

Ex-Husband's Regret by Evelyn M.M Chapter 57

Posted by



By

Still hurts
Emma

+15 BONUS

"I still can't believe that Ava is a Howell" Travis says as we enter our parent's home.

I was having a hard time with the news myself. Everything seemed so surreal. Like I couldn't for the love of me believe everything that has been revealed.

"I know right?" I mutter.

I thought I had an advantage against her. Finding out she was adopted was the best feeling ever. After Ethan told us that her parents were actually rich, every happy feeling was destroyed. I wanted her to come from a poor background. It would have given me an advantage over her even if she was rich right now.

If she had come from a poor family then I would always be better than her. Superior to her in a

way. The way our society works is that, you're respected more if you family has connection. If

your family has roots and comes from a long line of money. You may be rich and they will respect that, but you'll be respected more if you come from a wealthy family. 3

I had hoped that would be the case when Ethan told us she's adopted. I thought that maybe her parent's couldn't afford to raise her or maybe they were junkies and they decided to put her up for adoption. It would have been a big mark against her in our social circle and I would have been

there to see them whisper and gossip about her.

The jokes on me though. The Howell's may not live in our city, but they're known. Just like Rowan's family, they are really powerful and they run this country. If they announce that Ava is their daughter. Her social standing will go up. She'll be above me in every way. Worse than that, she'll be in the same standing level as Rowan. 3

"What are we going to do though? How are we going to get her to forgive us?" Travis asks breaking the silence and pulling me from my thoughts.

Was he fucking seriously right now? Why the fuck would I want her damn forgiveness? She's the one who should be asking for forgiveness. Begging me to forgive her for what she did to me.

"Why would we want her forgiveness?" I ask him bitterly. "Have you forgotten what she did to me?"

"I know and I remember, but like her parents said, it's in the past. She has already paid enough for her mistake, besides we learned that she was truly drunk"

7/1

+15 BONUS

I'd heard about that, but I didn't believe it. I refused to believe it. Ava had wanted Rowan for years, there is just no way that everything is a fucking coincidence. Even if she was drunk she still probably planned the whole damn thing.

"I will never forgive her Travis" I tell him firmly and angrily.

It's something I decided a long time ago. I wasn't going to let go of the bitterness anytime soon.

"Emma please, she's our sister. You have to let go of the past. You have to heal, Emma. Holding on to all that pain and anger isn't good for you" he tells me softly, coming to stand next to me.

"How many times will I tell you that I will never forgive her? Gosh Travis, I even wish that the bastard that Ethan had hired to kill her had done it before Ethan arrived to save her" I scream at

him.

Without waiting for a reply from him I storm upstairs completely pissed off. I get to my room and slam the door in anger. Why couldn't they understand that this isn't easy for me? Why couldn't they understand that it was hard for me to move on?

It still fucking hurts. Every day I wake up then go to sleep, the pain is still there. I breathe it in

then out. It has become a part of me. Meshed its-self deep inside me that I don't know how to live

without it. 2

I know it's toxic. I know it's destroying me, but I just don't know how to let go of it. I don't know

how to stop myself from hating Ava. She took everything from me. All I ever wanted was Rowan

and she took him from me. 4

I planned my life around him, so sure that we would end up together and she took that future

away.

Even now, when I came back and I was sure that things were looking up with Rowan, she had to

go and ruin it. Rowan now barely pays any attention to me. Since that day at the dinner party he

hasn't called or checked up on me. ↑

His focus has been completely on Ava. It makes me hate her more because once again, she's

taking him from me. I didn't want to admit it, but things have changed. Rowan isn't the same boy

that fell I love with me. 4

He may not know it, but I can tell. He has some feelings for Ava. I don't know exactly what he feels

for her, but the feelings are there. My biggest fear is that he's in love with her. I don't know what I

will do if that is true. It would really break my heart if that's the case.

2/4

+15 BONUS

Taking out my phone, I call my best friend.

"Hi love" Molly answers on the first ring.

