

CHAPTER 27

Chapter 27 SABRINA'S POV:

I woke up some hours later, passed out cold on the marble floors of a random room I had been cleaning till my eyes turned blurry and my body gave way.

I sat up, processing my surroundings. My head thumped with a bad headache. There were buckets of water around me, and a couple of rags and mops. I had been cleaning before I passed out. One look at my hands and I grimaced. My palms were covered in painful blisters. Red and sore and irritated from all the cleaning chemicals I had used.

Over and over again. Till all the work I had done was redone three times.

My entire body felt heavy like lead. The lack of windows in the king's wing made it difficult for me to tell the time. I gathered myself up and took all my supplies with me, as much as I carry without hurting my hands even more.

Since lady Nifra wasn't waiting for me, in her hands my schedule for the day, perhaps I could take the day off.

I was dead wrong.

As I packed up the supplies and turned to leave, there was lady Nifra walking into the room.

"Did you enjoy your nap?" She asked, disapproval all over her face. She threw my list of duties for the day at me. She didn't even wait for me to reply her. "Since you've wasted all your time sleeping, you have less time now to get those done. I suggest you get to it immediately."

My expression turned sour as I watched the list fall to the ground. I snapped my head back up and glared at her. "I can't do it." I spat. What does she think I am? Q machine?!

She huffed. "Like that's any of my concern. If you don't want to do it, take your grievances to the King himself. Tell him you won't do it."

I gasped, taking a step back. Her eyes narrowed and her lips curled into a cruel smirk. She knew. She knew that the last time I had opened my mouth to the King, he gave me more work than ever to do. That's how I ended up passed out for crying out loud! She knew I couldn't tell him anything. And she didn't care. If anything, she took delight in my suffering.

The cold hearted heifer!

Without another word, she turned and walked out.

I threw the supplies on the floor. In my anger, I knocked over a bucket of water. Now I had more work to do. I let out a scream of frustration that bounced off the walls.

My luck is just the absolute worst.

After blowing off some steam with screaming, I picked up the list of duties angrily. At the end of the day, all I could do was scream and still obey. And every single thing I had to do was entirely new. I was hoping that maybe it would be the places I had done so at least if I have some time to rest. But no.

Fuck me sideways. If I survive a week of this, I'll be the happiest ever.

"Miss Sabrina?"

I paused my scrubbing of the walls and turned. A guard stood behind me. "Yes?" I asked, annoyed that even a second out of half day was being wasted answering to a random guard

He handed a piece of paper over to me. "This is for you."

I stared at the paper and then his face. "What is it about?" I asked deadpan.

"I don't know. It's for you. I was instructed to give it to you."

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I stayed warily at the paper in his hands. It was a light green piece of paper that looked that the paper was very expensive. Slowly, I reached out and took it from him. The paper felt very smooth in my hands. But it came off stained with a bit of blood from my bleeding fingertips.

"Thank you." I said.

He nodded and walked off.

I opened the light green envelope. Inside was a creamy ivory piece of paper. I took it out and glanced over it.

It was a letter.

"Oh," I said to myself. A smile lit up on my face as I read the words written down in excellent penmanship.

Dear Rina, pardon me writing you a letter. Meet me at the black gardens a little after sunset. I look forward to seeing you. Caldan.

I grinned to myself and pressed the letter close to my chest.

My heart fluttered and I felt butterflies in my stomach.

The one bright spot in my dreary life. Caldan and our sunset walks.

I folded the letter and hid it secretly in my pockets. Now all I had to do was hurry up so I'd meet him on time.

Suddenly, the pile of work I had to do was now like a hurdle I had to overcome in the nick of time.

The rest of the day went by. I did my very best to avoid the King. And thankfully the only time I saw him was when I had to dust his library. I quickly greeted him and hurried about my way. And as usual, he ignored me.

Not that I was expecting anything less.

I was still very angry at him for what he did. And I prayed to the moon goddess that a day would come when I would be able to give him a piece of my mind without severe repercussions. Perhaps it will never happen. But it doesn't hurt to wish.

I worked through the day, the weight of Caldan's letter weighing heavily in my pocket. A subtle reminder that the sooner I finished and left this place, the more time I'd have to spend with Caldan.

But, a letter?

Perhaps there was a surprise he planned for me if he had to send a letter. The thought made me shiver with excitement. I wonder what kind of surprise it will be.

Once I finished with my duties, I hurried back to the harem for a quick shower. I changed and headed out to the death gardens.

"Where are you off to in such a hurry?"

I froze in my tracks..

