martin" "Hello there Lacey, long time no see"

He said as he held his arms out for me and I happily stepped into them embracing him in a hug



Martin is such a sweetheart, he's a sweet elder man who has been with my family long before I was even born and he was always like a

surrogate uncle to me and my brothers

"It's good to see you again, Lacey" "You too" I say barely above a whisper

"Erm...don't take this the wrong way Martin but what are you doing here?"

I ask him as we both pull away from our hug

Martin let out a breath as he briefly looked down at his feet before looking back at me is the owner.

"I come bearing gifts from your parents, Lace"

"My parents?"

I ask him and he nods his head as he moves to the side

Several of my parent's workers then walked into my home with gifts upon gifts for us which left me in a state of shock

oh my god

Even after everything, my parents have still gone out of their way to spoil not just my kids who they've never met but also myself and Logan

as

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Undeme well

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exclusively available on our site. Happy reading!

"Mrs Black, these are for you"

One of the ladies says to me as she hands me a beautiful bouquet of red and white roses which had a note attached to them

I took the note from the flowers and I opened it, my eyes inadvertently filled with tears as I read my parent's words

"Hope is being able to see the light despite all of the darkness

Even if it takes us days, months or years, we're always going to hold onto the hope of one day having our baby girl and our grandbabies

back in

our lives

We love you, Lacey and we hope you have a wonderful Christmas

Love mom and dad X'

"What's going on here?...Martin, what are you doing here?"

A confused Logan asks as he approaches us and wraps his arm around my waist

"Good afternoon, Mr Black, I've come to run an errand for Mr and Mrs Carpenter"

Martin tells Logan

"Lacey's parents sent you here?"

"With good intentions, I promise you, sir"

"Yeah, I bet it is"

Tw was still looking at the note as the two men conversed but I could feel Logan's eyes on me

"Lacey dear, your parents want you to know that they're deeply regretful for everything and they're so sorry for what they put you through

and they hope that one day in the future you can find it in your heart to forgive them"

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Underne "I don't know if I can" I said barely above a whisper as I looked up at Martin who smiled at me

"Forgiving those who have wronged us doesn't make us weak, nor does it make us forget the past, Lacey, if anything it makes us stronger

and it helps us to grow and build a brighter future for ourselves and our loved ones"

He says and I let out a sigh at Martin's words because I knew he was right, it was just gonna take some time for me to be able to forgive

them, that's all

Martin then hugged me and shook Logan's hand as he wished us a Merry Christmas before leaving with my parent's staff

When they were gone, I placed the roses on the side and looked up at my husband

"What do you think?"

Logan came over to me and wrapped his arms around me, he then kissed my lips before resting his forehead against mine

"You know the saying happy wife, happy life, right?"

"Yeah"

I drag out confused

"That's all want, Lace, I just want a happy wife who doesn't have to worry or stress about her messy and dysfunctional family any more

than she already has"

Urghtt

"What do I do, Logan?"

I ask him and he lets out a sigh

"I don't know, love but you'll figure it out"

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Underne. =

He says while kissing my forehead before lowering his head and passionately kissing me but it doesn't last long before we were cut off by

Dayton

"Hey mom, dad, can we go and play out in the snow?"

Logan and I narrowed our eyes at the five kids behind us who were all dressed from head to toe in clothes that will keep them warm in the

bitter cold and they were also holding those damn snow sledges that Logan had insisted on buying for them

"Can we really say no when you're already dressed and ready to go?"

"No, not really"

Dayton says with a cheeky smile and we chuckle

"Go and play"

The kids cheer with excitement as they run outside to our huge back garden

"Fancy joining them, babe?"

Logan asks me and I smile

"We may as well, you only live once, right?"

"That's my girl"

Logan and I along with Michael and Grace put on our coats and everything else to keep us warm before heading outside to have some fun

in the snow with the kids which included a huge snowball fight and us pulling the kids around on their sledges

It was so much fun to just let loose and be free with the kids who were super excited about running around the huge garden which is

something we couldn't do in London because we only had a small garden but as much fun as it was, it was also tiring and I had to stop to

relax my tired legs and

Chapter 105 - Kiss Me Undeme take a breather

"Are you alright, love?"

Logan asked me as he ran over to where I was standing and watching the kids having a snowball fight with Michael and Grace

"I'm fine, I'm just a little tired that's all"

"Do you wanna go inside and rest?"

"And miss out on all of this fun? no way"

I said with a smile

Logan smiled back at me as he wrapped his arms around me and held me close to him as I rested my head on his chest and sighed in

contentment

"This has been our best Christmas yet"

"Really?"

"Mmm-hmm"

I looked up at Logan as I wrapped my arms around his neck

"It's been perfect...thank you for everything, love"

"You're welcome, Lace"

Logan says with a proud smile before pecking my lips

"And this Christmas isn't perfect just yet baby, there's still one thing we've gotta do for it to be completely perfect"

"And what's that?"

I narrowed my eyes at Logan who was smirking at me as he bit down on his lower lip, he then looked up and I followed his line of sight,

chuckling as I did when I saw a piece of mistletoe hanging above us

"You have to kiss your husband underneath the mistletoe, love"

"Well, if you insist"

I say with a slight chuckle as I cup my husband's face and kiss him

It was a very heated and passionate kiss and one that could and would take your breath away, that's how breathtaking it was

If someone had told me last Christmas that a year later I'd be standing underneath the mistletoe not only as Logan Black's wife but I would

also be pregnant and feeling blissfully happy and loved unconditionally as well, then I probably wouldn't have believed it but here I am and

I couldn't be

any happier

Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low

A Few Days Later.

Lacey's POV

~ ~

"I can't believe you've talked me into doing this Lacey"

"It's the right thing to do, Logan and you know it"

y don't deserve to miss out just because Luca and I are at odds"

"Tknow, babe"

Logan says as he gently grips my hand

"But couldn't you have done what your parents did and sent one of our workers to do this instead"

He says and I snap my head to him in disbelief

"Hell no, Logan, gift-giving is a personal thing and I don't want my niece's first memory of receiving a gift from us to be from a stranger"

"Well, technically babe you are a stranger to her, I don't mean to be an asshole but you are, not to mention she's only three and she

probably won't remember this anyway"

"I know but I will remember it, Logan"

Tsay and he nods his head

"Ok, fine...1 just hope for Luca and Dylan's sakes that they don't piss me off or do or say something to hurt or offend you because I'm not in

the mood to kick anyone's asses today, Lace"

And why's that, love?"

