

Forced Maiden For The Cursed Alpha King Chapter 17

Sabrina's POV:

I gripped the doorknob so tight I lost feeling in my fingers from lack of circulation.

She saw me.

That's all I could think of. She saw me. She saw me.

I maintained a mask of cool composure on my face, but deep inside I was shaking with fright. If there's anything I've noticed, it's that she seems to be the only one with unrestricted access to the alpha king.

She looked me up and down, depths of distaste in her eyes. "This isn't over." She said.

I didn't see lady Nifra much of the next day.

I went about my duties as I normally would. But today was slightly different. For one, I had way more work than necessary to do. And second. Blair was surprisingly off my case. That didn't mean she was out of sight though, however I would catch glimpses of her as I worked. She stood with two other high ranking girls her right hand women whose names I've come to learn were Cassandra and Jane and she would glower at me.

I like to believe I had given her something to chew on after yesterday. If she continues minding her own business, then we might even get along.

Never. We will never get along.

By evening, I still had so much to do.

Scrubbing bits of burnt and dried food off the bottom of the large cauldron like pots that were used for my hands were trembling. The tremor moved down my body, reminding me that I hadn't eaten much today. I raised my head from the pot I was scrubbing and sighed.

cooking. 1

I noticed

I still had six more of these huge pots to wash.

I mean, what's the point of these people being so cruel? If I'm gonna be washing all the damned utensils they should at least give me some good food, right?!

I huffed and turned back to scrubbing.

“Whatever did that poor pot do to you?”

I jumped, startled by the voice that had spoken. The pot slipped out of my hand and crashed to the floor with a loud bang

Standing right in the doorway was sir Caldan.

I jumped to my feet. “Sir Caldan!” I exclaimed, raising a hand to my chest. My heart was starting to race already. Whether it was from the sudden fright he gave me, or the fact that I wasn’t expecting him, I wasn’t sure. “You scared me.”

“My apologies,” He said with a slight tip of his head. His eyes scanned my face and he smiled, taking a step into the kitchen.

“Have you been standing there long enough?” I asked.

“Long enough to see you murder the pot with your eyes. He chuckled. He held his hands behind him, his eyes moving across the kitchen.

“Well, I have quite the line up to get done. And so if you would.

-Come

He turned sharply to me. “Come out for a stroll with me. The evening breeze is lovely. We can catch the sunset if we hurry

now.

I paused. A stroll? Did such a thing even exist again? Ever since I was turned to a slave all I’ve ever known was work.

Work which I unfortunately have to get done immediately.

“I’m sorry, sir Caldan, but I must decline your request. I have a lot of work to do.” I said as politely as I could.

“Leave them behind.” He said.

I frowned. I can’t do that.”

“It’s an order. Rina.”

My heart skipped a beat. An order? He’s giving me an order?

“Don’t worry about later. He continued. “Nothing would happen to you. I’m the one who ordered you to leave your work behind. You’re safe with me.

For some reason my mind drifted to lady Nifra. Her threat to stay away from Caldan rang pure and clear in my head. I looked around at the work laid out for me.

Honestly, I’m tired down to my freaking bones. And a stroll sounds absolutely lovely. And this work waiting for me does not.

Serious, what’s the worst that can happen huh?

I sighed. “Very well. I’ll come with you for the stroll.” I said.

He smiled, and his eyes lit up. He extended a hand for me to take

“I won’t kiss you,” I blurted out. “If you’re doing this to get that from me, then I’d rather spend the evening with the pots and pans

“That’s okay,” He said. “Let’s go now.”

“One second please, I walked over to the sink and washed my hands clean. I dried them on a dishtowel and turned to him. “I’m ready now.”

We walked side by side out of the kitchen, I respectfully refused to hold his hand. I didn’t want to send the wrong message across to whoever would see us. We walked through the open hallways that overlooked the gardens and central courtyard where the girls relaxed in the daytime.

Truly, the evening was most beautiful.

There was a soft breeze, the sweet perfume of blooming flowers laced in it. The sky was aglow with various colors of sunset, pink, orange, blue, purple, and the sun was like a cute orange ball slowly disappearing from the sky.

If I were an artist, I would have paused to paint a picture of the scene.

