

The Devil's Fire by Mariam El-Hafi Chapter 201 – 210

A Date(2)

1288 Vouchers

“Oh, I’m starving!” I sat down, sighing at how soft the blankets were. Damiano grabbed a couple of pillows and placed them behind me to support my back against the tree.

“And here I thought you were trying to make me lose weight with the running and climbing hills.” I chuckled as I saw he actually got me two large pizzas, different kinds of pasta, lasagna, chicken parmesan, and tomato salads. The food was endless and my mouth started to water. Even more when my eyes landed on the dessert, seeing my favorite cakes and chocolate-covered strawberries.

“Lose weight? Baby, I’m trying to get you to eat as much as possible. Eat and be happy.” He almost ordered, making me laugh at how sternly he said it.

“Just the way to my heart.” I chuckled at him. I immediately dug into the food, closing my eyes at the first bite of the pizza.

I could die so happy right now.

I opened my eyes when I heard Damiano let out a small laugh. He was watching me and I didn’t realize I was doing a small happy dance while I ate.

“It’s so good!” I held the pizza slice out for him to eat as well. He took a bite and agreed with me before reaching for the ice bucket.

“You will love this one.” Damiano poured us a glass of red wine and handed me one.

“To you.” He said and clinked our glasses together.

“To us.” I corrected him with a smile.

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“For being bad bitches and outliving our enemies.” I finished and he burst out in laughter. I stilled for a bit, smiling as I loved the sound of his laughter. It was deep and so angelic. It made me the happiest to hear him like this.

“Saluti, for being called a bad bitch for the very first time in my life.” Damiano chuckled as he raised his glass.

“There is a first for everything.” I laughed and raised my glass as well.

“Indeed, there is.” He slightly shook his head in amusement.

I took a sip of the wine, my eyes widened a little as soon as it hit my tongue.

“Oh, wow! This is good.” I said and took another sip while he watched my reaction. It was sweet with a hint of fruitiness to it.

“I knew you would love it. This is one of the sweeter wines we produce.”

“Really? I would love to know more about this place and winemaking because this taste almost like juice.” I was so surprised by how good it was.

“You will. Mr. Robert is coming to visit. He wants to witness with his own two eyes the place you have talked so highly about. If all goes well, he will be making a much larger purchase. And you will receive fifty percent of that.”

“What? No!” I almost shouted at him.

“Yes. You made it happen.” Damiano insisted and I shook my head.

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“I really didn’t. I didn’t even know what I was talking about back then.” I tried to explain to him but he only gave a half- shrug.

“It doesn’t matter.”

“But it does! This is what you have worked so hard for. All these people you have created jobs for, and even made sure they have a roof over their heads. This is all your doing.” I gestured to the beautiful landscape as we had the perfect view from the top of the hill, seeing the lights from the houses down below.

To witness this myself made me so proud of him. He was young and had already achieved so much in his life and given back to his people. It felt amazingly unreal that he was allowing me to see yet another side of him because I knew he wouldn't allow anyone else to see this side of him.

He was so much more than just a Mafia Boss.

"I am well aware of it, my love. It still doesn't change the fact that you gave him a different perspective. You have earned your cut." He said as if it wasn't up to discussion.

"Fine. Then I want to invest the money in your business. And whatever money that will be made from that, I want to reinvest. I want to keep reinvesting and then use the money to create more jobs and housing for the people." I finished. This place would have been nothing without these amazing people working hard to make it what it was today. They deserved everything.

Damiano didn't say anything for a while and just looked at me with his soft smile.

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"I had a feeling you would say that." He chuckled.

"Will that make you happy, my love?" He asked.

"Very much." I gave a firm nod.

"Then so be it." Damiano cupped my chin, tilting upwards before pressing his lips to mine.

"Now, eat."

We ate and talked about everything that came to mind. It was such a carefree moment. I loved seeing him so relaxed and laughing as he listened to whatever I had to say while we took turns feeding each other.

I had him rest his head on my lap as I fed him chocolate-covered strawberries while he told me even more about his family and his upbringing here in Italy. It had me smiling big to hear just how big of a family he came from. I loved the idea of a big family since I grew up as an only child. It could be lonely at times

which was why I was so close to Cara. I was in some way desperate to have a sibling and I did see her more like a sister than a cousin.

“Thank you so much for bringing me here. This place feels like a fairytale.” I stood near the edge of the hill with Damiano’s arms wrapped around me from behind. I admired the landscape and the night sky that was decorated entirely with

stars.

“Anything for you.” He kissed the side of my head and I sighed blissfully.

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This night couldn’t be any more perfect.

“I have been wondering about something for a while now.” I said and I looked at the sparkling stars.

“I’m listening.”

“Did you mean it? When you visited me back home, you asked me a question... Did you really mean it?” I held my breath as I waited for his response. It was something I had thought of for a while. If he truly meant it or if it was just something he said in the heat of the moment since I was also pregnant at the time.

But the longer the silence was, the more I thought it was just that. I continued to gaze at the sparkling stars, not knowing if I was disappointed or not. And in the end, I just wanted it to be him and I.

He unwrapped his arms and stepped away from me. I frowned a little, wondering why he wasn’t answering me. I turned around and my heart immediately started to pound like crazy behind my chest. So much I had stopped breathing.

Damiano was on one knee, holding out a ring box as he looked at me with so much affection in his eyes.