I collapse on my bed as I fight back my tears. "Everything is falling apart Molly. I don't know what to do"

I felt drained. Tired. Everything was so exhausting and I felt like I was carrying this huge burden on my shoulders.

"Why don't you tell me what's bothering you, then we can work from there" she asks.

I proceed to tell her everything. Every single damn thing that has happened since our last talk. Just going over it again brings a sharp pain to my heart. I don't want to imagine living life with Rowan. I know we hadn't talked for nine years, but the moment we decided to try, things just felt right. That's before once again Ava came between us.

"Listen, Emma, I have to agree with Ava" she starts to say.

A frown forms on my face. "You what?"

"Just listen. I'm not Ava's biggest fan, but when you threatened her son, you crossed the line. Not to mention all the stupid lies you told Rowan. This isn't like you Emma, using such disgusting tricks to get Rowan to believe you. Those won't work, in fact, they may just push him further

away." she says in one breath.

"But..." she cuts me off.

“Second, from what I can tell, none of this is Ava fault. She seems to have backed off. I would have

if the man I was married to for nine years was still in love with my sister. Point is, the problem

lies with Rowan, he’s either confused about his feelings or he’s oblivious to them when it comes to

Ava” she pauses then continues.

That is something I didn’t want to hear. Pain pierces my heart when I think that Rowan may feel

something for Ava.

“Third, you have to heal. As long as you want Rowan then Ava will always be in the picture

because of Noah. It’s not healthy for Rowan and Noah to have both of you fighting all the damn

time. It will be draining and if it affects Noah, then Rowan will probably walk away from you”

I hear what she’s saying, but it doesn’t register. I don’t ever see Ava and I making peace with each

other because when I look at her all I see is that day when Rowan told me that he had slept with

3/4

+15 BONUS

I mean damn it, we never had sex because I was waiting for a perfect time but yet he slept with my sister. That is what I can’t get over. The fact that Ava knows how Rowan feels, but I don’t and I

was his girlfriend long before.

“Lastly Emma, you need to come clean” Molly says pulling me back to the present.

“Why would I do that?” I whisper, afraid of my secret getting out.

“Because it’s time to own up Emma and take responsibility, deep down you know that you’re not

being fair to him. Think about it.” she sighs in frustration.

She’s been telling me this for years, but I’ve been pushing it to the sidelines. Maybe she’s right, but I’m not ready yet. I will hold on to my secret for just a little bit longer. I don’t want to deal with

the disappointment that it will surely bring.

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Ex-Husband’s Regret by Evelyn M.M Chapter 58

Posted by



By

His hearing

Ava

+15 BONUS

Have you ever felt like you’re just living through the motions? Like nothing and no one around you

is real? I googled it. G****e said it was a form of dissociating. It happens especially with adults who had childhood traumas. It’s a coping mechanism where the person separates him or herself from what’s hurting or causing them stress.

After I read that, I realized that maybe Letty was right. Maybe I did need help. Professional help. Maybe I should start seeing a therapist. I know I have issues. Deep seated traumas that I haven’t been able to work through.

Sighing, I stand up and start pacing the room. My mind was racing and no matter what, I couldn't settle down. I've pushed everyone away since that time when everyone was at my house. I've refused to take calls or talk to anyone.

I just wanted to be left alone. To process everything on my own. Sometimes I feel the weight of everything falling on me and it's just hard. It becomes too much to handle some times and I'm left feeling hollow and empty inside.

My phones rings, cutting through the silent space. I check the caller Id, it was Brian calling. I know why. Today is Ethan's trial and he wanted me to come and testify against him. Just like I couldn't press charges, I also couldn't testify. (3)

I'm not condoning what Ethan did. He did some pretty messed up things, but I just can't bring myself to put a nail on his coffin. Every time I've thought about going ahead and pressing charges or testifying, every good moment we've shared comes to my mind and I immediately withdraw from the thoughts.

