## Ex Husband 147

Ch	a	nt	۾	r	n	1	4	7
$\sim$	u	9	··		v	_	ᇴ	,

The reason I was even still in her life was because I was Noah's dad and also because I was being forceful. Otherwise, she would have tossed me in the cold like she has done with the rest.

"Maybe next time then" Kate gives him a sad smile.

She was on the brink of tears. About to lose it. Noah didn't know the drama that was going on. I couldn't let him see his grandma breakdown in front of him. He will start to question things and once he finds out

the truth of how Ava has been treated, he will blow.

Noah was loyal to his mom above anyone else. If he finds out how cruel we've been to instantly be considered his enemies and he will cut us off.

va, we w

"Let's go...I'm sure the rest are waiting for us" I walk towards them and gently push them inside the house.

Kate excuses herself and goes to the bathroom while Noah and I move to the backyard.

I internally groan when I realize everyone has shown up. Noah runs ahead leaving me back.

He greets everyone except Emma. He doesn't even spare her a fucking glance. He doesn't like her and he

isn't afraid of showing it.

"So glad you're finally here son" my dad claps me on the back.
He knows it irritates me when he does that, but he still does it.
"Yes" I mumbled already wanting this whole thing to be over and done with.
"You sure sound excited being around family" Gabe says sarcastically.
I glare at him. He doesn't even flinch. Maybe it's because he is my twin, but he is the only one who doesn't
cower at my glare.
"Come on, Rowan. Give me a hug" mom says smiling at me. "I've missed you"
I wrap one hand around her waist and hug her to me. "Missed you too"
We separate just as Kate comes back. Her eyes red and face blotchy.
Noah was already at the table with a plate chatting with Trevor,
He had invited Letty, but she declined. She didn't want to be around people who hurt Ava.
Her friendship and loyalty to Ava was causing waves in their relationship. Trevor was so fucking afraid of losing her since he was among those that really hurt her friend. The only things that was standing
"Can I talk to you, Rowan Emma's voice penetrates my ears.
Fuck. I had not noticed her approaching me.

"There really isn't anything to talk about" I say facing her.uh I have been avoiding her. I was still mad as hell about all the shit she said about Noah. More than that I just didn't want her around me. Not when all I can think about is Ava. I had loved the woman in front of me. Cherished her even when I was married to her sister. I was so fucking sure there was no one else for me except Emma. All I had wished was for her to come back. I had sworn that the moment she did and she accepted to give me a chance, I would divorce Ava and make a life with her. She's been back for months. Yet I can't find the love I had for her. The love that I had thought was eternal. The love I had sworn no other woman would have. I feel like a fool. One minute I'm professing my love for Emma and the next I don't want her near me. One minute I'm sure I hate Ava with all my heart and the next, I can't stay away from her. Everything about the two sister was doing my head in "Rowan.." "What?" I snap feeling suffocated. I see tears fill her eyes, but for some reason I just don't give a damn anymore. Not like I used to. Without giving her another look, I turn around and walk away.

For a while I played the what if game. What if I could finally have the woman I've always loved? What if we got married and started a family? What if everything played out the way it was supposed to years ago?

Those questions rang in my mind for years and the weeks when Emma arrived. I thought that this was our

second chance at our love, but I had been wrong.

Emma and I were too different right now. We would never work and even if we did get together years ago there is no guarantee that we would have been end game.

She'll always have a part of my heart as my first love, but it was time to accept the truth. My love for her is dead. It has probably been dead for years.