## The Forced 136

Chapter 136

Sabrina's POV:

I watched the King's face for any sort of reaction. He didn't say anything or even shift his expression. He went on eating as if nothing had happened.

I gripped my spoon hard.

"Your majesty?" Caldan took my hand. "I said Sabrina and I are in a relationship now."

"Congratulations. I hope you both will be very happy together." The king said. His tone was void of any emotions whatsoever. "How do you like the soup? It's partridge, my new favorite."

My frown deepened. Congratulations? How do you like the soup That's all he said?

"It's good." Caldan said. "The meat is soft and flavorful."

What the fuck?!

The spoon clattered out of my hand and fell to the ground. I mumbled an apology as a servant

picked it up and took it away. the king and Caldan went on talking about the hunt like nothing has

"It is." He said and nodded. "We should go on a hunt sometime. Catch and cook our own partridge."

happened. He's not reacting at all. He didn't even glance at me once.

Deep down, in a tiny dark corner of my mind I had hoped that he would have shown some jealousy at least. Something aside the indifference he just showed.

I felt my heart beating in a weird way that he didn't show any reactions at all.

Tears pricked my eyes. Tears I stubbornly bit back. I bit my lower lip hard till I tasted my own blood. Hurt bloomed in my heart.

I haven't felt so small before. And very stupid too.

All the time we had spent together didn't even have any sort of impact on him. I'm dating Caldan and

soup.

he asks about fucking

leave this place. All my appetite was gone out of the window. And all of a sudden this didn't feel as satisfying as I had hoped. "Rina?" Caldan touched my arm. I turned to him. "What's the matter, you've barely eaten."

I forced a laugh. "I'm just happy. It's the butterflies."

I glared at the soup like it was the cause of my problems. My heart aches so bad. And I wanted to

He smiled. "Ah...I understand. I feel your joy too."

He shook his head. "That's okay. We'll find something to do."

I drank some wine.

"I hate the sight of blood." That was a lie. I will never be caught dead on a hunt with the two of them.

Chapter 136

"I'm sorry,"

"Have you been on a hunt before?"

I glanced at the king from the corner of my eye. My heart sank even more as I realized he wasn't even looking at me. One

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moment he's staring at me hard enough to bore holes into my skull. And the next he's ignoring me.(w)ww. $\mathcal{N}$ ô $\odot$  $\mathcal{E}\ell$ WôRm.Com

I rose to my feet, pushing my chair back with the force. "Excuse me." I said and bowed hastily.

I walked out of the dining room and didn't stop till I got to my room.

"Rina?" Caldan called but I didn't say anything to him.

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most certainly don't care for his jealousy.

About ten minutes later, a knock sounded on my door. I got up from where I laid in bed staring at the ceiling and walked over to the door. Caldan was on the other side, a kind smile on his face. "Rina, is everything okay?" He asked. "You left dinner so abruptly

This doesn't affect me. It doesn't. Not for one minute. I don't care if he acknowledges or not. And I

"I didn't like the soup. And I didn't want to upset the king by asking for something else." I lied easily through my teeth. "I'm sorry if I made you worry."

He extended his hand for me. "come with me."

"Where are we going?"

"My room."

My heart skipped a beat. But i covered my nervousness with a smile. "Sure." I said and took his

It's completely normal.

We got to his room. I couldn't deny how nervous I felt. But so far he hadn't taken off his clothes. Instead he led me to sit at his desk.

"No, not work." He shook his head and laughed. "Rina. I noticed that you've been really worried

lately. Perhaps you still find it hard to forget whatever happened back in that pack?" "1..."

He held my hand and crouched down in front of me. "Please. Don't deny this. I need to know, that

"What's this?" I asked with a small smile. "You want me to help you with work?"

hand. I'm his girlfriend now Such things are normal. Www. NôVeℓŴ(∘) Rm.com

means. Of course he would notice everything.

"Tell me this. What exactly happened that made the king throw you out of the palace?"

My heart began to hammer in my chest. Ah. I had walked into this one. Caldan wasn't stupid by any

"Rina, I need to know,"

"H-how about this picture?" I pulled my hand back from his and turned to the desk. I picked up the

portrait of him and the king. "You must really love him so much. If you have this here, right?" "Rina.

What happened?"

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"Caldan please. I don't want to....'

way I can know how best I can be of help to you."

Chapter 136
I stared at him. H

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right.

not dropping this anytime soon

"He didn't send you out?" He

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With a soft sigh, I dropped back the portrait. "I left. That's what happened. I told fhr king that I was

tired of being his slave. Over and over again. I think he got pissed and finally granted me freedom.

I mean...half of it is true anyway. As much as it pains me that I'm lying and in that same vein protecting the king, I am also protecting myself. if I tell caldan the entire truth, I'll rat myself out too. Because all this started when Acheron branded me a witch and I proved him

Then I got kidnapped. And sold to Alpha Devon. And then you found me."

ked. And I couldn't tell if he was relieved or not. His face was hard to read.

"No." I said. "He didn't. That's why he's not pleased to see me back."

Caldan nodded. I didn't see any disbelief on his face. He seems to buy this.

"I'm so sorry. You had to go through all of that." He raised his hands to my face and cupped both

"I...it's fine now. I'm okay. It's just taking a while to get used to everything as it used to be." I held his

I turned to face him. For a few seconds I hesitated, unsure of I wanted to or not. I decided, fuck it. I

I nodded and headed back to my room. Once I was alone, I felt like I could breathe. I touched my

Caldan's lips didn't make me feel any tingles. I felt nothing, it was just like skin on skin. There was

wrist. "I should be heading back to my room now. I'm really tired and should get some rest."

He helped me stand to my feet. "Of course. You should rest."

I turned to leave. But he grabbed my arm and pulled me back. "Is something wrong?"

His eyes moved to my lips and back to my face. "A goodnight kiss?"

sides of my face. "You don't deserve to suffer so much pain. For any reason at all."

Oh.

rose to my tip toes and kissed him. He kissed me back, his arms wrapped around my body and pulling me close. I was the first to pull back. "Goodnight." I said and took a step back.

"Goodnight rinay. I'll see you tom "

lips lightly.

Something was wrong.

It felt just like....just like the times in the past when Zayn and I kissed.

no flutter of butterflies in my belly. Nothing.

SEND GIFT