Ethan, the Ethan I knew, was good to me. He made me feel good, and not just sexually. He brought out a side of me I never knew and taught to me embrace it. That's why his betrayal hurts so much. 1

With Rowan, I always knew he didn't like me. Even when we were younger, he tolerated me because I was Emma and Travis' sister. Yes he hurt me and it broke my heart, but deep down I always knew it was to be expected. His hate for me, no matter how painful wasn't new.

When it comes to Ethan though, it's painful because I never expected he would hurt me. I thought we were on the same page. I thought that he felt the same way. I thought his feelings and actions towards me weren't tainted. It hurt because it turned out to be a lie. It hurt because I never saw it

+15 BONUS

I should have though. Everyone in my life, except Noah, has hurt me. I was now even doubting

Letty and my new found parents. How do I know they don't have ulterior motives? How do I know

they won't hurt me or betray me? How do I know they're not just playing me?

The fucking questions never leave me and it was driving me insane.

Tired of pacing and driving myself crazy, I take a hat, sunglasses, my car keys and then I leave. I

start driving not really sure where I was going.

I don't know how I end up at the court house, but it's only after I park my car that I realize where I

am. I look at my hat and sunglasses and frown. Maybe subconsciously this is where I was going all along.

"This is damn crazy" I tell myself as I put my disguise on.

I get out of my car and walk slowly towards the building. I was giving myself time to back out. I don't though, instead I walk through the doors. I wasn't here because I wanted to see justice get

served. I was here to see him one last time.

Nora and Theo managed to keep his hearing and wrong doings from leaking to the media. I can't

imagine the kind of damage that would do to their company image. Thought a part of me tells me

that they're doing that for Ethan's sake. 1)

I internally count the room numbers until I get to the one that was hosting Ethan's hearing.

Slowly, I open the door. Thank goodness it doesn't make a sound. I didn't want anyone knowing I

was here.

I quietly enter the room and take the furthest seat. I fix my disguise, just to make sure that

everything is okay before silencing my phone.

I watch as Chief Officer Brian gives his testimony.

Ethan was on the right with his lawyer. My parents were right behind him. On the other hand, the

prosecutor was on the left side.

This side had more people. Some of the cops were there. So were Travis, Letty and surprisingly

Rowan. I didn't expect him here. He did hate Ethan though, and Rowan is the kind who loves

watching his enemies crash and burn.

Looking at the setting, I realize that I was seated on Ethan's side.

2/4

+15 BONUS

"And how does your client plead against the charges by the police department?" the judge, a

woman who seems to be in her sixties asks.

Ethan whispers in his lawyer's ears before the man answers.

"Guilty" he says in a strong.

"Okay then, you may continue" she says and Brian continues.

Brian goes back to talking. He tells the courtroom how Ethan came here a few months back. That they got his transfer papers to their station. He didn't see anything wrong and he never questioned anything because of the transfer. It all seemed in order so they just took him. He also seemed to know what he was doing so they never questioned anything.

After him, next to testify were the three other cops there. Then Travis and finally Letty. Travis didn't say much. He only talked about Ethan's friendship with Letty. Letty talked about the role he played in my life and how we never suspected a thing. She also recounted the day we were

kidnapped. Not missing any details.

After everyone has testified the judge takes a break and then comes back after a while.

“There is no need to prolong this hearing given the accused has already pleaded guilty and

confessed to every accusation levelled against him” she begins saying.

“Ethan Howell, for the case leveled against you, you’re going to receive two years for

impersonating a police officer, two years for kidnapping, two years for falsifying documents and fifteen years for murder attempt with a possibility of parole. That being said, case closed” the

judge hits her gavel and stands up.

Something breaks in my heart at hearing his sentence. Twenty one years in prison is a pretty long

time. 2

When everyone begins standing up, I look at Ethan one more time before slipping out the door. I

rush outside just as a tear makes its way down my cheek. I honestly didn’t know what to feel.

“Did you really think I wouldn’t be able to recognize you, Ava?” his deep voice startles me. 1

I turn to find Rowan staring intently at me. His brows pulled down. His intense grey eyes

searching mine. I don’t say anything, instead I just wipe my tears. How the hell did he know it was

me?