Once again my breath was stolen at the sheer splendor of the harem house. But then I remembered I was the one who scrubbed it from top to bottom and kept it in it’s pristine condition everyday and my mood soured.

I turned and glanced at Caldan, my mouth open to make a comment about the lovely evening. And my breath caught in my throat.

My cheeks turned red and I stopped dead in my tracks.

Something about the way the late sun rays shone on him, turning his eyes tangerine was stunning to me. He looked regal. his posture, the way he carried himself, the clothes, he looked every inch a prince. I looked down at my clothes, the charcoal stains on my drab and uninteresting gown, was that a tear too? And a stain?!

I looked like a beggar. I'm sure I'd look even worse if I had a mirror right now.

"Rina" Caldan called. He noticed I had stopped walking and crossed the space between us. I stared at him, held spellbound by his eyes, the sharp and soft angles of his face, the gentle furrow of concern on his brow, "What's the matter?" He asked.

"Why?"

"Why?"

"Why are you doing this, walking with me where everyone can see us? Why did you help me that day? Just why?"

He raised a hand to his face, tapping his chin as if deep in thought. "Where everyone can see? I'm not embarrassed to be seen around you, Rina."

"Why?"

"You're a very beautiful woman, Rina. You're hot, and you're a sight for sore eyes,"

I looked behind me, perhaps there was another"

"Rina" He was talking to

You don't believe me, do you?" He said with a heavy sigh. I turned back and looked at him, then I slowly shook my head. How can someone as beautiful as him, as regal as him, call me hot? I look like a gutter rat right now. And I'm not even saying that to Garner his pity, I really look like a rat now. That's a fact.

He motioned for me to continue walking with him and we continued walking side by side.

You intrigue me, Rina." He said in a whisper. "I can't stay away, however hard I try.

I laughed softly. That's a better answer than calling me hot. I can handle intrigue. I'm intrigued by you too." I said. "Like, who are you? Why's lady Nifra so hateful of you?"

"Hateful? Oh no no, she loves me."

"It doesn't look like that."

“I know her very well. That’s how she shows love, she’s a tough love kind of person. She isn’t the kind to hate. It’s not in her.”

I thought about it for a while. Shes not the type to hate huh? Unfortunately I can’t believe that

“You didn’t tell me anything about yourself.” I said,

“There’s not much to say,” he said with a shrug. “My life is the most interesting one out there.”

He didn’t say anything.

But I can make a calculated guess. He’s really handsome, and laid back too. He’s kind and friendly but sometimes exuded a dangerous aura. He must be someone really important. Perhaps at court or something.

Mill, I don’t dwell too much on it.

“We have to get to the roof for the sunset, He said. He took my hand and led me through a hidden flight of stairs I hadn’t noticed before.

The stairs led to the roof. I gasped and my eyes went wide. There was a garden on the roof. Filled with red roses. Their scent was heady and sweet, making me feel dizzy, Caldan took my hand and we walked to the edge of the roof top.

The sky was more than lovely up here.

“Beautiful,” He said.

“Yeah, so beautiful” I replied, a wide smile on my face.

“I wasn’t talking about the sunset,”

My cheeks feel so hot right now.

Caldan stared at me, a gentle look in his eyes. “Beautiful,” he said again, his voice a murmur.

The sun hid behind the clouds, leaving behind a pale golden glow. I hope he doesn’t see how I’m blushing like a schoolgirl right now. I didn’t know what to say, how to respond to such a compliment. So I turn back to the sky, hoping my face is hidden enough.

“I’d like to see you again, Rina.” He said.

“It’s not like I’m going anywhere.”

“Now I’m even more intrigued. He chuckled to himself.

It was then I turned to face him, “Sir Caldan,” I started off calmly. “I truly appreciate the breather you’ve given me this evening, But I cannot do this again. As much as I love this distraction, at the end of the day, I cannot run from my chores.

“Is that so,” He ducked his head to the side. I may have been imagining it, but he looked disappointed. When he looked up again, his smile was back. “Don’t worry, Rina. The next time we’ll meet, Ill make you an offer I’m sure you won’t be able to

refuse.”

I doubt it, but I don’t voice any of my doubts,

He took

my

hand and brought it up to his lips. His eyes met mine as he kissed the back of my hand. A shiver ran down my spine. His lips were soft and cool against the skin of my hand. I felt tingles, right from the spot his lips touched, down to my belly. Unable to keep the intense eye contact going much longer I looked away.