Lady Nifra walked up to me.

"Well, where are you going?"

"I wasn't of the impression that I now reported my movement to you, lady Nifra." I said calmly. "I'm done with my duties, and I'm going for an evening walk" What does she want now? To torture me some more?? I'm very sure I did all the work she tossed at me in that list. I didn't miss anything. I made sure of it.

"That mouth of yours will get you in trouble, Sabrina." She said, clicking her tongue in disapproval. Nothing I haven't heard before.

"Ah, that's a lot to look forward to." I said sarcastically.

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I pied, raken back by the sudden question. "My family?"

"There's nothing worthwhile about www family" I said with a thick swallow. The question of my family had memories rushing

my "I to my mind. My parents, his Paru. My me at Crue pack The horrible memories. tw

Leelouched my the rightly and forced myself to keep a neutral expression on my face, ho far I hadn't had any reason to think about my family, about the bettavalt sultered at their hands Now she comes up and ask me about them. Talk about opening a healing wound

"I see She said, nodding to herself. "Have you ever had a relationship with a vampire? Or are there any vampires in your

What the hell is with all these questions

Alarm bells go off in my head. Loud and glaring. This sudden talk about my family, and about vampires? What the actual "Vampires"

"Yox. Have you ever been in a relationship with one? Or do you have friend or family"

"I don't know." I said. "Is there any reason to these absurd questions?"

Answer my question, Sabrina. This isn't the time to play coy"

"I don't know, lady Nitta. And even if I did, I wouldn't tell you"

She grit her teeth. "Leave." She said, frustration clear in her tone.

tion with one? It doesn't matter the connection,

I tried not to overthink what had just happened and continued on my way to the death gardens.

I arrived at the death gardens, the sun already down.

"Sir Caldan?!" I called out, walking deeper into the garden. I could feel the wide smile on my face, it was hard to mask my happiness at this point. "Are you there?" I called out.

I heard shutting in the black rose bushes ahead. My smile widened and I walked closer.

"I've been looking for..." My words died in my throat

a man walked out of the bushes. A man that wasn't Caldan.

I took a step back, a bolt of fear zapping to my heart. "What is." I back tracked, but my back came into contact with something.

Or rater, someone.

Two men grabbed me from behind, each one of them holding my arms tightly.

"Let me down!" I screamed, thrashing and struggling against them. The man in front of me, another guard judging by his outfit, smirked at me.

"Sorry to do this dear," the said and stepped closer to me. "Hold her down? He said to the guards holding me. He took out a piece of black cloth and advanced on me.

A blindfold!

My heart thrashed madly in my chest. A blindfold! What the hell is going on right now? Am I being kidnapped?

"No!" I cried, screaming on top of my lungs. I moved my head away, but that was hardly any problem for him. He grabbed my

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chin and forced the blindfold over army eyes, tying it a bit too tightly at the back.

"I can't believe you fell for this," He said with a deep chuckle.

The next thing I felt was being dragged out of the garden, a large hand clamped over my mouth and silenced my screams. I bit down on his hand as hard as I could but that only earned me a punch in my stomach. I cried out, bile rising in my throat.

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I realized I had been set up. The letter was fake, and Caldan wasn't waiting for me at the death gardens.

My heart sank into my stomach as the guards dragged me to where I couldn't tell. It couldn't be the harem, because then

would see us.

everyone

The blindfold was ripped off my eyes after a few minutes of dragging me and I was thrown to my knees. I cried out as my knees hit the rough floor and ripped open.

"Wow, it really worked!"

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I raised my head up to see Blair standing above me. She had a whip in her hand, a mocking smile on her lips as she stared at

1. me.

"Are you really that down bad for lord Caldan that you'll believe any thing with his name on it?" She asked.

I got to my feet, wincing at the pain in my knees. "You've done it now Blair."

"Have I?" Blair asked, swinging the whip in front of her. "This is a lesson, and I sure hope you learn into this time." She lashed the whip as hard as I could but that only earned me a body. as it landed on my chest. Before I knew it, the whip was coming down on me, all over my body.

"I'm going to tell everyone that you stole from me again!" Blair cackled. "And they'll believe me! They will!"

Running was futile. The guards caught me and threw me on the floor without the least regard for me. Blair continued to laugh about how ill be beheaded this time.

I curled up in ball on the ground to protect myself. Over and over again the whip came down on my skin. It hurt. All strength sucked out of me.

Along with the pain, anger started to grow. Even as my life force drained away from me, I held onto that anger.

Blair will pay for this. I swear it on my life.