“Are you okay?” he asks softly walking towards me.

3/4

+15 BONUS

He pulls the hat from my head and takes away my sunglasses.

“No” I whisper just as another tears falls down.

He pulls a strand of hair behind my ear and then wipes my tears away. Pulling me into his arms,

he hugs me close before resting his chin on my head.

“You’ll be okay...you’re the strongest woman I know. Look at all the shit I put you through and you’re still fucking standing. You came out on the other side stronger. You’ll fucking survive this

Ava” he tells me with confidence.

I stay there for a while crying, but pull away once I hear people coming out.

“I need to leave” I mumble. I didn’t want anyone seeing me here.

He stares at me for a while before nodding. “Come on, I’ll drive you. I can’t let you leave while

you’re upset”

I don’t argue with him. I just hand him my keys.

I look back just as Ethan is being escorted outside by the police. My eyes crash with his, but I

immediately pull them away and get into my car.

It was time to say goodbye to a love that was starting to bloom, but never got the chance to fully

blossom into something beautiful.

It was time to say goodbye to Ethan

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Ex-Husband's Regret by Evelyn M.M Chapter 59

Posted by



By

December 20, 2023

A surprise

It's been a month since the whole thing with Ethan happened. Am I okay?
Definitely not. Does it

still hurt? Fuck yes. Have I moved on? Absolutely not.

Things haven't been easy. Every day I find myself drowning further and further
in a sea of pain and heartache. I thought I was doing okay when I decided to
move on with Ethan. I realize now

that I was probably just lying to myself.

Ethan's betrayal has drenched up all the other pains I tried burying. All the
hurts I tried

forgetting. It was like I was now back to square one. Only thing is that I had a
few more new scars

marring my heart and soul.

I go through the days in a fog. Just living numbly. Time and things pass me by
because I wasn't

really living. I am just surviving. Taking each day one at a time.

Everyone seems to have moved on, but I feel like I am just stuck. Stuck in a
never ending cycle of

pain and heartbreak. My world right now is dark and cold and I feel all alone.

"Miss Sharp, are you okay?" Mark, one of my students asks me.

Fuck, I hate that name. It serves as a reminder that the people who gave it to me broke me. I

wanted to change it, but I didn't know which name to take. I didn't want to take the Howell's name

given I don't know that much about them. There is also the fact that I haven't spoken to them

since that day at my house.

"Yes, I am...focus on the classwork" I reply to him before looking down at the books on my desk.

I loved teaching, but nowadays it has become like a chore. Every day I come to work, I can't help

but wish the hours would fly by quickly so that I can go home. I wanted solitude but I wasn't

getting enough of that with Letty and Rowan checking up on me every damn time.

My students have noticed something is wrong. Classes aren't as fun as they used to be. I wasn't as

cheery as I was before. I was like a robot. Lifeless. Because of this some of my students have

started skipping class. I just don't know how to bring back the old Ava.

'Instead of trying to bring the old you, why don't you try to create a new version?' an internal voice

asks.

Was that even possible? Creating a new version. A version of me that is different from the child,

teen then woman who has been broken too many times to count.

+15 BONUS

Before I can answer that question or think too deeply about it, the bell rings
Taking my things, I

dash out of my class without saying a single word to my students.

I keep my head down as I rush to the teacher's lounge. I just want to breathe
a little before I have to go to my next class Luckily, no one stops me in the
hallway. I wasn't really in the mood to talk

to anyone

I get to the teacher lounge and freeze up. I was expecting it to be at least
somewhat empty, but it

was damn packed. I release a groan as I walk to the furthest seat.

My phone rings just as I sit down. Nora's name flashes. I've ignored their calls
not really sure how

to handle them. Especially given their relationship with Ethan I go to hang up,
but I press the

accept button instead

"Hello, Ava?" she calls out.

I don't say anything. Just release the breath I was holding.

"Please my dear, please don't shut me out. Don't shut me and your father out"
she whispers her

voice catching at the end.