“Thank you, Rina. I had fun this evening because of you.” He said, still holding my hand in his.

In

“Me too,” I stuttered. “Thank you, sir Caldan.”

A strand of my hair fell out of uta bun and into my face. He raised his hand to my face and tucked the lock behind my ear. His fingertips brushed my ear shell and for a few seconds, we stayed like this. His hand moved to the back of my neck, his eyes burning into mine.

“I can’t do it!” I screamed, my eyes squeezed and kicked him. I heard him crash into a flower

pot

Oh shit! I’ve done it now!

Forced Maiden For The Cursed Alpha King Chapter 18

Sabrina's POV:

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"Me too, I stuttered. "Thank you, sir Caldan."

Caldan took me down the roof and left. He said he has to meet someone. My guess was lady Nifra, but I didn't ask. I clasped my hand, a small smile on my lips as slideshows of the evening fitted across my mind's eyes.

I walked back to the kitchen, and the closer I got the more dread settled in the hollow of my heart.

“Oh crap, I muttered to myself.

“I’m glad you’re self aware.” Lady Nifra snapped back.

She stood in the kitchen, her hands planted on her hips, a disapproving look on her face. “What did you think you were doing?! Leaving all this work being and going heaven knows where?!”

I thought about what Caldan said, about lady Nifra showing tough love..

She hates me. Period. This doesn’t have anything to do with tough love.

“I had to leave it I said, my chin raised an inch.

“You had to?!” She gasped in exasperation.

Sir Caldan ordered me to leave it behind.

The moment I said those words, a change shifted in the air.

“What did you just say? Lady Nifra asked, her eyes narrows.

“I said. sir Caldan ordered me to leave the work behind.

She paled. Her face turned white as a sheet, as if she had seen a ghost. I frowned, that wasn’t the reaction I was expecting. I had hoped she’d continue yelling, telling me that Caldan’s orders meant nothing and that I was a slave, nothing but a slave.

None of those things happened. Instead, she looked horrified.

“Caldan asked you to...” She said and trailed off. “And you went with him?” She asked.

I nodded. “Yes, I did.”

Her arms fell to her sides. “Oh dear Luna,” She whispered to herself. She looked up at the ceiling, a helpless look on her face. She muttered something I didn’t catch, but I heard my name.

“What’s the matter?” I asked.

She looked down and met my eyes. Hers shone with fear.

“It’s not like he ordered me to come with him, I mean, I went willingly. Out of my own free will.”

She chuckled darkly. “Free Will?”

I frowned, even more confused. "If something is wrong could you at least tell me?! You've said nothing to me that could be the least bit helpful! You said stay away from him, and you wouldn't provide any reasons. And now you're..." I paused and inhaled a large amount of air. "What is it that you have against him? What is it that you can't tell me?"

She stormed over to me. "Caldan is his majesty's younger brother. She hissed through clenched teeth. "And he's his majesty's complete opposite. Caldán is a psychopath, Sabrina. You do not want to be around him."

A psychopath.

Lady Nifra has lost her mind.

It was night, I had been dismissed from the rest of my duties. I took a shower and I laid in bed. The time ticked by and by, and I was unable to sleep.

I couldn't get it out

of my head. The terror in lady Nifra's normally icy eyes. The tremor in her voice. Her words, Caldán is a psychopath.

"That's insane." I scoffed. I shifted so I was lying on my back and facing ceiling. "She's crazy if she thinks he's a psychopath."

The complete opposite of his brother, the alpha of alphas?! Has Nifra even seen the man? How can she say that Caldán was worse than him?

The alpha of alphas is the real psychopath here. How can one person be so evil and cruel? All my sufferings in this pack are because of him.

I'm not that surprised that Caldán is his brother—I mean, I had always suspected Caldán was some sort of royalty I'm stunned at is the comparisons.

Caldán is the only one who had shown me an ounce of kindness in this place. Lady Nifra just wants me to continue suffering. She wants me to get the full experience of being a slayer

— what

Hated. Ridiculed. Spat at. Insulted

Sir Caldán is challenging all of those and she hates him for it. She hates me even more for it. She doesn't want to see me so much as smile or feel happy for any reason whatsoever.