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Althaia

I felt the world stop, and my heart was about to burst out of my chest as I looked at him.

Damiano was down on one knee, smiling so beautifully as I got lost in his eyes that gleamed with endless love.

“You have no idea how much you have affected my life. When I first saw you, you took my breath away. I thought you were the most beautiful woman I have ever seen. And I still do every time I look at you. You are my fire who saved me from the depth of the cold darkness. You are the reason for my existence. You are my innocent woman who blessed my eyes with her beauty and hypnotized me with her eyes. You are the beautiful love of my life. Althaia... Will you marry me?”

My eyes welled up with tears. I was too stunned to say anything, barely believing my eyes that this was happening right now. I took a sharp intake of breath, forgetting to

breathe for a moment. My heart was beating uncontrollably and tears ran down my face.

There was no one else I would want to be with.

There was no one else I would share my life with.

He showed me how it truly felt to be loved. And there was nowhere else I would rather be because, in his arms, I belonged.

He was the one for me.

“Yes...” I breathed out in a whisper.

“Yes, yes, yes!” I screamed out and leaped forward, wrapping my arms around his neck. Damiano didn’t get a chance to steady us and he fell on his back with me on top of him. He laughed as he held me.

“That’s a relief.” He chuckled and wiped my tears away. I placed my hands on either side of his face, caressing his stubbly cheeks as I looked into his alluring golden-brown

eyes.

“Of course, I will marry you. I don’t want to spend my life with anyone else but you.” I said softly to him. Damiano let out a breathtaking smile and put a hand behind my neck, having me lean into him until our lips touched. My heart was fluttering and my body tingled as if it was the first time we ever kissed.

The world stopped for the briefest moment. The way his lips were on mine, so sweet and passionate yet so intense. It was taking me higher and higher, making it feel like I was flying while the air hummed around us. This moment was perfect as I held him closer to me, melting completely in his arms.

“I love you. So, so much.” I told him as I was barely able to keep my tears at bay.

“And I love you, my Althaia.” The soft look in his eyes, showing so much affection and love had me crying again.

“Don’t cry.” Damiano chuckled lightly and sat up with me straddling his lap.

“I can’t help it. It’s more than I could ever imagine.” I half-

sobbed. It all felt like one magical dream. One I didn’t want to

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wake up from and live happily in this dream with him.

“I thought I would step up my game, and at least make sure you were dressed when I ask. Unlike last time.” He said amused, having me laugh as I remembered back to it.

“You did well.” I said, giving him a small kiss.

“Here, let me see it on you.” Damiano reached for the ring box and opened it. My eyes went wide as they could when I saw the huge but stunningly gorgeous oval-shaped cushion diamond ring. The band was even covered in

tiny diamonds all the way around. It was nothing I had ever seen before, leaving me speechless. It was truly too breathtaking, and the way it sparkled under the lights of the lanterns made it look incredibly magnificent.

“Damiano...” I gasped.

“Do you like it? I picked out the diamonds myself and had it handcrafted.”

“You designed this ring?!”

“I did. But if you don’t like it, it’s fine. We’ll get you something else.” He said it as if he hadn’t just spent an enormous amount of money on it.

“Are you kidding me? This is the most gorgeous ring I have ever seen! But that is one huge diamond, Damiano. I don’t know if I can wear that...”

“Why not?” He frowned a little.

“Because it’s too expensive! I would have been happy with any ring, you didn’t have to spend that much on it.”

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“It wasn’t that much if it makes you feel better?” He half- shrugged.

“Can I ask how much...?” I asked. Damiano didn’t say anything for a little while before letting out a grin.

“I don’t know.” He said, and I blinked at him.

“...You don’t know?”

“I saw what I liked and bought it. Also, I want people from a mile away to see you’re taken.” Damiano said firmly, not joking about it.

“Oh, you made sure of that big time.” I chuckled. The diamond was enormous and I was sure I would be able to blind people with it.

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Damiano took my hand and slid the ring on my finger, and he took his time admiring it.

“Beautiful.” He smiled before placing a kiss on the back of my hand. I took a look, seeing just how stunning it looked. The way the light moved through the diamond, made it sparkle so gloriously.

“I can’t believe this is happening...” I wrapped my arms around his neck as he pulled me closer to his body. I rested my head against his, closing my eyes and enjoying this moment. My heart was warm and excited for this chapter of our lives.

Together.

My lips found his while my hands trailed down and started to slowly unbutton his shirt. I slid it off his shoulders, my hands wandering around as I felt his muscular body. I felt him shiver lightly under my touch, making me smile. I loved the effect I had on him. His hands went under my top and he pulled it over my head, the warm night breeze kissing my skin.

He plastered small kisses on my body, getting me excited and eager to take off the rest of his clothing. He must have felt the same as it took no time before we were now both naked

under the bright stars. I went back to straddle him, claiming his lips, tasting his tongue as he pulled me into him as close as he could.

Damiano’s hand found its way between my legs, his fingers rubbing me in all the right places, having me let out a soft moan against his lips at the pleasurable sensations. He let out a grunt when I took a hold of his thick length, slowly moving my hand up and down, knowing it would make him crazy.

“I need to feel you.” He growled against my lips and grabbed my hips in eagerness.

“Patience.” I smirked as I continued to tease him. I positioned myself on top of him, slowly grinding against his length. The slow teasing made me let out a soft moan and make him groan, his breathing got a little louder and he grabbed my ass.