I still don't say anything. I couldn't even if I wanted to. My mouth refuses to
move. To utter a single

fucking word.

"You're my daughter, Ava and I want to be in your life. I want to be the mother
I was supposed to

be. I know you're hurting and I want to be there for you. I already lost one child, please don't make me lose another. Losing you again just after finding you would kill me" she pleads, crying and it

breaks my heart.

Tears fill my eyes. Damn it. I've been so emotional these past few weeks.

"I need time" I tell her slowly. Trying to push back my emotions.

She releases a breath. "I'll give you time if that's what you need, but always remember that I love

you. I've always carried you in my heart even when I thought you had died. I hope you can trust

me and know that I'll always be here for you if you need me" 1

Gosh. It feels so good to be wanted, but I don't know if I can trust them yet. Only time will tell.

"Okay" I reply before hanging up.

I get what she's saying, but I just don't know. What if she's just looking for someone to hang on to?

2/4

+15 BONUS

the gap. That's what I'm afraid of. Of being used. Of being a second choice just like I was with

Rowan.

I wasn't being cold or anything like that towards them. I was just trying to protect the remaining

pieces of my heart.

"Damn girl" Carol says walking towards my table.

“Fuck” I groan under my breath.

She was a junior highschool teacher and she had a way of annoying the hell out of people. Mainly

because she likes to stick her nose in other people’s businesses.

“All that food” she looks at me in shock. “With the way you’ve been eating and how moody you are

nowadays, one would think you’re preggo” she finishes with a laugh. 2

I know she was joking, but I freeze in my seat. Her words ring in my mind like a broken record.

Driving fear through every fiber of my body.

She notices my behavior and frowns. “Are you okay, Ava? You have to know that I was just joking

right?”

I quickly stand up as panic starts coursing through my body. Rushing out of the lounge, I blindly ran through the hallway till I am out of the school. I immediately jump into my car and speed out

of the parking lot.

Shit. This couldn’t be happening. Please don’t let it be happening. 2

I try to think back. Try to do the math, but my mind is so jumbled that I cannot think straight.

I drive fast, not caring that I will probably be pulled for over speeding. I needed to confirm that

Carol was wrong.

Getting to the store, I park my car and rush out. Unluckily for me, I bump into Emma.

“Ava?” she calls a bit surprised. Probably because I look like a big fucking mess.

I ignore her and ran to the ladies section. Finding what I need, I take a bunch of them and quickly

move to the counter. Once I have my purchase, I leave.

I get into my car and soon I'm at home. I know the drill. So I drink around three glasses of water

and then head to my bathroom and take the test.

3/4

+15 BONUS

Breaking point

[Warning. The following chapter contains content that maybe triggering to some]

No This can't be happening to me. I can't be pregnant. Not now and definitely not with Ethan's

baby

"Why God?" I whisper as the tears fall down my face.

I wait for an answer but none comes. He doesn't tell me why this was happening to me. He doesn't

tell me why he had to make me this unlucky.

I try to pick myself from the bathroom floor, but I just don't have the energy. I'm completely

drained.

Was it my lot in life to have unplanned pregnancies? First with Noah and now this one. 2

I stare sightlessly at the tiled floor, thinking back. Ethan and I had unprotected sex once. I was supposed to take a morning after pill, but I completely forgot. By the time I remembered, a few

days had already passed.

I told Ethan about it. I expected him to be angry about it, but he wasn't. Instead he calmed me

down. We both reasoned that it was unlikely for me to be pregnant. 1

I noticed some changes, like my period being late, but I thought it was due to the stress I was

under. I never gave much thought to my increase in appetite since I always eat when I'm stressed

or sad.

The banging on my door startles me, but I don't get up. Now more than before, I didn't want to see

anybody. When the banging continues, I put my head between my knees and cover my ears. I just

wanted whoever it is to leave.

It becomes silent for a while. I breathe a sigh of relief but then start to panic when I hear the door

open and heavy footsteps walking upstairs.