Task with a smile which Logan reciprocates as he briefly looks over at

## Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low

me

“Because my insatiable wife has kept me up for two nights running with her sexy body and incredible appetite for s\*x which has left me exhausted”

Logan says and I giggle

"You could've turned me down, babe"

Tsay and once again giggled when Logan looked at me with a ~— what the f\*\*k? kind of expression

“Why would I turn down s\*x with my hot wife, Lace? I'm not insane”

“I never said you were, love”

“You kind of did by saying I could've turned you down”

He says while shaking his head

“I'd rather be exhausted and have no energy than skip s\*x with you, Lace, especially since I'll be missing out when you have our baby”

Logan pouts and I roll my eyes at him

He's such a child

Logan continued to drive the short ride to my brother's mansion which is on an estate not too far from our own house and it's also right

next to our parents and brother's homes as well

I decided to come and see Luca today for two reasons, the first is to give gifts to his kids and the second is to get his answer to my

ultimatum

Tknow none of this seems normal because I've got a restraining order against my brother and his husband, so I guess I'm breaking the law

by doing this but it's something that I have to do

I can't really describe it but for the past few days, I've had this feeling

Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low. =

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in my stomach when I've thought about Luca and his kids and it's not a good feeling

It's almost like this feeling is telling me that I need to go and see my brother because if I don't then I'll regret it, so I guess that's another

reason why I've dragged my husband out today

It didn't take us long to arrive at the elite estate and we were both shocked when we arrived at Luca's home and we saw the iron gates were

wide open when they were supposed to be closed

"What the hell? why are their gates open?"

"Do you think they forgot to close them?"

"I doubt it, you don't pay top dollar to live in a gated community just to leave your gates open, Logan"

"That's true"

Logan drives up to Luca and Dylan's mansion and my heart damn near jumped up into my throat when I saw Melissa standing outside in

the snow

in just her pyjamas and the front door was wide open

"Oh my god, stop the car"

Logan pulled over and I wasted no time in getting out of the car and running over to my niece

"Melissa"

Tsay as I pick the shivering little girl up and wrap my coat around her

"Sweetheart, what are you doing out here? you'll catch your death"



say but before she could answer me, the sound of two babies crying came from inside of the house

Logan and I shared a look with each other before rushing inside to

Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low

check on the twins

My heart was racing as we entered the mansion and I wasn't sure what

for

I was expecting to see but it certainly wasn't the scene that I saw

"Oh my god"

I gasped

"What happened here?"

"My daddy's got into a fight"

Melissa's husky voice says

Took down at my niece who had rested her head against my chest and my heart hurt for her because from the looks of this place, it wasn't

a fight that had taken place but a f\*\*\*\*g war

"Wh. where.. where are your daddy's, Melissa?"

Task her and she shrugs her shoulders

"Ok, well.. do you remember when it was that you last saw them?"

I don't know why I'm asking her this, I just am

"Christmas Day"

What?

That was three days ago

"Babe, can you take Melissa for me? and can you call Dylan and see where he is?"

“Sure, why? where are you going?”

“I'm going to my brother's favourite place to suffer”

I said as I handed Melissa over to my husband before making a beeline for the den which from what I've learned from Liam is an adult-only

space that our brother designed and it's become a second home to Luca these past six years

Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low. ~

As I weaved my way through broken glass, broken furniture and trash amongst other things, I finally managed to find my way to the den

which was filled with neon lighting, the air was thick with the scent of stale ale, old food, grease and a smell that I can only describe as one

that belongs in a bathroom and the floor was littered with numerous different alcohol bottles and old takeaway boxes

Jesus,

This place looks more like a frat house for a bunch of immature college guys and not the home of a billionaire's son who is married with

kids

I looked around the room which in my honest opinion has seen better days until my eyes landed on the passed-out and half-naked body of

my brother who was slumped on the couch, one of his legs was on the floor, the other one was resting on the back of the couch and he had

one of his arms thrown over his face

I stood in front of my brother and shook my head

/ can't believe how low he's fallen

After giving my brother one last look, I left the den and headed back towards where I'd left Logan who was still holding Melissa in his arms

and he was talking to two girls who I assume are the kid's nannies

Logan's eyes locked with mine and I knew he could tell just from one glance that things weren't good

"That bad, babe"

"Worse"

I said and Logan closed his eyes while sighing

"What do you wanna do?"

He asks me as I walk towards the two girls who are holding my

Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low

handsome nephews and I can't help but smile as I gently caress the cheek of one of them

"Luca needs to be scared, he needs to feel like he's losing everything, only then will he truly realise that he's got a problem"

"What are you gonna do?" I let out a breath as I ran a hand through my hair

"Can you take Melissa and the twins back to our home?..I'm gonna stay here and deal with Luca"

"Lace."

"Logan, please don't fight me on this"

I cut him off

"Luca needs a kick up the ass and it seems that I'm the only Carpenter who is willing to do it and not sugarcoat s\*\*t for him"

"You're a Black, Lace"

He growls and I smile at him

"Right now, I'm a Carpenter and I'm not leaving this place until my brother agrees to get some help"

"But what if he doesn't want help, babe?"

Logan asks me and I shrug my shoulders

“Then he loses everything”

“ok

Logan said with a sigh as he nods his head

He then cups my face and kisses my forehead before kissing my lips

“Call me when you're done, ok”

He says and I nod my head

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Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low

After gathering a few things for the children, Logan leaves the mansion with the kids and their nannies and I immediately put my plan into

motion

Author's PON

"MASTER CARPENTER!!, MASTER CARPENTER!"

Luca's head maid frantically ran towards the den with tears streaming down her face and her body was shaking as she approached her boss

and tried to rouse him

“Mr Carpenter, wake up, please wake up”

She shook Luca's body several times but when he barely made a noise

let alone any movement, she went over to the bar and filled a bucket up with cold ice water before going over to Luca and throwing it on

her face

Lacey had given her permission to wake her boss up by any means possible and there was no way she was going to waste this golden

opportunity to get revenge on her boss for all of the years she's spent working for him and suffering from his tyrannical ways.

Luca was never a nasty or abusive boss and he never mistreated his workers but he sure made them feel uncomfortable and made them feel

like they were walking on eggshells and he also made them feel scared and or nervous to approach me and this isn't how an employee

should feel with their boss

The maid wasted no time in throwing the cold water and hard ice cubes on her boss's face who immediately woke up and started cursing

"Oh my god, s\*\*t, f\*\*k"

Luca looked around as he wondered who would have the nerve to throw water on him and the maid struggled to control not only her smirk

Chapter 106 - Luca's New Low

but also her whimpers when Luca's angry gaze landed on her

"What the f\*\*k is your problem? why are you throwing water on me?"