“Fuck. Now.” His fingers dug into me. Finally, I gradually went down, slowly while he let out a breath and buried his face into my neck. The thickness of his length pushed against my walls and I wrapped my arms around his neck for support as I went down further, taking him all in, and closing my eyes at the sensations it was giving. My breathing got louder as I moved up and down, loving the feeling of him filling me up.

“God... Yes.” I breathed out a moan as I went faster. Damiano’s grunts against my neck as he kissed me had me even more excited.

“Keep going, let me hear your voice.” He held my hips as he rammed inside of me and I didn’t hold back as our moans filled the quiet nighttime. I felt his pounding resonate in my body, building the excitement intensely in the pit of my stomach.

“Althaia...” Damiano’s voice was husky and strained as he spoke.

“I will come too fast if you keep clenching around me.”

“Sorry.” I chuckled breathlessly. I relaxed and slowed down to give him time.

“Don’t be. I just want to feel you for a bit longer.” He smiled as I played with the back of his hair while his hands caressed my legs.

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“Damiano...?”

“Yes, my love?” My heart fluttered at what I was about to say.

“Let’s make a baby.” I said, holding my breath as I waited for his reaction. His golden-brown eyes looked intently into mine and my heart started to beat wildly.

“Are you sure?” Damiano looked at me softly, his hold tightened around me.

“Yes.” I said with no trace of hesitation. I wanted one so desperately with him.

He suddenly moved and laid me on the blanket as he hovered over me, and I wrapped my legs around him.

“Then let’s make a baby.” His eyes lit up before he claimed my lips and roughly thrust himself inside of me, making me gasp against his lips with his sudden move.

I had unleashed a beast within him the way he was savagely pounding inside of me, making me cry out in pleasure. Damiano kept calling out my name like a prayer while I felt his finger playing around with my clit.

His deep, husky voice triggered something in me, having my nails scratch his back when I felt it coming. I screamed out his name, my eyes rolling to the back of my head as my body trembled from the overwhelming climax.

“Althaia…” He called out my name with a grunt and I felt his warm release inside of me.

We lay still for a moment, catching our breath as we looked at each other. He kissed me softly while remaining inside of me.

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“Don’t think it’s over yet. I’m planning on fucking you all night long, and filling you up good.” He let out that devilish smirk I loved so much, having me excited all over again.

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Althaia

We were still lying outside when the sky started to brighten. I pulled the blanket up closer to my chest while resting my head on Damiano’s chest, his hand caressing my back as I went back to admiring the ring on my finger.

I was on cloud nine.

I looked up at Damiano and he was already looking at me with a smile while he was playing with my hair.

“I was just thinking when did you get to place such a unique order.” I said and held up my hand to show the gigantic oval- shaped diamond ring. He must have planned this weeks ahead to get the ring handcrafted on time.

“I placed the order while you were visiting your father. I went to retrieve it when you were still sleeping.”

“You can get it done that fast?!” I asked in surprise.

“You can say I’m kind of well-known around here. It has its perks and things get done a lot faster that way.” Damiano gave a cheeky wink, making me laugh.

“Right, being the biggest fearing Mafia Don makes you only ‘kind of well-known’. People hear the name Bellavia and almost shit themselves.” I chuckled.

“Something like that.” He smirked.

“Soon, it will be your name too.”

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Vouchers

“Althaia Bellavia.” Tingles erupted in my stomach as soon as I said it. His name with mine, I loved it so much. I sighed dreamily the more I thought of it as I trailed my fingers over the tattoo of my name on his chest

“It suits you. Better than the name you have right now.” He said smugly, making me stick out my tongue at him.

“I thought it was Celano most of my life. Now that I think of it, it’s quite funny actually. My father told me the reason they changed my name was to protect me from people like you. Guess that didn’t work out too well as I’m now engaged to you” I let out a small chuckle.

“I get that he wanted to protect me, especially after you suddenly grabbed me at the engagement party and pulled out a gun.” I reminded him.

“I did it for a reason.” He shrugged as if it was no big deal.

“And what’s the reason?”

“Just to see if you were a spy or an assassin playing innocent.” Damiano smiled smugly and moved me to lie on top of him.

“What if I am and played my part well.” I wiggled my brows and he scoffed, making me drop my jaw.

“I so could be a secret spy!”

“No, you couldn’t. Why do you think I showed up in your hotel room? It was to see how you reacted to potential threats. But, you falling on your face, was already enough for me. And then you were too focused on your food and forgot that I, a killer, was in the room with you. So no, you couldn’t be a spy or an assassin. You’re too clumsy and too unaware.” He explained.

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“Well, you sure know how to kill one’s ego...” I said grimly. He was right. I ran for my life to the bathroom and once I saw the food, he was completely forgotten.

“You shouldn’t be surprised. I am a very skilled killer.” He looked at me teasingly and placed his arms behind his head. My eyes lingered on his huge biceps, admiring them for a little before looking at him.

“True. So, just entirely out of curiosity, have you ever stabbed someone with a fork?” I asked. Damiano raised a brow at me and I gave him an innocent smile as I rested my head on my hand.

“I have. Right in the eye and smashed his head down on a table with the fork still attached.” I grimaced as I imagined the horrific scene but gave an impressive nod nonetheless.

“Shit, poor guy... What did he do?”