I'm nothing but a slave to her. And I should suffer as such.

Jokes on her." I muttered in anger.

She's just paranoid. And she won't tell me the real reason to stay away from Caldan.

And I hate that.

I'm not going to stay away from him. And that's fucking final.

I didn't see Caldan till two days later.

He came by the laundry room where I was doing all the laundry and again "ordered me to leave the chores behind, and come for a stroll with him. This time, I didn't argue at all. I dropped the laundry basket and followed him.

"You seem happy to see me," He said with a smile as we walked through the hallway.

"I am," I said honestly. At the back of my mind I felt a twinge of guilt. I was hoping that lady Nifra would see us, and see how much I was flaunting her "requests". I offered Caldan a smile.

I am happy to see him. He's pretty to look at, and I get a chance to breathe after a whole day of slaving away.

"When were you going to tell me you were his majesty's brother?" I asked the question that had been plaguing on my mind. "Ah, she must have told you huh?"

"She did, but that's not the point here. You didn't tell me."

I have an identity outside of being related to the alpha of alphas He looked at me briefly. "I am my own person, and it doesn't matter who I'm related to.

I nodded. "I guess so, you want people to see you for who you are and not who your family is."

"Bingo. You're really smart."

I rolled my eyes playfully. "If I had such a powerful brother, I guess I'd...."

"Enough talk about my brother. He turned to face me. "Tell me about yourself. Who is Rina?"

I paused in my tracks. Who is Rina? Good question. I don't know

There's nothing a

about me. I'm a slave. That's all."

"Just a slave? Is that what title you want to give yourself?"

It's what Tam

"But not who you are. Or who you used to be"

I met his eyes. "Not exactly. I used to be a Luna, but that's a thing of the past now."

"A Luna?" His eyes widened. "No wonder you're so beautiful.

Forced Maiden For The Cursed Alpha King Chapter 19

Xander's POV

"Your majesty," Nifra said. "I have the reports as you had requested."

I looked up from the pile of papers laid out in front of me up at Nifra. She had her head bowed, her hands clasped in front of her.

"Are they still together?" I asked through grit teeth.

Nifra nodded. "Again and again he convinces her to leave her duties and go out on these walks with him! She has done the same today. What are we going to do about this, your majesty

I rubbed my temples. I couldn't fall sick, but I swear right now I feel a headache brewing inside my head.

Caldan and Zayn's horrible mate. I hadn't ever seen this coming. The day that my brother would be seen hanging around a slave. To the point of abusing his powers just to free her from her duties.

"Send for Caldan." I said to Nifra.

"Yes your majesty

She left and returned a few minutes later with Caldan.

"I see you've fixed up the place," He commented dryly as he walked into my study. He looked around, nodding to himself. "You should really watch your tongue, Nifra snapped in annoyance. She glared at him, her lips in a deep frown. Caldan turned to her and smiles. "Do you hear my brother complaining about my tone?"

“That’s enough,” I said, before this would turn into a full blown argument between them. It wasn’t difficult. One minute they’d be across the room and the next they’d be at each other’s throats crying for blood. “Nifra, thank you. I’ll send for you later.”

She bowed, but not before she flashed a cold look at Caldan, Without any further words she turned and left.

“Will you sit down?” I said to Caldan. He leisurely strolled around my studio, touching things and nodding to himself.

The roses, were they your idea? You’re thinking of romance?” He asked, cocking his head to the vases of roses standing in a corner. Red roses, white roses, and the rare black ones.

They roses were placed there by Nifra, to supposedly brighten the atmosphere.

“The roses are none of your concern, Caldan. Sit. We have a lot to discuss.”

“Does this have to do with the Shadow pack and their shenanigans? I have it under control. They will be sending over the new offering before the week runs out and...”

“It’s not about the shadow pack. Caldan, sit your ass down.”

Caldan stared at me, his brow raised in surprise at the casual tone I used on him. “It’s brother to brother today, right?”

“Yes,”

“Very well,” He said. He walked over to my desk and took a seat. He flashed me a smile. “What is the matter?”

That slave girl that you’re hanging around what exactly do you think you’re doing?”