"Sir, you've gotta come quick, it's the children"

"The kids?"

Luca scoffed

"Just put some Netflix on for them and they'll be fine, bluddy waking me up for this s\*\*t"

Luca muttered and waved his hand at his maid in a shooining motion as

he tried to go back to sleep

I think Luca has forgotten that two of his children are newborns and they barely know how to hold their heads up, let alone know what

Netflix is

"No sir, you don't understand, they're gone, the kids are gone"

"Gone? what do you mean they're gone?"

Luca looked up at his maid and his heart started to race as panic filled his body when he saw her panicked and tear-stained face

"They're gone, they're missing... swear, I only turned my back on them for a split second and they're gone, I'm so sorry, the front door is

wide open and the children are nowhere in sight"

The maid acted like she was in a major blockbuster movie and Luca was none the wiser as he jumped up from the couch and ran through

his house shouting his children's names and looking for them

Luca's heart skipped a painful beat and he felt like his world was over when he got to the main hall and he saw the front door was indeed

wide open and his children were nowhere in sight

"Oh god, what have I done?"

Luca sobbed as he fell to his knees and harshly gripped his hair with both of his hands

"You've f\*\*\*+d up, that's what you've done, Luca"

Luca snapped his head towards the familiar voice and he was confused when he saw his angry little sister leaning against the wall with her

arms crossed over her chest

"Lace?"

"Hello, brother..we need to talk"

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - Part 1

(Trigger Warning: This chapter includes talks about alcoholism, suicidal thoughts and child abuse/s\*\*\*\*l assault)

Lacey's POV

"Lace?"

"Hello, brother..we need to talk"

I say with an angry smile on my face

“Wh. what.. what are you doing here?”

“Oh, I thought I'd identify as Superman today and save someone's life”

I say as I walk towards him and throw some clothes at him

“Get dressed”

“Why?”

He asks as he looks down at the t-shirt, sweatpants and hoodie in confusion

/s he being serious?

“Well, A) because it's freezing cold and B) because I meant it when I said we need to talk Luca, now get dressed and follow me into the

kitchen when you're ready”

I tell him before walking away and heading towards the kitchen

Just like the rest of the house, the kitchen was also messed up with dirty dishes, trash, old food and some burned food and there were at

least ten empty liquor bottles as well as several dozen beer bottles scattered everywhere as well

Jesus, what kind of Christmas did this family have?

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - =

I quickly put the kettle on before cleaning up the kitchen throwing all of the trash and food in a bin bag and all of the bottles and other

recyclable stuff in a big box that was conveniently in the kitchen

I looked up when I heard shuffling coming towards the kitchen and I saw my brother walking into the room looking like death warmed over

“ngeagit

He groaned as he looked around and I couldn't help but agree with him

s\*t's right

It looks like a bomb has gone off in here

"What are you doing here, Lace?"

"Shouldn't the better question be, where are your children, Luca?"

Task him as I make him a cup of coffee and myself a cup of tea

If Logan thinks no s\*x after pregnancy is gonna be tough then he's got no idea what it will be like for me to not have any coffee during the

pregnancy

"Do you know where my kids are? are they ok?"

"Don't you think it's kind of scary that you don't know where your own children are, Luca?"

ask him and he gasps

"I need to call the police, I need to call Dylan" "Relax, the kids are fine, they're with Logan" I say and Luca lets out a relieved sigh

"Where is Dylan by the way?"

"I don't know"

Luca sighed

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Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - "He left on Christmas Day and I haven't seen him since" "Why did he leave?" I ask curiously as I hand him his

coffee

"Thanks..we got into a huge fight" "Over what?" Luca takes a breath before telling me

"Dad came around here on Christmas Eve and he chewed my ass out like he never has before"

Yeah because you're his golden boy who's never done anything wrong in our parent's eyes

I thought to myself while rolling my eyes



"Dad was so angry with me..I don't think I've ever seen him that angry before in my life"

"What did he say?"

Luca lets out a sigh as he runs a hand through his hair

He then looked up at me and I noticed his tired and sad eyes were red and filled with unshed tears

"He called me an embarrassment and told me how ashamed he was of me, he said that he may not have been the best father in the world

but at least he can say he's proud of three of his kids and I'm not one of them...he also told me you all know about Chloe and Alex"

He says as he looks down at his coffee

"Yeah, we do"

"How did you find out?"

Luca looked up at me with a guilty expression while I looked at him with an annoyed one

"It doesn't matter how we found out, Luca, what matters is that we Content ©

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons -

know now but what I would like to know is why you didn't tell us? why didn't you do anything to make their lives better? actually, scratch

that, why didn't you fight for them?"

Task in disbelief

The Luca I know would never leave any living, breathing creature whether it's human or animal to suffer, so why would he leave his own kids

to rot like this? I don't understand

"I didn't know for sure if they were mine, Lacey" "How could you not, Luca? they look just like us" I say in frustration

"Because she never let me see them, that's why, Lacey, she also told me Logan and our dad was the father, so..."

He drifted off as he took a sip of his coffee, grimacing as he did

"Sorry, I made you a real coffee, not an Irish one" I say and he glares at me

"Anyway, back to the kids, why didn't you try and fight for them or fight to see them? why didn't you try and get a DNA test done through

the courts?"

"Because I didn't wanna embarrass the family and I didn't wanna get GiGi in trouble"

"Why? because she would've gone to jail for statutory rape if you had admitted to having a kid with her at fifteen"

I say and he scoffs

"It wasn't rape, I was a willing participant"

"That doesn't matter in the eyes of the law because you were still a minor, Luca, the law is there for a reason, i\*\*\*t"

I growled at him

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons -

"It doesn't matter now anyway, Luca"

"Oh really? and why's that?"

I ask annoyed

"Because dad told me that GiGi's out of our lives for good now and he also told me that you all did a DNA test which proves they're mine"

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"And now you don't have to worry about them, right? because once again you've got someone else there to wipe your ass and clean up

your mess for you"

I say angrily and Luca glares at me

"Do you think I want this? do you think I want this life for me and my kids, Lace? do you think I'm happy that I've missed out on two of my

children's lives? because trust me, kid, I don't and I'm not"

"Then do something about it, Luca, do something to change your future...your kids are still young enough to forget about all of this..I mean,

Chloe will probably always remember that she once had two shitty parents but at least you've still got the chance to turn that around and

be a good dad to her"

"You make it sound so easy"

Luca scoffed which pissed me off

"Isn't it?..you've recognised you've got a problem and you know your kids are suffering, not to mention, your husband is nowhere in sight

for whatever reason, Luca"

"I already told you, he left me"

He said through gritted teeth

"And why did he leave you, huh?"