“He annoyed me.”

“You’re kidding!” I burst out in laughter and he just smiled.

“And something else, but mostly because he was an annoying piece of shit.”

“Fair enough.” I chuckled.

“Why? Trying to get inspiration on how to stab my father?” He raised his brow with a playful smile.

“No... Well, if he brings bitches for you, I will stab him and them with a fork.” I said in all seriousness.

“So hot.” Damiano winked and I let out a small laugh.

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“Speaking of your father... He didn’t seem too thrilled about me being a Volante. Or being half greek for that matter. I know you don’t care since you got my name tattooed in greek.” I told him. I was mostly pissed about him saying my heritage was a problem for him.

“Don’t listen to him. He has his way of annoying and offending

people to get a reaction from them. You have to hit them where it hurts. That’s when they show their true colors.” Damiano explained.

“You knew he would test me?”

“I had a feeling he would eventually. My old man is bored. He did the same thing to Cara when Lorenzo took her for a visit. Besides, he liked your answers and found it amusing that you wanted to stab him with a fork.” He chuckled.

“Hmm, I see.” I made a mental note of asking Cara what he said to piss her off.

“He did get under my skin when he said he had women for you.” I muttered with a scowl.

“My freaky, jealous woman.” I yelped in surprise when he slapped my ass.

“It’s not about being jealous! It’s about property rights!”

“I’m your property now?” Damiano’s body was shaking from laughing.

“Damn right you are.” I placed my hands on his cheeks and leaned in as close as I could to his face.

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“You may have my name tattooed on your chest, but I will tattoo my name on your forehead, on your ass, and even on your dick to let bitches know you’re mine. And all of that belongs to me.” I said sternly to him.

“You’re really turning into a psychopath.” Damiano looked amused by my reaction.

“Only for you, my love.” I wiggled my brows, making him laugh at my playful wickedness.

The sky was brighter now and I was sure people had already heard us fucking but I didn’t need anyone to find us naked at the top of the hill. I wrapped a blanket around my body, groaning as I took a couple of steps.

“My legs are sore...”

“It will get better once you’ve gotten used to running.” Damiano said as I watched him pull up his pants.

“Do I have to run?” I gave a displeased look.

“I told you, it’s not avoidable.” He closed the distance between us and swooped me in his arms.

“You don’t have to carry me.” I chuckled but didn’t fight him on it. I loved being in his strong arms.

“You will need your rest before today’s training.” My smile got wiped away and got replaced with a frown.

“Don’t worry, we will focus more on your fighting skills than running today.”

“I can live with that.” I said relieved. He shook his head in amusement when I found my smile back.

It was a quiet, beautiful morning with the sunrise shining over the landscape. It was one incredible view. I had to come back here to draw this magnificent place.

I looked down at my hand, seeing the beautiful diamond ring, and having me smile big. It still felt surreal that this was happening and the burning desire to marry him grew even more. I wrapped my arms around his neck, gazing lovingly at him and my heart fluttered.

“How soon can we get married?” I asked.

“Whenever you’re ready, my love.”

“Can we get married today?” Damiano stopped in his tracks and looked at me in surprise.

“You want to elope?”

“I want to marry you as soon as possible.” I said softly to him and a smile appeared on his lips.

“We can do that.” He said, and my heart started to beat fast with excitement,

“My mother and Nonna are going to give me hell for it.” He chuckled as he started to walk again. My brows went up, completely forgetting about his family.

“We could always keep it between ourselves and then have a wedding ceremony one day?” I suggested. As much as I would love to get married to him as soon as possible, I also wanted to respect his family. For Italians, weddings were a huge deal.

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Especially if you were the firstborn. I could only imagine how thrilled his family was going to be and how they were going to make a huge deal out of it. Not only because he was the firstborn child, but also because it was Damiano.

“I do want to see you in a wedding dress.” Damiano smiled softly.

“Really?”

“Yes. I want to unwrap you like the gift you are and see that beautiful body of yours.” I saw the swirl of emotions in his eyes as he spoke quietly to me, having my cheeks heated up at his words.

“You have already seen my body a million times.” I chuckled, suddenly feeling shy under his gaze.

“And I get starstruck every single time, my love.” I was helplessly blushing as he placed a kiss on my lips, and tingles erupted in my stomach. I never thought he could be this romantic and I was loving every single moment of it.

I enjoyed the sun while I could as we drove to the training field, knowing it would be one hell round.

We came to a stop and Luca and Giovanni were already present, ready and in training clothes.

“Hey, guys!” I said in a joyful tone with a big smile.

“Someone’s a little too happy about getting her ass kicked today.” Giovanni commented with a smirk as he crossed his

arms.

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“I came prepared today. Better watch out or I might just accidentally cut your face.”

“With what? Your nails?” He teased with a smug grin.

“No, with this.” I grinned as I held my hand out for them to see my engagement ring. Luca whistled, impressed.

“It will definitely be a clean cut.” He chuckled and gave me a

hug.

“Congratulations! I’m happy for you.” Luca smiled brightly.

“Thank you!” I beamed.

“Congrats, boss.” Luca turned to Damiano and did that half- hug thing where they slap each other’s backs. I always found it funny.

And when can I expect you to propose to my cousin?”

Damiano asked with his arms crossed and gave a scrutinizing look.