Before I can do anything, like maybe hide, in case it was an intruder. A shadow fills the door way

to my bathroom.

"Ava?" Rowan's deep voices resonates through the entire room.

The moment my eyes meet with his, I start crying again. Of all people, why did it have to be him?

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Ex-Husband's Regret by Evelyn M.M Chapter 60

Posted by



By

“What are you doing here?” I ask through my sobs.

He comes and kneels before me, his eyes staring at me with an emotion I can't figure out.

“Emma told me she saw you at the store. She said you looked hysterical and that you bought a bunch of pregnancy tests before leaving” he tells me softly, his fingers wiping away my tears.

Damn it Emma and her big mouth! What the hell did she think she'll accomplish by telling Rowan that I bought pregnancy tests?

“She shouldn't have told you. It's none of her business neither is it yours” I hiss.

He doesn't react instead he asks. “Have you taken the test?”

I just nod my head as more tears fill my eyes.

“And?”

I don't answer him. I just couldn't bring myself to admit what the test informed me.

When I don't answer he surveys the room. His eyes land on them laying near the sink. He stands up and goes to check them. I should be fucking angry that he was violating my privacy, but I couldn't bring myself to care. Not when I had much more important things to worry about.

He comes back and this time instead of kneeling before me. He instead sits next to me.

“Congratulation. You're going to be a great mother” he tell me an odd catch in his voice.

I lay my head on his shoulder as I speak. “Am I? You didn't ever want to have another baby with me even though I wanted one desperately. I thought it's because you thought I was a bad mother”

I was always so insecure when it came to Rowan. I knew the real reason. He didn't want another baby because he was holding out hope that Emma will come back. I lied to myself because it was better to think he thought I wasn't a good mother than to acknowledge that he just didn't want a

baby with me.

"I've never thought you're a bad mother, Ava. You're the fucking best. One just has to look at the relationship between you and Noah to know it's true" he pauses. "Can I tell you something?"

I nod my head.

"I was always jealous of the bond you have with Noah. I still am" he confesses. I lift my head in

shock.

2

"Really"

+15 BONUS

I still can't believe that Rowan was right now sitting on the bathroom floor with me. The Rowan i

know wouldn't have cared at all, let alone wipe away my tears.

"Yeah" he answers

We stay in silence after that. I soon start feeling drowsy. I don't know when I slept or how he carried me to my bed. The last thing I felt before falling into deep sleep, was his lips on my

forehead.

When I wake up, it's midafternoon the next day. I find breakfast on my side table. Which was

probably cold.

I get out of bed and make an appointment with my gynecologist. I take a quick shower then get

dressed. I still felt tired and worn out.

I wasn't hungry so I ignore the food. I didn't know who brought it, but my guess is that it was

Rowan.

Getting into my car, I fire it up and drive as slowly as I can. Trying to delay getting to the doctor's office. I get there after almost an hour since I left. Taking a deep breath, I get out and walk towards

the private clinic.

There are women inside with their husbands. It takes me back to when I was pregnant with Noah.

Rowan never accompanied me to any of my appointments. I was even shocked that he insisted to

be with me in the room when I was giving birth, given he showed little care for me and the baby I

was expecting.

Pushing those away, I give the secretary my details and take a seat, while I wait for my name to be

called.

"Ava Sharp" I'm finally called after about forty five minutes.

I stand up and walk to Dr. Raven's office.

"Good to see you, Ava. So what can I do for you this fine afternoon?" she asks as she takes a seat.

"I was hoping to get an ultrasound. I took a pregnancy test yesterday and they were positive, but I

just wanted a confirmation"

I wring my hands. Completely nervous and nearing a heart attack.

316

+15 BONUS

“That can be arranged Why don’t you lay on the bed, while I set up things?” she asks kindly and I

nod

I get up on the bed and stare at the ceiling. I tried calming my beating heart, but it was of no use.

“Please pull up your top”

I do as she says, my hands shaking. She squirts the gel on my stomach and begins moving the

wand around.