For a moment, he didn’t say anything. He stared at me, his eyes void of any emotion. Sometimes I felt a spark of annoyance with how shamelessly he could look at me and hide his emotions from me.

“Her name is Sabrina, not slave. Caldan said.

“I don’t care for her name. I’m telling you to stay off from her.”

“Why?”

You’re interrupting her duties. She wasn’t brought her to lounge around and do nothing all day.”

“I’m sure you can get someone else to play the role she’s playing, someone else to slave away at the harem house. Why is that so hard to do? I get that perhaps you have something against her, but I don’t. I enjoy her company, she makes this place a whole lot easier to deal with.”

His words struck a cold in my cold heart. I frowned, deciding tactfully to ignore everything he said and focus on his last Statement. “Are you saying you don’t like it here?”

He blinked, “That’s not the point. He suddenly sighed. His shoulders slumped for a few seconds, hesitation flashed in his face. He looked like he was about to say something then decided against it last minute. He looked at me, his face a cool mask. “What I’m saying is, I don’t know why you hate her so much.”

“She’s a terrible person, Caldan. That’s all you need to know.”

Caldan looked at me, his eyes lost and so blue that for a second all I could see was the tiny baby my father presented before me and said; “this is your brother, we’re calling him Caldan. Do you like him?”

I shoved the memories out of my mind.

“I don’t want you to destroy yourself.” I said calmly. “Leave the slave alone, Caldan. You are my brother, you are royalty of the highest breed. She is not. Whatever you think you’re doing, whatever this fling is, end it.

Caldan met my eyes, defiant, cold. ‘Is that an order, your majesty?’

An order. Laughable. I have never ordered my brother to do anything. While I’m aware that I can simply end this, compel him and tell him what to do, I can’t being myself to do it. I want him to have free will as much as possible.

Him being here benefits me too.

“It’s an advice,” I said. “I don’t want you near her.”

“In that case, I’ll decide if to take your advice or not.

He’s not listening to me, My words are flying over his head, none of them taking root.

Frustration sparked inside of me. What does he even see in that slave?! That deplorable woman who does nothing but—lie over and over again? Thinking about it makes me want to grab my brother by his shoulders and shake some damn sense into him.

He's young. I tell myself. He's bound to make mistakes. I should let him be, I shouldn't try to dictate his life.

But this is Zayn's mate we're talking about.

"You may go, I said. This was pointless. Nothing was achieved at all.

Caldan got to his feet. "This has been a most wonderful conversation, brother. His lips twitched.

"Get out

"Okay fine! No need to be angry! Damn!" He huffed. "I'm going now." He walked out, the door closed behind him.

That had gone to hell.

I mindlinked with Nifra and told her to come. She returned with a tray of aromatic tea

"You didn't have to," I said.

She poured the tea. The smell of the herbs heady. "I figured you'd be stressed after your conversation with him. It doesn't always end well." She said with a sigh. She served me the tea and stepped back. "What did he say?"

"You can guess." I took a sip of the tea. I can't understand Nifra's obsession with tea. It's just colored water. I recognized this one it's supposed to be peppermint or something.

--

"That boy," She scoffed. "He doesn't know anything"

I lowered the tea cup and turned to Nifra. "Did she do something?"

"Nothing she hasn't done before" She looked at the

tea cup c

cup on the table. "That didn't do much

"It didn't." I admitted.

She sighed and closed her eyes briefly. "Shall I send for Blair?"

"Before that, how about what I asked you to look into?"

“Yes, my apologies, it skipped my mind.

“What did you find?”

“She doesn’t have any traces of vampires in her lineage. According to the scouts, both parents are wolves. She grew up surrounded by wolves and has never left her pack.

I nodded, processing what Nifra had said. That was a complete dead end. The mystery of how she resisted my compulsion still stood

How can a mere wolf, an omega at that, resist my orders?

Nothing made sense anymore.

“Send for Blair. Tell her to come prepared.” I said.

Nifra bowed. She took the tray of tea with her and left.

I’m sure I have a headache now.

I

Talking to Caldan had done nothing but make me agitated. Do have to get rid of that slave? Send her far away from this place?

As much as it sounds tempting enough, I don’t want to do that. She Has a debt to pay for the year long crimes she committed against my pack, and against those young girls. Civing her a merciful death is too kind for a person as herself.