"BECAUSE I'M A f\*\*k UP, ALRIGHT!"

He growled startling me

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - "I'MA f\*\*k UP, I'M AN ALCOHOLIC, I'M A BAD HUSBAND, I'M A BAD FATHER AND I'M AN EVEN WORSE SON

AND BROTHER..I should just make

everyone happy and kill myself"

He says and I gasp as I watch him reach for the sharp knife that's sitting out on the counter

"Dont

whimper as I place my hand on top of his

"Don't say that Luca, none of us wants you to die, we just want you to get help"

"But what's the point?...Dylan's already gone, he told me he wants a divorce if I don't take Klayton up on his offer"

"Then take the help, Luca...FUCK!!"

Islam my hands down on the counter

"f\*\*k, Luca, when is it finally gonna sink in that you need to get help, huh? what's gonna be that one thing that makes the light bulb go off

in your head and you say s\*\*t, /really need to get some help because I can't go on like this because clearly, your husband leaving you and

your kids being missing aren't the final straw for you, Luca? so, what's it gonna be, hmm? what's gonna be your rock bottom, huh?"

"I don't know, I don't know"

Luca whispered as he gripped his hair

I decided to go out on a limb and use myself to hopefully make Luca finally hit rock bottom

Don't get me wrong, I don't see myself as the be-all and end-all to anyone's world but there was a time when we were kids and I was

involved in a car accident, it wasn't serious but Luca acted like it was and he told our mom that he didn't want to live if I died, so hopefully, I

can use my

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - potential death or me being hurt to help him get there and reach his breaking point

Believe it or not, he's always been super over-protective of me ever

since I was a little girl, so I'm hoping with everything crossed that this works

"Did you give GiGi four million dollars, Luc?"

I ask him and he nods his head

"Yeah, I did"

"Why?"

"Because she was blackmailing me"

He said while letting out a breath and I narrowed my eyes at him

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"What was she blackmailing you for?"

"It's not important, Lace"

"It is when she used that money to hire a hitman to have me and my kids killed, Luca"

Luca's head snapped up and he looked at me with wide eyes as his body started to shake

"She what?"

"You heard me, Luca, GiGi used your money to hire a hitman to have me and my three five-year-olds killed"

Isaid slowly so that he could hear me clearly and understand what I was saying

"Fortunately for us, the guy she hired also worked for Klayton, so he was able to prevent him from putting a bullet between our eyes"

"No, no, no, no"

"How would that have felt, hmm? how would it feel Luca to know that GiGi killed your sister, your nephews and your niece and you're the

one

Chapter 107 - Luca's Demons - who paid for it"

"Please stop, Lace"

Luca pleaded with me but I just ignored him

"If it was me, I'd probably turn to drink as well, hell I'd probably wanna kill myself and end it all if I was the reason why innocent people were

killed...does it feel good that you paid for mine and my kid's murders, Luc? I bet it does feel good, doesn't it? would that have made you

sleep better at night, huh? knowing your husband's ex was six feet under”

“STOP IT, LACE!! PLEASE JUST STOP IT!!”

He shouted as he threw his coffee against the wall

His entire body was shaking and he looked like he was about to lose it

"You don't understand, Lacey..you don't understand”

“Understand what?”

I ask confused

“You don't understand what I've done for you or what I had to do to protect you..you don't know what I had to suffer through to make sure

you were safe, Lacey..you don't know how much you mean to me, you don't know how much you dying or getting hurt would absolutely

crucify me”

“What are you talking about, Luca?”

lasked barely above a whisper

Luca came over to me and grabbed me by my arms as he looked down at me with teary eyes and his face wet from previously fallen tears

“You'd think I'd be happy if you died, Lacey, you think I'd be dancing for joy if someone killed you? well, you're wrong because it would kill

me..I'd do anything to keep you safe and that's what I've been doing for

twenty fq years, Lacey”

Luca panted and he said each word like they were causing him unimaginable pain

“Iwas just a kid, I was a little boy and he...he pu.punished m..me because I was protecting y.you”

"Who? I don't..what are you trying to say, Luca?”

He inhaled deeply before answering me and what he said shocked me to my core

"U.uncle M.Mario's friend...he wanted you, Lace...you were only five and I was six but I s.stopped him...I protected you and he pu.punished me"

"H.how?" I asked not wanting to know the answer but I needed to know it

H.he r.r.raped me"

Oh my god

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons - Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons - Part 2

(Trigger Warning: This chapter includes talks about alcoholism, suicidal thoughts and child abuse/s\*\*\*\*I assault) Lacey's POV

"U.uncle M.Mario's friend..he wanted you, Lace..you were only five and I was six but I s.stopped him..I protected you and he pu..punished

me"

"H..how?"

I asked not wanting to know the answer but I needed to know it

H.he r.r.raped me"

oh my god

"You were..you...you were what?"

"You heard me, Lace, I was raped"

"Oh my god"

I said barely above a shocked whisper

/ can't believe this

Luca was molested

Oh god, I think I'm gonna be sick

"Please say something, Lacey"

Luca's weak voice pleaded with me

"Lerm..I'm sorry, I'm just trying to process everything, Luc"

Isaid as I looked up at my brother who looked so broken and pitiful

"You were molested as a child?"

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons -

Iask him and he nods his head

"Yeah, I was"

Oh god

"I can't believe this..when? how long? does anyone else know about this?"

Iask him and he shakes his head

"No one knows really, Lace except for our parents and Dylan"

What?

"Why didn't you tell anyone else? why didn't you tell me?"

I ask feeling hurt

"We always told each other everything, Luc, why wouldn't you tell me about this?"

Iask him and he rolls his eyes

"It's not exactly an easy subject to bring up, Lace"

Luca said with a sigh

"Besides, I already told you that I did this to protect you and keep you safe, I also didn't want you to know what had happened to me

because I didn't want you to feel guilty or feel bad and I for damn sure didn't want you to blame yourself for it which I knew you would've

done"

"No, wouldn't"



"Yes, you would, Lace"

Luca said with a smile as he cupped my face and gently caressed my cheek

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"It's the type of person you are, kid, you feel guilty and blame yourself for things, even when it's not your fault and you're not to blame"

Ok, maybe I am like that

"You're a beautiful and kind-hearted girl, Lace, you're also innocent

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons - fi

and you don't deserve to have any ugliness living inside of your head or in your heart, that's why I never told you about this because I

wanted you to remain innocent and pure and not have any darkness living inside of you like I do"

"But...can you tell me now?"