“You’re definitely pregnant. Around three months along.” she says happily just as the sound of a

steady beating heart fills the room, as

I blink back the tears and grip the hem of my top. She sounded happy as she delivered the news,

but I wasn’t.

Everything after that is a blur. She cleans me up and gives me instructions. Talking about diets

and vitamins. I leave her office and pass by her secretary’s desk. She gives me a date for my next

appointment and prints for me the images of the baby.

After everything is done, I leave like the hell hounds of hell were after me.

I was numb as I drove. I had held hope. Hope that the tests were false. It’s know to happen that

they aren't accurate. I was hoping that it will be the same for my case.

Instead here I am. Driving, with the real proof that I was expecting Ethan's baby laying in the

backseat.

I drive for a while not sure where I am, until I finally park. I get out and robotically walk towards

the cliff.

How can I be happy about this baby? I didn't want him or her. I didn't want a baby conceived out of

deceit and lies. A baby with the same man that tried his hardest to end my life.

How can I look at him or her and not feel any type of resentment? I wanted to forget my time with

Ethan. This baby will make sure I don't. He or she will be a reminder of how his or her father

betrayed me.

All I had to do was to take a step forward. Just one step and everything will end. There won't be

any more pain, or sadness or heartache. I would be free of the constant darkness that was

drowning me.

4/6

+15 BONUS

I hear a cat in the distance, but I don't turn. I still don't turn when a door slams

"What the hell do you think you're doing, Ava?" Rowan's voice growls from behind me.

I don't turn, even as the wind picks up I feel its force. As if it was also urging me to make that one

step

"Ava, please. Step away from the cliff. Come to me" I feel his presence as he slowly approaches

me, but I don't step back.

I was so tired. Tired of crying. Tired of hurting. Tired of the constant fucking pain. I was so fucking tired of fighting. The pain was constant. Always there. Slowly killing me. Reducing me to

someone I didn't want to see.

"I don't think I can do this, Rowan. I just want it all to stop. I want to know what peace is because I haven't had it since I was born. I just don't have it in me to keep fighting anymore" I cry, feeling

worn out.

"Killing yourself isn't the answer" he says, just as he grabs me and pulls me back.

I had been so distracted that I didn't notice how close he had gotten.

"Let go of me! Let me go right now. Let me end this once and for all" I scream, thrashing in his

hands. Needing him to let me go.

"Snap out of it Ava!" he shouts back at me. Refusing to let go. "Think about Noah, are you going to

leave him motherless? Are you going to leave him with the pain of losing his beloved mother at such a young age? What about your unborn child, are you so fucking selfish and cruel that you

would kill an innocent baby? Your own flesh and blood" he shakes me, his face hardening with

each word he says.

At the mention of Noah's name. I stop fighting him.

"Rowan..."

"No! I don't care what you think right now or if you'll even hate me later, but I'm booking you an

appointment with a therapist. You're going to work on your issues and you're going to be the best

goddamn mother to your two children and you will love them both unconditionally despite who

their father is or so help me God, Ava, I will..." he doesn't finish his sentence but I get what he's

saying.

He was breathing hard, grey storms raging in his eyes. His hands tightening around me as if he

5/6

+15 BONUS

I sink in his arms. The fight completely leaving me He picks me up bridal style, holding me close

as I feel his erratic beating heart.

His cologne washes over me and I calm down.

"How did you find me?" I ask as he walks us to his car. @

"I will always find you, Ava" he replies firmly. "Always"

"Thank you, for pulling me back today" I tell him as I sink deeper into his warmth, feeling ashamed that I contemplated taking my life and that of my baby.

His reply is a soft kiss to my cheek then my temple.

I sigh. Rowan was right. Noah didn't deserve to lose his mom and my unborn child didn't deserve to lose his or her life at my hands. They deserve to live fully and have a mom that loved them so

much

I was going to make a couple of changes. One of them being pushing my bitterness and anger aside and facing Ethan. He needed to know that he was going to be a father. Which means I have

to make a trip to prison.

Last updated on December 20, 2023