A knock sounded on the door, “Your majesty, may I come in?”

Enter

Blair walked in, a smile on her face. “Your majesty.” She said and bowed, lifting her skirt too high for a courtesy, She raised her head up and walked over to me, her hips swaying and a pre in her step?

Is she trying to hard to be cute right now? I resisted the urge to roll my eyes.

“How have you been, your majesty?” She asked. She walked closer and stood in front of the desk. Without waiting for me to reply, she continued speaking. “It’s been so long since you last sent for me, the joy I felt today. I can’t compare it to anything!”

She’s trying too hard.

She crossed over the desk to my side. She tilted her head to the side and pouted. I missed you so much.”

“I know you did,” I replied, hoping it would shut her up.

It didn't

“Really?! That's wonderful! I had the most wonderful day today. I finally completed that oil painting I told you about, I'm waiting for the last layers to dry and I'll bring it to you.”

I nodded, a small sound of acknowledgement in my throat.

“And the resin flowers I made are also so lovely! I turned them into earrings but...I don't have them on me

on me right now.” She touched her ears, a look of hurt in her eyes. “Oh but that's fine! I'll wear it next time. Silly me, I've spent the whole time talking haven't I?”

I didn't know what to say to that

She moved closer to me and went down on her knees. Good thing she remembered this time to keep her hands to herself. “How may I be of help today, your Majesty?”

“Get up, I commanded.

She rose to her feet and began taking her clothes off. As she slid the gown down her body, she looked at me with a lustful gaze. I glanced down at her body, she had a stunning body.

I rose to my feet and walked over to her. Her eyes gazed up at me expectantly. I turned her around and pushed her into the desk

She had the mind to fucking giggle.

I rolled my eyes.

She wiggled her hips, a low whine in the back of her throat. I touched her slit, a grunt of satisfaction in my throat when my hand came off stained with her slick. She also remembered to follow orders and prepare herself which in other words meant to finger herself in preparation because I didn't care for bullshit like foreplay. The last time she didn't, safe to say it didn't end well for her. I unbuckled my belt just enough to get my cock out and rub it along her wet folds.

“Your majesty!” She called, her voice low and breathy. She pushed her hips back.

“Behave I warned, smacking her hard and she whined, back arching and legs trembling.

She moaned, her body trembling under my hold. I slid into her, eliciting a long drawn out moan from her.

Forced Maiden For The Cursed Alpha King Chapter 20

Sabrina's POV:

"Do you like it?" Caldan asked, his eyes peeking at me from under his long lashes.

I nodded, pressing my lips tightly together. Dear heavens this is the most delicious cake I've ever had in my life. The flavors are like an explosion on my tongue, and it's taking a lot of my self control not to moan in delight.

Don't do that Sabrina, that's weird.

But the whole day has been weird. Caldan asked me to dinner as opposed to the usual evening walk we took. I was shocked, really. But I didn't say no. He took me to the rose garden rooftop which I had learned earlier belonged to lady Nifra, "She doesn't know we're here," Caldan had whispered to me. "As long as we don't hurt her precious roses, we'll be fine."

I made a mental note to not even harm a single leaf on the roses. They looked lovely, and in the evening sun they looked even lovelier. There was a table laid out with mouthwatering dishes that made me realize how hungry I was. Everything tasted divine.

But nothing compared to the dessert.

"It's good," I said once I had composed myself enough to speak. It's really good, whoever made this deserves to chef.

Caldan chuckled, his head dipped low. "That's because the royal chef made it."

My eyes went wide. "What?! The royal....for me?"

"Yes, for you," He said with a smile. "You said you liked chocolate!"

"I said that only once, and it was a mere passing remark. You remembered it?"

be the royal

He nodded, picking up his wineglass and taking a delicate sip of the red liquid. "I can tell when things are said as a joke and when they aren't.

Calm down my heart. Calm down. It's not a big deal that he remembered, you remember small details too.

I looked at the plate of half eaten chocolate cake, and my stomach twisted. Did I deserve this? A dessert made by the royal

chef?

“Rina Caldan called. “I know what you’re thinking right now, and all want to say is yes,”

I looked at him and smiled. “How do you know what I’m thinking?”