I ask him and he closes his eyes while sighing

"Lace..."

"Please"

I pleaded with him

"I don't wanna know all of the ins and outs, Luc... just wanna know enough so that I can understand what you've been through and what

you've had to suffer through for all of these years but most importantly, I wanna know so that I can fully understand why you're the man

that you are today because the Luca I've always known would never have hurt his family, especially his kids the way that you have"

I tell him and he nods his head while sighing

"Ok, fine but if Logan ever finds out about this, remember, it was your idea, do you hear me? I'm not looking to get my ass kicked by your

husband because you've ended up disturbed by my life story"

He says and I chuckle

Luca briefly smiled at my chuckle before grabbing hold of my hand and kissing the back of it

He then led us over to the kitchen table, so that we could sit and talk

We sat in silence for a few minutes as I waited patiently for Luca to tell me his story

TKnew I had to be gentle with him and be as patient as possible

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons - 0S

because this wasn't going to be easy for him to do and he didn't need to be pressured into speaking

"Take your time, Luca, we've got all day to talk about this"

Itell him and he nods his head

"Before I tell you anything, I just wanna know if my kids are ok?" Luca asks me and I smile at him

"They're fine, I sent them back to my place with Logan and their nannies"

"Good" He sighs with relief

"But they almost weren't, Luca, I mean, poor Melissa was standing outside in the snow in just her pyjamas when we got here..the poor girl

was shivering like she'd been out there for a while"

Itell him and he looks at me with a horrified expression

ngeagit

He groans as he runs his hand through his hair

"I never wanted this life for them, Lace"

"I know you didn't"

I say while gently gripping his hand to give him some comfort

“Ok”

Luca lets out a breath

"Like I said, I was six years old when everything started, at first..at first, I noticed uncle Mario's friend Nico looking at you weird, he wasn't

looking at you like how dad or gramps or our uncles looked at you, no..he was looking at you in a way that no grown man should ever look

at a kid"

Luca paused to control himself before continuing

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“Nico, he was..he always found a way or a reason to touch you or pet

you like you were a little dog, he would also always try and get you to sit on his lap but thankfully, our dad would never allow it, he always

said a little girl shouldn't sit on a strangers lap and if he had it his way then you'd only ever sit on his or grandpa Dukes lap"

Thanks, dad

At least, I can be grateful that my dad didn't completely hate me enough to leave me at the mercy of a predator

“Nico also made a lot of disgusting and offhanded comments that many people laughed off or thought he was joking about but I didn't...1

may have only been six but I wasn't dumb and I knew that it wasn't right when a grown man talked about seeing a five-year-old little girl's

panties under her short dress even though your dress wasn't short, he was just a sick bastard..I didn't like how he was acting, Luce, I didn't

like it at all”

Luca sniffed before continuing

"When did his attention turn from me to you?"

"It was at grandpa Antonelli's birthday party"

Luca said whilst staring off into the distance

"We had gone to Sicily for a couple of weeks to celebrate his birthday and the big finale was his birthday party, it was black and gold

themed and mom had made you wear a gold dress, do you remember?"

He asked me and I nodded my head

"Yeah, mom and dad had insisted that I wore it to match the theme but I hated it"

"That's because the mesh on the underskirt made you itch"

He said and we both chuckled

"Anyway, during the party, mom took you to the toilet and when you

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons - Ss

came out your skirt was stuck in your panties and it was showing your entire backside off to everyone who was in the hallway which was

only a couple of people but what none of you knew is that Nico was standing there watching you, he was rubbing his hand over his d\*\*k

and he had a look on his face that at the time I didn't understand but now as an adult, I know it was lust...the dirty old bastard was lusting

after a little girl"

Luca said through gritted teeth as he shook his head

"I didn't like how he was looking at you, princess, so I blocked his view and I stopped him from looking at you...he didn't like what I did, in

fact, he was livid with me...he said I had to be punished"

"What did he do?"

I asked in a timid voice

Luca looked at me and my heart broke when I saw the broken look in

his eyes

"He dragged me into a spare room, he pulled down my pants and hit me several times on my bare ass..he said if my parents weren't gonna

discipline me then he would"

oh my god

"After that..things got worse, he raped me at any chance he got, he'd always offer to take me to the toilet or swimming or just make up

some bullshit bonding excuse so that we could be alone and he could touch me...he.he.he violated me in ways no child should ever be

violated and he

made me do things that no child should ever have to suffer through...he stripped me of my innocence each time we were alone and he

didn't care, he didn't care that he was destroying a young boys life, Lace"

Luca whimpered

"Iwas a little boy..I was a little boy and I didn't deserve this"

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons -

Luca said as he burst into tears

"Oh, Luc"

Isaid as [wrapped my arms around my brother and rested my head on his shoulder as he rested his head against mine

"Nobody deserves this, especially not an innocent child"

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Isay as I tried my hardest to comfort my distraught brother

"What erm..what did he make you do?"

I ask nervously as I watch tears stream down Luca's face

I don't know what made me ask this question, all I know is that my mouth had already said it before I had even realised it

"Well, let's just say that for the longest time, I hated giving guys blow jobs because they'd always make me gag and not in a good way"

Huh

"What do you mean? do you..."

I looked up at Luca who was giving me a you know what/mean kind of look

oh my god

/ think I'm gonna be sick

"Lace...are you ok, Lacey?"

"I'm fine"

I say in a faint voice whilst holding my stomach and trying to resist the urge to vomit

"Are you sure? you look really pale"

"I'm fine, I just...oh god"

I said as I jumped up and ran over to the sink, hurling my guts into it

Chapter 108 - Luca's Demons -

"shit, Lacey, are you ok?"

"I'm ok"

I say while panting as I swill my mouth out with some water and spit it out before taking a huge gulp of it

"I knew I shouldn't have told you about this"

Luca said with annoyance and regret in his tone whilst rubbing his hand up and down my back

"No, it's fine, it's just..."

My heart was racing as I looked up at my brother because I had a question that I needed to ask him but I was dreading hearing the answer

toit

"How long did this go on for?"

Task him and he looked away from me

"Look at me, Luca"

Isaid as I gripped his chin and forced him to look at me

"How long?"

