

Chapter 112

They're not taking my words lightly. And I was right before, they do not believe me. They don't believe that I'm their sister.

I felt like shouting at them the way I've done so many times in the past. How can my brothers not recognize me?

"Do you take us for f*****g fools?" Austin roars. "When Maya was taken from us, it felt like our lives were over. When we found her back, it felt like we were given a chance to breathe again. Are you trying to tell me that all this time, we've been calling the wrong woman our sister? Do you hear how absurd that sounds? You want us to believe that you are Maya when you look nothing like her. And why do you choose now to tell us who you are? You've had all the time in the world to tell us that you are our sister, yet you choose today out of all the days to confess. The same day that we are in the process of killing the man you are in love with. It feels rather convenient to me. I think you should save yourself the trouble and stop digging a deeper hole for yourself."

I cross my arms over my chest and narrow my eyes, "don't you dare take that tone with me, Austin Lance Vinci. Just because I don't look like her doesn't mean you have to act so foolishly, shouldn't you open your damn mind and realize that I'm just like her? Because I am her! If you know me at all, you should be able to tell by now."

He isn't happy at all with me. I can tell because I know when Austin is pissed. And right now he is. He thinks I'm trying to make him look like a fool. He should know that he didn't need my help for that.

"We are done listening to your f*****g lies!" Austin roars suddenly as he grabs hold of Kane's hair. He was done trying to listen to me.

My eyes widen when they all position themselves like before. This time, however, it looks like Austin would be the one to finish him off. I wasn't getting through to them. Arguing with them was not working. That worked better with Kane than it did with my brothers.

I had to act now if I wanted to save Kane.

"Stay back!" Kane shouts at me when he sees me begin to move towards them. "They will hurt you! Don't you dare f*****g come near us!"

He should know by now that I don't ever listen to him. Does he think I'll just stand back and let my brothers kill him? It looks like he also believes that I'm lying to Austin in hopes of getting him to release him.

"STOP!" I shout. My feet are moving quickly, desperate to stop this madness from happening in front of my eyes. I would not let them take Kane away from me. Not now. Not ever. And this would be the last time my brothers would ever hurt him. I would make sure of it.

I grab onto Austin's arms, "don't do this!" I scream. "Don't you dare hurt him, Austin! I swear to you that you will regret it if you do."

Austin grabs my arm to push me away.

"Don't you f*****g lay a hand on her!" Kane growls on the ground. Even though they pin him to the sand, he threatens them for my sake. He is still protecting me. I try not to become overwhelmed with emotions. I had the rest of my life to love and reunite with him. To tell him how happy I am to know that I'm his Maya. I didn't have to compete with anyone else anymore; he's always only loved me.

"I'm your sister Austin!" I scream. "I'm your sister! Not her! I'm the one that played with you as a child. I'm the one who you ran to take care of whenever I got a bruise. Remember the one time I fell off my bike? Remember who came rushing to my side? It was you. You were the one there for me. You were always more like a father to me than a brother. Look at me. Look at me and see for yourself. And James. You've always protected me from making the wrong decisions. You've always taught me that my actions would always have repercussions. Remember when I tried to sneak out, and you caught me? Instead of telling mom and getting me in trouble, you gave me a chance and told me how many problems my one action could have caused. I may not look like Maya now, but I have all her memories. I'm your sister. That bloody witch wiped my memories and turned me into this. But I'm the same Maya that you love. I remember everything now. Everything. You must believe that I'm telling the truth. Please believe me. I am Maya."

Austin and James have both frozen on their spots.

I grab Lucas by his ear and pull him forward, "do you believe now that I'm your sister, you ass?"

I've done this a million times in the past. Lucas and I always got on each other's nerves. It was a routine between us. And that wouldn't change anytime soon.

Their eyes are on me; this time, I know it's different. They didn't believe me before, but after my actions and everything I've told them about our past, they realize that it's impossible for me not to be their sister. This was exactly what I needed to happen. I was finally getting through to them. I couldn't begin to explain the sense of relief that washed over my body at that fact. I was so scared that they would never accept me. I'm happy that they were smart enough to know I'm telling the truth, even though it took them longer than it should have.

"Maya?" Austin whispers. There is disbelief in his eyes.

"Is it you?" James ask. "Are you our sister?"