“You’re thinking about how amazing the cake is, and you want a second serving.”

I laughed softly. I do want seconds, yes. So I’d say you’re right on the money.”

I ate more of the cake. It’s so good I could cry.

“Don’t you want some wine? Caldan asked,

“No. I can’t risk getting drunk”

I’m a terrible drunk. Memories from the last time alcohol touched my lips flashed through my mind and I shuddered. I had banished those memories to the deepest darkest part of my mind, and with them I had learned to never taste alcohol again.

“Tell me, did you have a good day today? Caldan asked, sipping more of his wine.

“You don’t like cake?” I asked, noticing he hadn’t touched his except for a very tiny bite.

“I’m saving mine for you.” He said and winked at me.

My heart went badum.

I ducked my head to the side so he wouldn’t see the blush on my cheeks. Damn him and his silver coated tongue. So smooth, and for what?

“That’s kind of you,” I said. “I should…”

“Sabrina!”

I turned to see lady Nifra approaching us. She was fuming, her brows pressed down together as she stormed over to us. she paused at our table and glowered at me.

“Yes. lady Nifra: 4—said.

“Come with me.” She said curtly and turned to leave.

Caldan grabbed her wrist and pulled her back. She swerved her head to him, her glare increasing in intensity. "Come on Nifra Caldán said. "Rina and I are busy now. Can't whatever this is wait till later?"

She grabbed his hand and threw it off her. "You and I are going to talk about this, Caldán," She spat. "For now, his majesty has

sent for Rina."

My heart dropped into my stomach. The e sweet treat I had turned to acid, it's lingering taste on my tongue became sour. What the actually fuck?! What does he want from me again?! Why?! Why can't he just let me suffer in peace?! Lady Nifra turned to me. "Well, would you continue sitting there?"

I looked at Caldán. His expression had turned Stony as he stared at Nifra, his eyes took on a darker shade of blue like the sky before a bad storm. I guess even he cannot flaunt the king's orders.

I sighed and got to my feet. "Sir Caldán, I called making him turn to me. "Thank you, for the wonderful dinner. But I have to go now."

"It's fine Kina," He said and smiled. "Ill see you soon,"

I smiled too. "Goodnight."

I happened to glance at lady Nifra and she had a disgusted look on her face.

I followed behind her. "You have a beautiful garden," I said, trying to start a conversation with her.

She glanced at me over her shoulder. "Thank you"

"What does his majesty want from me?" I asked.

I don't know You'll find out soon

enough" She said.

Crap That doesn't mean anything good

My first thought was he doesn't fit the aesthetis of this garden looking

The sun had gone down by the time lady Nifra took me to his majesty. My jaw went slack the more I followed! around my surroundings it was like I was in a different land. I had no idea how huge his wing was, but one thing was for sure -Everything was pure luxury. She took me deeper and deeper, and we passed massive hallways with the

walls adorned with paintings and intricate carvings, huge crystal chandeliers hung from the high ceilings bathing everything in sight in a warm golden hue. The air smelled of a blend of rare spices and exotic flowers. Or was it incense?

Imagine being the one that cleaned this place. I felt sorry for whoever it was.

Lady Nifra led me to the gardens, his Majesty's private gardens.

I had seen the black garden filled with dark plants in their various shades of blue, purple and dark red, but this garden was filled with pink plants. A strange perfume hung in the air, carried with the night breeze.

Right in the center of the garden was his majesty.

He stood with his back turned to us, his eyes gazing at the cherry blossom tree beyond the garden, or maybe at the sky, I wasn't sure. I always knew he was a huge man, but somehow I didn't expect him to be this huge. He stood so tall and imposing, his hair billowing as if a draft was permanently under it. He was dressed in all black, mismatched with the soft pinks and pastels of the garden.

"Your majesty," Lady Nifra said and bowed. She forced me to bow too, which I thought was pointless because he can't see it, right? "I have brought the slave." She said.

I resisted the urge to scoff. "Your Majesty," I greeted,

"Thank you, Nifra. You may leave now." He said without turning

Lady Nifra flashed me a stern look that screamed "behave." Then she turned and left.

I've never seen pink roses in my life. Yet there's an abundance of them here. They smell different. Girly, and sweet. like soft vanilla and a hint of cinnamon.

What is he doing in this garden?

