## The Forced 138

Chapter 138

Xander's POV:

I stared at Nifra. She stared back at me. There was no indication on her face that what she just said was a joke. She was completely serious about it..

"I'm not into her." I said. "There's no way I'm into Sabrina. So why will I need to be over her."

I wouldn't ever admit out lid that she could be right. Even at that felt called out that she would say it so openly and so plain.

"Caldan didn't finish his work. He needs to go back to it as soon as possible. That is simply all that I am saying."

Nifra nodded. "Okay. I understand."

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She instantly read the room. Very good. I wasn't ready to continue debating this with her. I was glad she easily dropped it. Well knowing her, that was one of her suits.

think?"

"Well?" I asked. "What do you

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"You're the king, your majesty. Whatever you want to do, you can do it. And no one would stop you."

Her words felt like they carried a different undertone. If I chose to interpret it as such, it was almost

like she was telling me to do whatever I wanted to do concerning Sabrina. "Is there something else behind your words?" I narrowed my eyes at her.

She shook her head. "Do you feel like there's something else behind my words? What could it be?"

"Nifra,"

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I paused. Of course she was taking about Caldan. I can do whatever I want.

"Your majesty I was referring to Caldan. Not who you think it was."

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"Very well. Please send for him."

"If you wish to send him on another set of missions, then you can do it. I'll do my best to make sure

your majesty, be kind to Caldan. We may not see eye to eye but...it's not his fault." And when I thought she had dropped it.

"I've heard you." It nudged me the wrong way how she said it. It wasn't Caldan's fault. Who's fault

She rose to her feet and bowed. As she turned to leave she paused and glanced at me. "Please

was it then?

"Thank you." She said and turned to leave.

Minutes later she returned with Caldan. The moment he walked into my study I instantly noticed Sabrina's scent on him. I remembered last night, when I had wondered if they slept together or not. And now he walks in with her scent all over him. Irritation flooded my veins immediately and I was tempted to send him out.

"Morning." I replied. "Thank you Nifra, you may leave now."

"Good morning your majesty." He greeted with a polite bow.

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She bowed and walked out but not before she gave me a weird look.

He obeyed without a word. "Is anything the problem?"

"Caldan. Sit."

"Why?"

I stared at him..

"You need to go on another mission tomorrow morning." I said, cutting to the chase.

"What I mean is..." He cleared his throat and sat up straighter. "Why is it so sudden? We agreed that

I'd have at least three months of rest in-between large missions like the last one. Did anything happen?" "This is urgent. And it just came up last night. Will you take it or not?"

He hummed to himself. "Well it is sudden but...I guess I don't really have a choice."

I waited for him to go ahead. He looked up at me and smiled. "Very well, your majesty. I'll take it.

Tomorrow morning I'll leave."

"Good. You should meet with Nifra. She'll make all the necessary arrangements."

Relief washed through me. That had gone smoother than I expected. I thought he would have fought me for it or tried to argue about it. But he just agreed.

"Your majesty, I have something else to say."

"I'm taking Sabrina with me."

I paused. The relief that has built up turned to dust. He will take Sabrina? That's what he just said now right? $\mathbb{W}$  $\mathbb{W}$  $\mathbb{N}$  $\mathbb{O}$  $\mathbf{v}$  $\mathbb{E}$ l $\mathbb{W}$  $\hat{\mathbf{o}}$ (r)(m).c $\mathbf{O}$  $\mathbb{M}$ 

"Why?" I asked.

believed them.

"Yes?"

without her. That's a mistake I'm not willing to make again. Especially now that we are together."

He said those words so innocently. There was no sign of a challenge in his eyes. He stated then as

if they were plain facts. It wasn't like he was saying those things to make me angry. He simply

"Well the last time I left for a mission, I regretted not taking her with me. Everything felt so dreary

If he has taken Sabrina with him earlier, would any of these had happened?

"Such trips aren't a trivial thing, Caldan. You can't just bring anyone along."

He blinked and frowned. "But your majesty...I'm not bringing anyone along. I'm taking Sabrina with

me. She isn't just anyone. She's stronger than you think. And if anything should happen, I'll be there to protect her. What a noble declaration. Does he want me to praise him?

He got to his feet and bowed. "Thank you." He said and turned to leave.

Once he was out of the door I got to my feet and began pacing the floors.

This isn't what I had in mind. This isn't how I planned for this to go at all. The plan was for him to be

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Not for him to take Sabrina with him!

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My thought process began to alarm me.

I paused to myself.

"Fine." I said. "You can leave now."

gone and out of the way. It was that simple.

What he said had a point. If he has taken Sabrina with him the first time, would any of this had happened? Perhaps in those months that he was gone I would forgotten all about her.

The rest of the day pretty much went to hell.

be easier for me to forget all about her and finally move on.

Somehow, this works in my favor.

and Caldan getting on my nerves. Mostly Caldan  $\mathbf{w} w \otimes \mathbf{n} \mathbf{o}(v) \mathbb{E}(1) w \otimes \mathbf{r} m. c_o \mathbf{m}$ 

Why did I want Caldan out? So I could make a pass at his girlfriend? Or what?

This plan is actually a good one. Let him take her with him. I don't care about that anymore.

By the time the sun had gone down, I hadn't been able to get any work done at all. I decided to take a walk and clear my head before it was time for dinner and I had to face another evening of Sabrina

Just as I stepped out of the palace, I spotted Sabrina. She walked with a maid who I guessed must

have been assigned to her. blissfully unaware of my presence, she chatted happily with the maid.

They laughed together about something, and it hit me just how beautiful she was. She brushed

And now. If he takes her with him and she does agree to go, wont that be a good thing? That way it'll

strands of hair out of her eyes, doubling over with laughter.

I should probably be on my way. I shouldn't walk up to her. She looks so peaceful right now.

tomorrow morning.

"Fuck it" I said to myself and turned back to her.

I turned to walk away. But then this may very well be the last time I see her before she's gone by

SEND GIFT

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COMMENT