I pull Lucas's ear harder than before, "ow!"He groans. "F**k what she looks like. I'll know this pain from anywhere. She's Maya. She's her."

Austin takes a step towards me and then another until he's inches away from me. He's staring into my eyes, searching for something. I'm not sure what he sees, but the tension in his body quickly goes away. I know the moment when he finally accepts me for who I am.

Before I can react, he pulls me into his arms, "how did I not recognize you before?" He whispers. "All this time. You were right there in front of us. I can't believe this. I always felt this urge to protect and tell you that I love you. Not once did I think it was because you were our Maya."

I return his hug, "it's okay," I assure him. "It's not your fault. That damn witch made me look like a completely different woman. She fooled everyone. Even though I couldn't remember who I was, I don't expect you guys to know either. And even if you had an idea, it would be impossible to confirm that I was her when I had lost my memory. Or, in this case, my memory was wiped completely, I didn't lose it, she took it from me. But I am upset it took you this long to believe me when it was clear I was telling the truth."

James pulls me into a hug next, "you put us through hell, Maya. Losing you was one of the hardest things our family has ever had to go through. After today, we are never letting you go again. I will not allow another person to steal you from us. We love you so much. Everyone would be so happy to know that the real you is here with us once more."

Lucas nods and grins, "you have a new face now?" He asks. "I have to say; you're better looking now. You should remain like this." He teases.

I roll my eyes and hit his shoulder. "I didn't pull your ear hard enough. Come let me do it again! Clearly you need to be taught a lesson if you're back to your stupid jokes."

"Hell no! Stay away from me with that deadly grip of yours." He warns.

And then I notice him. Kane. He's frozen on the ground. He hasn't moved at all. He's still in the same position my brothers had left him in. The look on his face makes my body turn to stone. I can't move either. Not when he's looking at me like that. I didn't realize before this that telling my brothers I was Maya would also break the news to him. I didn't want to say this to him. I wanted it to be perfect, but it's too late. He knows now. And I can't tell what he's thinking. I can see his mind racing along with his heart with this new information.

I can't read his mind, but I can examine his eyes. He looks like a man whose entire world has just brightened in front of him. He looks at me like I'm someone out of this universe, someone that doesn't exist.

My heart melts; I'm supposed to hate him with the memories that returned of us from the past. But I don't. I got to see a side of Kane in these past few weeks that made me fall for him a thousand times more.

He didn't know that I was Maya, and each day I got to see how my disappearance destroyed his world. Each day I got to see how much I meant to him. Each day I saw that he regretted everything he did in his past. And that's all I ever wanted, for Kane to realize his mistake and try to fix it. In the past, it felt like nothing he did would ever make things better between us. But now I knew that I was wrong. Seeing Kane from another point of view was all I needed to be able to trust him again. To be able to love him despite our past.

Kane's eyes soften, and I think he's going to say something. . . Finally. His silence was killing me. Did he also need convincing that I was his Maya? Would I have to do the same thing I did with my brothers? I didn't think I would have to go that far with him. From everything he's said to me in the past, he already felt the connection. He knew that many things about me reminded him of his mate. He knew but fought it because of the fake Maya. Ultimately, he still chose me, even before he knew who I was. Another reason why I knew I could trust him now. Even with a different face and body, Kane still chose me.

"Wait," Austin says suddenly before Kane can say what is on his mind. The tone of Austin's voice forced me to turn away from my mate and look at him instead. My brother's face is ghost white. Whatever is on his mind is making him terrified. What was wrong?

"If you're our sister. If you're our Maya. Then who the f**k was the woman pretending to be you?" He asks.

The million dollar question. There was only one person I could think of. And I was sticking with that theory. I didn't know who else would go through all this trouble than the witch who started it.

She also asked me if I didn't remember before she pushed me off the yacht. I assume that she was asking if I didn't recognize her.

"I think it has to be the witch. I can't think of anyone else that it could be. It has to be her." I answer him. "She's the one that would know I was Maya. She's the one that would want to cause the most pain to our family."

Austin's face has only gotten worse with my words.

"Roman," he gasps, and it looks like he's about to lose his balance. "My son. She has him. I left him with her thinking that she was you."

"Roman?" I ask in disbelief. His words send shockwaves throughout my body.

Is she that heartless to hurt an innocent baby?

"She told me she would take him to Luey." He growls. "How could I have been so stupid? She has my son! My son!"

