## Ex Husband 173

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Chapter 0173
"Yes please" she answers, looking at me tiredly.
I bend down and pick her up. Hugging her close to my chest, I begin walking.
"I said I needed help standing up, not being carried" Her argument lacks her normal fire backing it up. It
goes to show just how worn out she was.
I don't answer. Just pull her closer to me. It felt right with her in my arms like this. Like everything in the fucking universe was aligning itself. If I could stay like this forever, then it's a fate I would gladly accept.
As I walk with her to my car, I can't help but wonder. I've never allowed myself to be this close to her. To
hold her, hug her or kiss her. I always held a part of myself hidden from her. So it makes me wonder if, had I allowed myself, would it have felt like this? Like she was the missing piece of my soul?
I was just getting to my car when Brian stops me.

"What?" I growl at him. Couldn't he fucking see that I was carrying precious cargo?

"We were able to get most of the Reapers, but Reaper himself escaped" he says, delivering the bad news.

It makes me want to pound someone. The fact that he keeps evading us makes me fucking furious. As long as he was still out there, none of those I care about would be safe.



hospital.
I then call my parents to check up on Noah. The moment I got the call from Ronny, I asked them to pick.
him up. Once I make sure that he's safe I head towards the waiting room where I find Gabe, Travis and
Kate.
"Any news?" I ask sitting down.
"Not yet" Travis answers.
"How's Ava doing? Where is she?" Kate asks with worry.
"They took her in for checkup just to make sure everything is fine" I tell them.
We then stay in silence after that. Being here reminds me of everything that happened after James died It reminded me of how I was overcome with emotion after seeing Emma again after nine years.
Everything had been so surreal. In that moment, I had gone back in time. Back to the time when she meant the world to me. I had been so lost in memory that I hadn't noticed Ava leaving.
Being here also reminded me of when Ava got shot. She had been standing right next to me, yet I had dived for Emma instead. Ava became different after that event. It's like the Ava we knew had died and a new one had been born. I'll never forget how cold she was.

I couldn't blame her, though. I would have done the same thing if the roles had been reversed. I bet that was her wake—up call. It took seeing me rush to save Emma for her to see that I wasn't worth her time,

effort, or affection.

I stand up and begin pacing.

Somehow along the way, my feelings changed. Now she wanted nothing to do with me. Everything I did in the past, thinking it was justified, now stands in the way. It made everything I did suspicious in her eyes. It fucked up every effort I made, and it made sure that she'll never trust me.