I asked again

My brother looked hesitant to answer me but did anyway only his voice was so low, I couldn't make out what he said

"How long, Luc?"

Luca closed his eyes and sighed angrily

"Three years"

He growled and I gasped

"What?"

"You heard me, Lace...I said I was being sexually abused by Nico for three long, torturous years"

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice

Lacey's POV

"How long, Lu=>"

~ ~

Luca closed his eyes and sighed angrily

"Three years"

He growled and I gasped

"You heard me, Lacey...I said I was being sexually abused by Nico for three long, torturous years" Holy s\*\*t

"Why didn't you tell anyone?"

"Because of you, Lacey...because he always threatened me with you"

Luca said through gritted teeth

"What do you mean?"

I ask him and he sighs whilst looking down before looking back up at me

"He told me...Nico said that if I ever told anyone about what he was doing to me then he'd take you away from us, that he'd do to you what

he was doing to me only worse and then when he was bored with you, he'd either use his connections to sell you off to a child sex

trafficking ring or worse he'd kill you"

He said and I gasped

"That's why I never told you or anyone else because I was trying to

free

protect you and keep you safe..what he did to me g traumatised me,

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice

Lacey and I didn't want the same thing to happen to you"

"But you must've told someone eventually"

I say and he nods his head

"Yeah, I did..I told our parents about it"

Luca said with a tight smile

"I'd had enough, I was fed up with being scared, I was tired of looking over my shoulder and I was angry that I couldn't even feel safe in my

own bed, so I found the courage and I told them everything, I told them every single last dirty, degrading and traumatising detail"



He said while chuckling a humourless chuckle

"You know a part of me always thought they wouldn't believe me, I thought they'd think that I was making it up but they didn't..they

believed me straight off the bat"

"And how did they react?"

Task Luca who made a weird noise as he leaned against the counter behind him and crossed his arms over his chest

"Dad lost his s\*\*t, he trashed the house and got drunk quite a few times to drown out the pain and the guilt he was feeling"

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Hmm, I wonder if being a depressed drunk is hereditary?

"Dad also wanted to go and kill the dirty old bastard but uncle Mario wouldn't let him anywhere near him"

"What? why?"

I ask feeling angry and annoyed

Uncle Mario has got zero tolerance for abuse of any kind being inflicted upon innocents, in fact, one of the first rules of the mafia is to never

harm an innocent, so, why would he stop my dad from getting revenge for his son? why would he stop my dad from killing this

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice

bastard?

"I don't know, kid, all I know is that apparently, uncle Mario told our parents to let the mafia deal with it and you know once the mafia or

more importantly the Don says this then that's it, we can't go against it"

"But is he dead? is this Nico bastard dead?"

Task Luca who shrugs his shoulders

"I don't know"

What the fk?

"You don't know? what do you mean you don't know, Luca?"

How can he not know?

I mean, I'm not an expert in this kind of situation but surely getting revenge or justice on your abuser and making sure they've suffered like

you have and will do for the rest of your life is something most victims would want to know, right? at least for their own peace of mind

"Because we didn't stick around long enough to find out if our uncle had killed him or not"

"What are you talking about?"

I ask him confused

"Have you ever wondered why we stopped visiting Italy? or why our parents didn't want us to be around the mafia anymore?..have you ever

wondered why our mom's maiden name was Wright when it should be Antonelli2..it's not exactly an Italian surname so it should've raised

some eyebrows, right?"

Luca asks me and I narrow my eyes at him

"The reason why mom's maiden name isn't Antonelli anymore is because she'd changed it to her mother's maiden name after I'd told her

what Nico had done to me"

on

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice

"Why would she do that? mom was already married to our dad and was going by Carpenter when we were born"

This was so confusing

"True but she didn't care, mom didn't want the Antonelli name attached to her or her kids and she didn't want us to be affiliated with the

mafia either, she didn't want any of us to be anywhere near them, so she did everything she could to wipe them from our lives"

He says confusing me

"But we still grew up around our maternal family and we've always known we were part of the mafia"

"Yeah but we were never involved with them like we should have been

and the only people who are in the mafia who we had any contact with over the years were our gramps, uncle Mario, auntie Maria and our

cousins Joey, Klayton and Marcus...mom always made sure that nobody else from the mafia was around us during visits because she didn't

trust them... mean, she barely trusted uncle Mario after what happened and he's her brother"

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Luca said while scratching the back of his head

"Wait, why didn't mom trust uncle Mario? and what's all of this got to do with Nico being dead or not?"

"Because Nico was uncle Mario's second in command, he was his best friend and he was the most trusted member of his hierarchy...he

didn't want to believe that his closest friend was a predator and a paedophile, so because of this, mom lost all trust in him..the way she saw

itis, if you can hesitate to end the life of a paedophile and a child abuser, someone who has destroyed a child's innocence and broken them

in ways that they can never be repaired then that says a lot about you and that's why mom doesn't trust him anymore"

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice

Wow

I think I've just lost all of my respect for my uncle

"So, he's still alive then?"

Task and Luca shrugs his shoulders

"I hope for uncle Mario's sake that he's not"

Me too

Klayton may not be Luca's number one fan at the moment but if he was to ever find out that his father's second-in-command molested a

child and there's a chance his dad may or may not have done something to get justice for Luca then he won't be happy about it

"So..what happened afterwards? I mean, after you told mom and dad?"

ask him and he lets out a breath

"Well, they naturally became over-protective of us or more over-protective of us than they normally were, dad hired top-of-the-range

security that would put Quantico to shame and he made sure that we all had our own bodyguards who from what I know, they were all

former CIA or FBI agents, one of the two and he also made sure that they were all cleared and checked out before they reported for duty

because at the end of the day, you can't trust everybody even those who you think you should be able to trust"

"And you?..when did you turn into the Luca that I barely recognise?"

Task with anger in my tone as Luca narrows his eyes at me

"I've always been this way, Lace...you've just never seen it because I've always hidden it from you guys, I've hidden my pain, I've hidden my

drinking..I've hidden everything"

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice. =

Why?"

"Because I didn't want anyone to know I was suffering or that I had been medicating the pain and the shame I was feeling with alcohol"

He says and I narrow my eyes at him

"Wait, so you're drinking..."

I drifted off as I watched Luca drop his head

"I've been drinking ever since I was thirteen years old, Lace"

oh my god

"Luca"

I gasped

Why?"