“I’m working on it.” Luca replied and scratched the back of his head. I couldn’t help but quietly laugh at Luca’s reaction.

“Shit, that’s huge.” Giovanni’s voice had me looking at him. He looked impressed, nodding slightly. He then looked at me and a smile was slowly starting to appear on his lips.

“Congratulations.” He took me by surprise with his words and even more when he half embraced me.

“Awh, you do care about me!”

“I don’t. I’m being polite.” Giovanni retorted. I rolled my eyes at him still trying to deny it as I watched him congratulate

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Damiano as well.

“Are you ready?” Damiano asked and I gave a nod, taking my ring off to give it to him as I didn’t want to risk breaking it.

Damiano refreshed my memory from yesterday’s training and then continued to teach me a few more skills and explain what do to. Once I was confident with it, I was now in the middle of the field, facing Giovanni, who was moving his neck from side to side.

“I’m not going easy on you.” He smirked.

“I don’t expect you to. Better watch out I don’t scratch your stupid face.” I snickered.

I was ready and confident as I faced Giovanni with a teasing smile. But it got wiped away completely when he moved faster than I could comprehend. One moment I was standing and the next I was grabbed, and roughly slammed to the ground. And all air got knocked out of me.

I slowly rolled to my side, coughing and gasping for air.

“Fuck you, Gio. That was personal.” I croaked out.

“Payback is a bitch.” I saw his smug grin and flipped him off.

Post Views: 7

? Views, Released on February 11, 2024

Althaia

“I thought you got kidnapped! I was about to send out a search party! But then Lorenzo told me Damiano took you to Italy. You could have said something!” Cara scolded me with a frown as I watched her all cuddle up in bed while we were facetimeing. I was outside by the pool, sunbathing and drinking my beloved iced coffee when I decided to call Cara but I had forgotten about the timezone.

“I didn’t even know he was taking me to Italy to meet his family. He made it a surprise.” I tried to explain to her.

“You could have sent a text or something.” She continued to sulk.

“I’m sorry, but I’ve been kind of busy these days.”

“Oh, yeah, I can see you’re so busy looking fucking hot while sunbathing in Italy.” Her sarcasm had me giving her a blank look.

“Busy with what? Fucking Damiano all day?”

“That too.” I wiggled my brows before we burst out laughing.

“I’ve been getting my ass kicked a lot lately. Damiano has been training me and Giovanni and Luca showed me absolutely no mercy! This is the first time in four days I’m getting a break.” I sighed. When they said they wouldn’t let me off easy, they truly meant it. And I now understood Arianna when she said Damiano and Lorenzo didn’t cut her any slack. They were all fucking brutal!

“Damn! Well, at least you’re getting better. Did you meet their father yet?” Cara smirked.

“Yup. Very interesting meeting.” I gave her a knowing look.

“Let me guess, he tested you?” She laughed.

“He sure did. He tried to see if I was a gold-digger and offered me money to leave Damiano.” I rolled my eyes but I wasn’t pissed about it anymore.

“He did the same to me! How much did he offer you?” Cara asked curiously.

“Like twenty million dollars. So ridiculous.”

“What the hell? Why the fuck was I only offered five?” She said completely offended, making me laugh at her reaction. Five million dollars was still a shit load of money.

“What did you do when he offered you the money?” I asked. That was the part that had me curious

“I grabbed the check and stuffed it in my bra and said ‘thank you, now I have your money and Lorenzo’s money to shop for.’” She grinned as she looked proud of herself.

“I would have loved to see that! Maybe that’s why he ‘only’ offered five million to you, knowing you would take it.” I chuckled and tucked a strand of hair behind my ear.

“Wait, what the fuck is that?” Cara now had her face completely up against the camera.

“Oh, this one?” I smirked and showed her my gigantic_ engagement ring. She did a dramatic gasp.

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283 Voucher:

“Holy fuck! He proposed?! And you didn’t tell me? Thaia, you bitch!” She jumped up in bed and practically screamed at me.

“I’m telling you now.” I smiled.

“Shit, that ring is gorgeous! And huge! Look, Lorenzo.” She rolled to the other side of the bed and Lorenzo came into view as he looked at the screen.

“Wait, he was there the whole time?” I asked, mortified.

“Uh, yeah? Where else would he be?” She gave me a ‘duh’ look.

“I don’t know, not there I guess.” I said a little embarrassed that he heard our not so filtered conversation.

“Hello to you too, Althaia. Sorry to disappoint you with my presence.” Lorenzo looked amused and I let out an awkward laugh.

“I didn’t mean it like that.”

“I see he finally proposed to you.” He looked at my ring and slightly shook his head.

“Of course, that bastard would get you a diamond that big.”

“You could learn something from him.” Cara said as she tried not to laugh when he turned to look at her with a blank look.

“Is that ring on your finger not big enough for you?” He raised a brow and she gave an innocent shrug.

“Anyway! Congratulations, Thaia! I’m so happy for you!” Her entire face lit up in happiness.

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“Congratulations, Althaia. Tell my brother he’s a dickhead.”

Lorenzo commented.

“Thank you, guys! And I will make sure he gets the message.” I laughed and bid them goodnight since it was late on their

end.

I placed my phone to the side when I saw Damiano in his swim trunks, making his way out to the pool. My eyes scanned his body from head to toe, having me drool at how fucking hot he

was.

He dove right into the pool and I went to sit on the edge with my legs in the water and waited for him.