Do I even care?

He hasn't said anything to me. He just stared off into the distance. I miss that chocolate cake, I should have finished it and taken a second plate. Who knows when next I'll have such a treat Should I pluck a rose form here? They're so pretty.

... asked you a question."

I blinked out of my spiraling thoughts. I turned to him, he still hasn't turned. "Tm sorry, I didn't hear you."

He turned his head slightly, his eye sparking red. "Nifra has informed me that you skip your duties to go carousing with Caldan

Carousing What in the actually fuck does he even mean by that!

Anger stirred in my belly, mingled with hatred.

"Your majesty, "I maintained a calm voice. "I do not go carousing with sir Caldan. And as for my duties, I finish them at the end of the day.

He turned back to the tree, or sky.

Slaves do not get to leave their duties behind and go for whatever it is you believe you're doing with Caldan

"We take walks, your majesty. I fail to see the harm in that. And can't refuse an order from Sir Caldan

His hair stopped flowing

I took a step back, alarmed at the change in the atmosphere. It felt like even the flowers stopped giving their sweet perfume. The air felt charged, stagnant, even the plants holding their breaths. I held my breath too, my heart rate spiking

"I—I'm sorry," I bowed. I didn't mean to sound like that."

"Are you not afraid of him?" He asked.

Everything went back to normal. I exhaled, and so did the plants. Afraid of Caldan? Why will I be? Does the alpha of alphas. also think that his brother is a psychopath? As Nifra had said?

"No your majesty," I said. "I'm not afraid of Sir Caldan. He's very kind to me, and he treats me like I'm a human being and not a machine. He talks to me, he makes everyday in this place easier to wake up to."

He turned and looked right at me.

My breath hitched in my throat and my chest tightened. Oh no, what had I said to anger him this way? Did I say something Wrong?

A tiny voice at the back of my mind told me I had said everything wrong.

"Get out of my sight. He spat with vitriol.

I bowed and hurried out of the pastel garden,

I made my way through the halls, recounting the path I had taken to get here. I noticed my hands were trembling, and I was shaking too. I felt suffocated by the halls, by the magnificence of the place, by everything. I walked so fast I was almost running at this point, eager to leave and never return.

Once I was out of the wing, I exhaled a large sigh of relief. I grabbed my chest and heaved, drawing in as much oxygen as possible into my lungs.

Thank the goddess that's over." I whispered under my breath, a smile of relief stretching on my lips.

"What are you doing here?!" A loud voice boomed over me.

I raised my head up and saw Blair. She glared at me, her arms folded under her chest.

"Hello to you too. I mumbled.

She looked around, as if to double check her surrounding and then looked back at me. "Like that answers my question?"

"Oh, I looked at the hallway I had run out of. "I just came back from seeing his majesty."

Blair scoffed and rolled her eyes. "You're joking"

"Why?" I cocked my head to the side.

"You can't possibly remember his majesty."

"Oh, but I do" I said with a smug smile.

"You fucking slave! What did you discuss with him? Why did he send for you?"

None of your fucking business, Blair. And even if I wanted to re you. I twirled a strand of my hair around my fingers and pretended like I was reminiscing about a romantic moment. I sighed dreamily and smiled. "I can't possibly tell you, I'm shy."

Blair turned red with anger. Oh, that worked

"Listen here. She took a step forward and glared at me. "Know your place here, and don't you dare get any ideas about the king. Soon enough, he'll wipe your memories and you'd forget you ever met him."

Oh, that's what happened! I had always wondered why the girls didn't remember the king. He wipes their memories huh? That's crazy. How is he even able to do that?

“And also,” Blair continued with a smug smile. “You can never measure up to me. Guess what, he’s still sated after a night with

I looked at Blair. “I don’t care about you fucking him, and Actually, this is my...fourth time seeing him. And look, no memories have been wiped.”

She gasped, anger plastered all over her face. “You...”

“You’re really pathetic Blair. Taking pride in being nothing but a fucktoy

She raised her hand to slap me. I grabbed her wrist and shoved her aside. She nearly lost her balance, catching herself in time before she fell. She glared at me, her chest rising and falling erratically.

“If you continue to tempt me,” I said calmly. “Watch me steal your king and wrap him around my fucking pinky.”