"Because drinking is the only thing that can block it out, it's the only thing that can get me through the day without thinking about what he

did and what I had to suffer through, it's the only way I can sleep without being

traumatised by my nightmares"

"But you're killing yourself, Luc..you're ruining your family and destroying your life by burying your head in the sand instead of facing your

problems head on"

Isay and he shakes his head

"You don't understand, Lace"

"No, you're right I don't"

Isay sternly as I close the space between us

"I don't understand and I never will understand what you had to go through and I'll never ever be able to come close to imagining what you

had to suffer through Luca..but that's not gonna stop me from fighting for you and it's not gonna stop me from getting you the help you

need so that you can be the best father to your kids, the best husband to Dylan or some

Chapter 109 - Making A Choice. ad other guy, the best son to our parents but most importantly, so you can be the best brother and uncle in

the world to me, Justin, Liam and our

kids"

I tell Luca who looked at me shocked as a sob left his mouth

"Why?...why would you wanna help me, Lace?...after all of the pain I've caused you, I took Dylan from you, I destroyed your relationship and

forced you to leave the only home you've ever known because I was a coward who couldn't stand up for myself or for you, I couldn't be

proud of who I am and I wasn't man enough to be out and proud to my own parents..so, why do you wanna help me?"

He asks me and I smile at him as I cup his cheeks and gently caress his

tears away

"Because you're my brother, you're my best friend and I want you back, Luca, want us all to be happy again but we can only be happy

again once you have fixed yourself and you've moved on from the past...besides, you did me a favour, have you seen my husband?"

I ask and we both chuckle

"Please accept Klayton's help, Luca"

"I can't, Lace"

Luca whimpered

"Yes, you can"

I growl as I look him deep in his eyes

"Look, I'm not gonna lie to you, Luca, it's gonna be hard and there are gonna be days when you'll wanna give up but you have to keep

going for yourself..you deserve to be happy and you deserve to live your best life but you can only do that if you get help for your drinking

and receive therapy to deal with everything that's happened and to help you with your mental

health...please just take the help, Luca, please, please" I begged and pleaded with him as tears streamed down my face

"Please don't cry, Lacey, you know I always hated it when you cried"

Luca said as he wrapped his arms around me embracing me in a hug

He then inhaled deeply and slowly released it

"Ok fine, I'll do it, kid...I'll go to rehab and get help"

Luca said and I smiled

"You made the right choice, cugino"

A familiar voice said out of nowhere

Luca and I turned to look at the person and I gasped when I saw who was standing there

Oh god

How long have they been standing there for?

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal

Lacey's POV

"Ok fine, Tll dr i Lid Til mn çn rahak and get help"

~ ~

Luca said and I smiled

"You made the right choice, cugino"

nsaw who was standing there

Oh god

How long have they been standing there for?

Standing in the doorway of the kitchen were my parents, my brothers, Logan, Klayton and Cassidy and they all had a mixture of emotions

on their faces, most notably hurt, anger and disbelief

"What are you all doing here?"

Ashocked Luca asks everyone

"Logan called us...he said you needed us"

Justin said as he looked at Luca with pity but he also had a lot of anger in his eyes as well which I knew was for Nico and not for our brother

"My baby"

My mom sobbed as she came over and embraced Luca

She was teary-eyed and her body was shaking as she held onto her youngest son

"I'm 50 sorry, Luca, I'm 50, 50, 50, 50 sorry... failed you, my boy, I'm sorry"

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal ~)

My mom sobbed as she repeatedly apologised to my brother and I honestly felt really bad for her

It must really eat away at a parent's mind, heart and soul to know that one of their babies was inappropriately touched and there's nothing

they could do about it until it was too late

My parents clearly didn't know about Luca being abused because they would've put a stop to it if they did but it doesn't stop them from

feeling guilty or thinking about the what if's? and the woulda, coulda, shoulda, if you know what I mean

My dad, Justin and Liam also approached us and it was only when they were mere inches away from where we were standing that I noticed

their red-rimmed eyes and tear-stained faces

When my mom pulled away from her son, Justin and Liam wasted no time in hugging Luca who sobbed and shook in their embrace



"Why didn't you tell us, Luc?..why didn't you f+ tell us?"

Justin asked angrily

"I couldn't tell you, Justin... couldn't tell you because I felt so ashamed..I'm so sorry"

"You ftrrtg it"

Liam said barely above a shocked whisper

"It's not you who should feel ashamed, Luc and you for damn sure don't need to apologise either, it's that dirty, nasty bastard who should

feel ashamed for preying on an innocent child"

Liam said with a sob

"Speaking of that prick...Klayton"

I say with annoyance in my tone as I look over at my cousin who was leaning against the kitchen doorframe with his arms crossed over his

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal chest

"Please tell me this bastard is dead, Klay" Content from

"Language, principessa"

He warned me and I rolled my eyes

Now's not the time to get pissy over my language, my dear cousin

"Just answer the damn question, Klayton, is he dead or not?"

Justin asked angrily

"Oh he's dead, Justin and he's been dead for a while now but I promise you all that Nico didn't go easily"

"How do you know? wait, did you..."

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"Don't you even dare finish that sentence, Lacey Black, I'm warning you"

Klayton growls startling me

"I never knew about any of this s\*\*t and I'm just as shocked and as appalled as you all are"

Klayton said with a look of disgust on his handsome face

"Don't get me wrong, I knew there was something going on with Luca but I never would've guessed it was something as sick and twisted as

this"

"Then how do you know Nico's dead?"

I ask him feeling both intrigued and confused

"Because I've been standing here for a lot longer than you think, kid and as soon as I heard Luca mention Nico's name, I had one of my men

call

my father and find out what happened with him because I knew he had

died, just didn't know how and I certainly didn't know that his death had something to do with Luca"

"And what did uncle Mario have to say?"

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal =

An angry Liam asks our cousin

"Well, according to my dad he and our men made sure Nico suffered tremendously for a very long time before he took his final breath"

Klayton said and my mom scoffed

"Yeah, of course they did"

She said and Klayton's facial expressions softened as he looked at my mom

"I'm telling you the truth, auntie"

"Well, I'll believe it when I see it my dear nephew because your father wasn't interested in getting revenge for my son when it happened and

that's what caused the rift between us, so please tell me why I should believe you when you say my brother killed that monster?"