“There’s my handsome husband.” I smiled once he resurfaced, looking all mighty and wet.

“How’s my beautiful wife?” He asked once he was close to me. I could never get enough of him calling me his wife, having my heart flutter every single time.

83.15%

Post Views: 7

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“She’s never been better.” I wrapped my arms and legs around him as he led me into the pool with him.

We signed the marriage certificate the day after he proposed and all it took was two witnesses for it to happen in Italy. Of course, Giovanni and Luca were happy to do that for us. Damiano’s family was thrilled to know we were engaged but we had kept being married a secret from everyone else as we just wanted to enjoy our new titles as husband and wife to ourselves for now.

“Good. Did you talk to Cara?”

“I did. She’s happy for us. And Lorenzo wanted me to tell you’ re a dickhead for getting me a diamond this big.”

“Because he can’t compete with me.” Damiano smirked. I slightly shook my head at him in amusement. Their relationship was funny. They would die for each other but they were the biggest competitors against each other.

“I should get out and start getting ready if I want to be on time when we meet Mr. Roberts.” I told him since he was swimming around with me.

“We still have time. Or we could just ditch him and do

something else.” Damiano started to plaster kisses on my bare shoulder.

“Such as?” I asked with a teasing smile, knowing what he wanted to do.

“My favorite activity; make a baby.” He continued his way up to my neck and his hand wandered down to between my legs and started to slowly rub me.

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“Haven’t you had enough?” I breathed out at the feeling.

“I can never get enough of my wife.” He growled and sealed my lips with his. Tingles rippled through my body and sent that excitement to me. A small moan escaped my lips when he slid a finger inside of me, getting my body hot and ready for him.

He ripped my bikini top, threw it to the side, and immediately took my breast in his mouth. I threw my head back, closing my eyes in pleasure, and pressed my breasts into him as his tongue glided over my nipple before sucking on it

“Come, bend over here.” I opened my eyes, seeing he had swum to the stairs. Damiano had me stand on the steps and bent me over the edge of the pool.

“Spread your legs.” I could decipher a bit of order in his tone, which had me smiling in excitement as I spread my legs for him. I felt him pull my bikini bottom to the side, rubbing me with his fingers before he slowly filled me up with his thick length.

“Fuck...” Damiano exhaled a breath as he slowly moved inside of me.

“I want you to watch me fuck you from behind.” His voice was husky and laced with lust as he pulled me slightly up against his chest with his hand around my throat, squeezing gently and making me watch our reflection in the floor-to-ceiling window in front of us.

“Yes.. Ah..” I moaned loudly when his hips slammed against me. It was such an erotic sight with him holding me tightly from behind as he thrust inside of me, again and again. The excitement was building fast in the pit of my core, his fingers

finding my clit, playing as it took me higher and higher while I watched his lustful expression in the window where his eyes

met mine.

“Keep going, baby. I’m hungry for your voice.” Damiano grunted out while he was savagely filling me to the brim with his length and having my legs shaking. We were surrounded by the sound of our skin slamming against each other and my voice crying out in pleasure at his rough fucking.

It didn't take long before I felt myself clenching around him as my climax was near. Damiano went deeper, harder, and faster as he groaned and watched me in the reflection. He gave two deep poundings before I felt his release inside of me. He kept going with his fingers rubbing around in circles with him still inside of me. He played around with my breasts, pinching my nipple as it sent a jolt of pleasure, sending me right to the edge and I climaxed.

My legs gave up under me and if it wasn't for Damiano holding me, I would have slumped into the pool.

"That was...hot." I rested my head on his shoulder while he held me by the waist and moved to sit on the step with me on his lap.

"You're fucking hot." He said, making me chuckle while he kissed my shoulder and caressed my body. I closed my eyes, sighing blissfully as I calmed down from my high.

"What are you thinking about?" Damiano's voice brought me out of my thoughts, and only now did I realize I had been smiling. I looked up at him as I wrapped my arms around his neck.

"Just that I can't believe you're my husband." He smiled softly

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and brought me in for a long, sweet kiss that once again had me completely melt in his arms.

97.85%

Post Views: 7

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Althaia

"I must admit, it is some exceptional wine." Mr. Roberts. complimented as he tasted the different wines.

Chiarina and Vico had done an amazing job in touring us around the vineyards and explained everything in detail on how they harvest the wine grapes and when to harvest them. I was so intrigued by it all and I got even

more fascinated when they explained how they measured the sugar, acid, and tannin. levels to base the style of wine they wish to produce.

“However, I’m not sure if I like the wine bottles. They are a little dull to my taste.” He commented and took a look at the bottles. Damiano and I shared a look and I mentally rolled my eyes as Mr. Roberts had been trying to drive the price down by finding ridiculous excuses. Such as how he finds the wine bottles boring. And I found it hilarious how Damiano

pretended not to hear him by checking his watch every time he made such comments. It was obvious Mr. Roberts wanted the products, he just didn’t want to pay the full price.

“Can I ask what you prefer, Mr. Roberts?” I asked with a smile.

“I do have several exclusive high-end restaurants that are beautifully and lavishly decorated. I want something that needs to represent that as well as I’m also selling a lifestyle.” He said as he swirled the wine around in his glass. I gave a slight nod and examined him, looking at the way he was dressed and the rings on his fingers. It looked like he and his wife were big fans of jewelry and preferably something that sparkled.

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“Can I please have a pen and paper?” I asked Chiarina which she immediately got for me. I thanked her as I grabbed the notebook and started to draw the ideas I had in mind. Mr. Roberts took a step closer to see what I was doing when I moved the pen around in quick strokes.

“How about something like this?” I showed him the quick sketch I had made, ready to present him with my ideas.

“I’m listening.”

“Imagine the wine bottles fully covered in any color you want. It could be gold, silver, or black but with a shiny finish.” I paused as I observed his expression. It looked like my words had caught his attention.

“I’m assuming your restaurants are dimly lit, which is ideal since you can make a display with these bottles and have lights shine on them. Like spotlights. It will be a wall filled with beautiful gifts that sparkle brightly to

intrigue your customers.” I had to stop myself from smirking when I saw his brows slightly rise when I mentioned the word ‘sparkle’.

“You can even make sure the wine is sold in bottles only, but they are allowed to keep the whole bottle to take home. The label will not be a traditional paper wrap, but an engraving with not only Mr. Bellavia’s brand name but also the name of your restaurant. It will be a one-of-a-kind design that benefits both parties as the customers will be advertising for both of you.”

I continued to present to him all the details I had in mind for a new bottle design, making sure to keep his interest at all times as I tried my best to explain why and how it was

beneficial for both businesses. I finished with a smile but Mr.

33.79%

Roberts was now slightly frowning as he stared at the drawing I had made.

He was quiet for a long time and I had no idea if I had screwed up with this idea of mine. I was starting to get nervous and I took a look at Damiano, who was also staring at the drawing with his head tilted a little to the side. I wasn’t sure what he thought of the idea with his blank expression, and I should probably have made sure it was even okay for me to even pitch such an idea.

Mr. Roberts took me by surprise when he let out a chuckle and shook his head. He turned to look at Damiano with a teasing look.

“I see why you brought her along.” He chuckled to himself before turning to look at me.

“You are making me spend money.”

“It is money well spent if you ask me.” I grinned and I felt the tension in my body melt away in relief.

“Not only are you getting some incredible wine but you are also contributing to building a community here.” I gestured to the landscape and to the people who were in the full swing of working.

“You are helping in creating jobs and housing for people who have lost everything but found a second chance here. To me, that is more than enough

reason to make a deal.” I smiled. Knowing the story behind Damiano’s vineyards made my heart warm as I gazed at the beautiful landscape and the people who were working in high spirits.

69 739

Post Views: 6

? Views, Released on February 11, 2024

“Good thing you kept her around. She deserves that ring on her finger.” Mr. Roberts continued to chuckle and gave Damiano’s shoulder a friendly pat.

“I would like to have a few words with your workers, and then we’ll talk numbers.” He didn’t wait for a reply as he went in the direction of the first worker he saw with the wine glass still in his hand.

“Good job, mia cara.” Chiarina said excitedly before she and Vico followed Mr. Roberts. Damiano wasted no time and wrapped his arm around my waist to pull me into him.

“Living up to your name again, Althaia, one who cares. You landed me yet another deal.” He winked with a smirk.

“I’m just trying to contribute a little. Besides, this place speaks for itself.” I chuckled and he smiled at me.

“Your idea is great. It will make his ass feel special.”

“I thought so, that’s why I said it would be a one-of-a-kind design only for him.” I snickered and he looked amused.

“That’s my girl.” Damiano said proudly and kissed the top of my head, having me slightly blush at his words.

“I should probably get going now since you’re going to talk numbers.” I checked the time on the watch around his wrist.

“My mother is waiting for you. She will give me another earful if I keep you here any longer. Luca and Giovanni are here to take you.” He said just as I heard them pull up. Damiano’s mother had been scolding him through the phone that he was keeping me all to himself. She then invited me to go out with her to shop since I still had to find a dress for Cara’s wedding.

“And this is yours from now on. It’s our shared account.” He pulled out a black card,

“No.” I immediately shook my head.

“You can’t fight me on this one, baby.” He smirked and I frowned.

“I don’t like spending your money.” Damiano let out a small sigh and cupped my face with his hand, squeezing my cheeks together as his face came closer to mine.

“We are married. You are my wife. There is no such thing as my money. It’s our money, understood?”

“Okay.” I gave in but had no intention of using it.

“If you don’t use it, there will be punishments.” He stated firmly. My brows went up, now intrigued but he slightly shook his head at me.

“Not the kind you enjoy. I will make you run.”

“Diavolo!” I glared at him and he gave me a devilish smirk.

“... Fine, I’ll use it.” I said in defeat and he let out a satisfied smile.

“Good. I will see you later, Mrs. Bellavia.” Damiano’s voice went low and tingles erupted in my stomach.

“Don’t take too long, Mr. Bellavia.” I whispered to him and leaned in for a small kiss.

He opened the backseat door for me and lightly smacked my ass before I got in, having me shoot him a wink.

35.64%

“And here I thought he couldn’t be more obsessed with you. Turns out I was wrong now that you’re married.” Giovanni said once we were off and having me smile about it.

“I still can’t believe it. I honestly thought we would never see him get married.” Luca commented.