Mom growled and I was shocked to see her get so angry with my cousin

She may be an Italian American and a member of one of the world's most prolific mafia families but you wouldn't think she was if you'd met

her, in fact, I vaguely remember my great nonno calling her the runt of our family because of how weak and timid she is. (Grandfather)

"If you don't trust and believe in my father, auntie then trust and believe in me...one of the first rules of the mafia is no innocents are to be

hurt and they're always to be protected, my dad's second in command broke that rule and he paid the price for it, I promise you"

"Words and promises mean nothing to me, Klayton, actions do and I won't believe a single word you or your father says until I see proof

that this sick bastard was tortured and killed"

My mom said and Klayton nodded his head

"You want proof? ok fine, I can give you that proof"

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal J "What do you mean? how?" Liam asks confused

"My dad has informed my men that he recorded Nico's torture and murder" Klayton says shocking everyone and confusing the hell out of

me

"And why would he do that? isn't it another rule of the mafia, Klayton that one shall never record one's evil and illegal doings for fear of

being chased down by the boys in blue?"

Task and everyone chuckles

"You're right it is, Lace but my father made an exception in this case because he knew that there would be a day when you all would wanna

see it and I'm more than happy to provide it to you sometime if you want"

Klayton said before smiling at Luca

"I'm sure Luca wouldn't mind watching his abuser getting his ass handed to him over and over again and in more ways than one if you

know what I mean"

oh my god

"Really, Klayton?"

"What?"

"What do you mean what?" I ask annoyed

"Don't you think he's been tortured enough for the past twenty years? he doesn't need to see that sick bastard being tortured to death as

well"

Isay and he shrugs his shoulders

"You never know, cugina, it might help him"

/s he being serious right now?

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal So

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"In what world would it help him, Klayton?"

"I don't know, kid...it may give him some closure so that he can move on, not to mention, it might make him feel better to see immense

amounts of pain being inflicted upon Nico before watching the life being sucked out of his eyes, I know it would if it was me"

"He's got a point, Lace"

Luca says as he looks at me with a smile but his smile quickly drops when he hears our mom's next questions

"Baby, what happened here? why is the house like this? and where are the kids?"

"The kids are at Lacey's house and as for this place..."

Luca looked around and sighed but he didn't finish his sentence, probably because he didn't want to get into why he and Dylan were

fighting with everyone here

"But why didn't your staff clean up?"

My mom asks sounding annoyed

"Because I told them not to bother...my life and my family are already a f\*\*\*\*\*g mess, my house may as well be in the same boat as well"

Luca said while running his hands over his face

"That's a lovely attitude to have, brother"

Isay and he glares at me but his glare was quickly wiped off by a tap to the head from our mom

"Don't look at your sister like that, Luca, she's right, besides, the maids should've cleaned up anyway, it's their job"

"You're right, mom"

Luca said as he nodded his head and he looked like he was thinking, he then looked over at Klayton and Cassidy with a look on his face that

1

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal J couldn't decipher

"Is the offer still open, Klayton?"

Luca asks in a weak and timid voice

"Yeah it is but only if you really want this, Luca, you can't do it because

Lacey's telling you to and you can't do it for anyone else but yourself, you have to do it for you and only you"

Klayton says and Luca nods his head

"I know and I want this, I really do...I don't wanna live like this anymore"

"Then are you willing to leave with us now, Luca?"

Cassidy asks him and he looks at her shocked

"Now?"

"Yes now...if you really want to get better then you'll leave with Klayton and me now"

"But my kids"

Luca started to panic but our parents quickly reassured him that they'll be fine

"What about Dylan? I can't leave him"

He says earning a scoff from my husband and my cousin

"Why not? the prick left you and your kids, Luca"

"For Christ's sake, Logan"

I groaned whilst facepalming

This man never misses an opportunity to show his dislike for Dylan

"No, Logan's right, Lacey...fuck him, if your husband can't stand by you in your weakest time then he won't be there for you when you're

strong"

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal Y) My dad said shocking me

That's the first time in a very long time that I've heard something smart coming out of my father's mouth

Luca and I locked eyes with each other and I smiled at him

Twanted him to know that he was fine and that everything was gonna be ok because he was about to do a really hard and scary thing and I

wanted him to know that he didn't have to worry because he's got all of us here to support him

Luca then said an emotional goodbye to everyone before being escorted out to the car with Cassidy

"How long have you been here?"

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I asked my cousin as I stood on the front porch and watched as my brother walked away

"Long enough..I came to get his answer..instead, I got more than I was expecting"

"We all got more than we expected today, Klay"

I said with a sigh

"But he's accepting help and that's the most important thing" I said with a smile as tears filled my eyes

I don't know why I was feeling tearful, all I know is that I was

"Don't worry, principessa, I'll look after him"

Klayton says while hugging me and kissing my head

"Thanks Klay, I owe you a lot"

"You don't owe me s\*\*t, kid"

He said and we both chuckle

Klayton then pulled away from me and looked down at me with a smile as he gently gripped my chin

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal -

"I love you, kid"

"I love you too, Klay"

We bid each other goodbye and Klayton leaves but I wasn't left alone for too long

"Are you ok, baby?"

Logan asks me as he embraces me from behind

"I'm fine"

And I was

It may not seem like it but I am fine, especially now that I no longer have to worry about my brother killing himself with drink

My eyes remained on Klayton's car as it was leaving the estate but then my eyes drifted to another vehicle that was pulling up just as they

left and I knew exactly who was inside of it

Now this prick decides to show up

I thought to myself as the black car sped up the driveway and pulled up in front of us

"Lacey, Logan, what the hell is going on? why are you here? who was in that car? where's Luca and my kids?"

Dylan asks as he gets out of the car and narrows his eyes between us and the retreating car

"Why do you wanna know, Dylan? do you even care about Luca and those kids?"

I growl at my brother-in-law as I break free from Logan's hold and step closer to him

"What? of course I care, Lacey, how can you even ask me that?"

"Because you abandoned them, you left your three minor babies alone with a drunk who got so intoxicated he didn't even know what day

of

Chapter 110 - Time To Heal id the week it was...now could you do that, Dylan? how could you leave them like that?"

"Oh get off your high horse, Lacey, you're not so innocent yourself"

Dylan says angrily as he steps closer to me

"I beg your pardon, asshole, what did you just say to me?"

"You heard me, Lacey, you're not so innocent yourself, you stand there acting like the queen of f\*\*\*\*\*g Sheba like you're Mrs Perfect who's



never done anything wrong in your life but you're not perfect, you're far from being perfect, Lacey, so you can stand there and get mad at

me all you want for leaving but just remember this little princess..you abandoned him as well”

Dylan said with a smirk

I was two seconds away from punching this motherfucker in his throat

when someone else's fist came out of nowhere punching Dylan in his jaw and shocking the life out of me

Well, I'll be damned

I never thought I'd see the day he'd come to my defence