"I'm happy we didn't wait. I've realized life is too short and you have to live life to the fullest, so why wait?" I said. The first time Damiano proposed to me, I thought we had all the time in the world, and that we should take things slow. We had just gotten together, then we found out I was pregnant at the time. I felt a little overwhelmed by how fast things were suddenly going. But now, after having gone through so much, I didn't want to hold back anymore. I wanted to marry him as soon as possible because he was my better half.

My soulmate.

"You're right. Tomorrow's not guaranteed." Luca agreed with a nod. I scooted to sit in the middle of the backseat, poking my head out in between the headrests and letting out a teasing smile.

"So, what's your excuse for not having proposed to Cecilia yet?" I asked and Luca let out a chuckle.

"Well, she made it clear she didn't want to get married before we even started to date."

"Oh, makes sense then."

"But lately, she has been subtly talking about marriage and I guess she changed her mind." He shrugged.

"You're going to propose then?" I asked excitedly and he took

62.02%

a glance at me before focusing back on the road.

"I have the ring ready." He smiled and I let out a squeal of happiness for him.

"I have no doubt it will be amazing when you propose!" I smiled big, feeling so happy for them.

94.66%

Chapter 210

Post Views: 6

? Views, Released on February 11, 2024

I looked at Giovanni, who had been quiet, and saw him slumped in his seat, focused on his phone.

“And whenever your girlfriend, Laila, is ready for you.” I told him.

“Yeah.” Giovanni then immediately looked at me and straightened up in his seat.

“I mean, she’s not my girlfriend.” He tried to cover up as he scowled but I just wiggled my brows at him.

“Oh, shut it! You’re totally a thing! You keep texting each other.”

“He called her last night and they talked for hours.” Luca spilled the beans to me while sending a smirk to Giovanni.

“Uhh” I teased and he gave us a blank look.

“Both of you, shut up.” He said grumpily, having us laugh and continue to tease him. One thing that for sure didn’t go unnoticed, was how his ears started to redden.

He was crushing so hard on Laila.

Giovanni’s torment ended as we came to a stop in front of a huge, beige building with a roof made up of two glass-vaulted arcades intersecting in an octogen of stunning colors. There was beautiful architecture all around Italy, but this one was beyond gorgeous.

I spotted Eleonora and her assigned bodyguards. It was the same two men who were present when Damiano’s father tested me.

“There she is, my beautiful daughter-in-law.” Eleonora greeted

me in Italian with her usual warm smile as she opened her arms and embraced me.

“How are you, honey? Is my son taking good care of you?” She had her hands placed on either side of my face and took a good look at me.

“Never been better! And don’t worry, he’s always taking good care of me.” I chuckled when she gave an approving nod.

“Good! If he doesn’t, you send him in my way and I will teach him a lesson.”

“Duly noted.” We both laughed and she linked her arm with mine and made our way inside.

“Is it always this empty in here?” I asked, looking around. The boutiques were open but there were no people present except for the ones who were working.

“Oh no, honey. I had them shut down for us to shop in peace.”

“You can do that?” I asked surprised and impressed.

“Of course.” She shot me a wink and led me to a gown boutique. As soon as we stepped inside, a well-dressed woman immediately walked toward us with her arms open.

“Buongiorno, Signore Bellavia!” She greeted Eleonora with kisses on each cheek.

“Buongiorno, Corinna! How have you been?”

“Wonderful! Oh, and who’s this with you?” Corinna looked at

“This is Althaia, my son’s fiancée.” Eleonora said proudly with

26.75%

a smile.

“Oh, could it be Damiano’s...?” She asked a bit unsure.

“Sì.” Eleonora’s whole face brightened and Corinna’s brows went up in surprise.

“How lovely! Welcome, welcome!” She suddenly embraced me and kissed my cheeks.

“Thank you.” I smiled at her cheerful greeting.

“Let’s find you some beautiful dresses, shall we?” She gestured for us to follow her to a different section of the boutique.

"I hope you don't mind that miss Miciela is still here. She was here earlier and suddenly, nothing impressed her when she found out you were coming." Corinna sighed.

"Oh, Miciela? Not at all." Eleonora dismissed with a smile. Corinna gave a small nod and we entered a room with large mirrors, couches, dressing rooms, and refreshments already on the table.

"What are we looking for?" Corinna asked once we were seated on the couch.

"I need a dress for Lorenzo's and Cara's wedding." I said, assuming she already knew about it.

"We need three new dresses for her." Eleanor said and sipped her champagne.

"Three dresses for a wedding is a bit too much, isn't it?" I asked.

52 45%

11

"Not only for the wedding, honey. I want you to come with me to an event tomorrow. The third dress Damiano asked me to get you for a ceremony there will be held soon."

"What ceremony?" My brows slightly narrowed. Damiano did not mention a ceremony to me.

"Time will tell. Now, up you go." She dismissed me but it still had me wondering what in the world that could be.

Corinna took my measurements and went to retrieve dresses for me to try on since I had nothing particular in mind. While we waited, I chatted with Eleonora and got to know her a bit more. She was such a warm soul and always had a soft expression and a warm smile on her face.

"Are you okay?" She looked concerned and held my hand in hers.

"I am... I was just thinking how you remind me of my mother." I couldn't help but smile sadly. I was missing her so badly. Eleonora mirrored my expression but didn't say anything and just gave my hand a small squeeze in comfort.

“All right, dear. Let’s have you try some gowns.” I turned to look at Corinna and my smile slowly faded when I saw she had returned with five, large racks of dresses for me to try.

75.70%

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