## Four or Dead by GOA

Chapter 77

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Wyatt

"Set him up in the storage room." I tell the guys when we arrive back at the Motel

Emma stands to the side and watches the men drag Zane away. I "How do you want to handle this?" I ask, stepping up beside her

"Honestly, I don't know. My father hurt me because it made him feel better to have someone to hurt or blame, but this is different. I'm different." She says, her eyes locked on a point off in the distance

She's at a crossroads. One that everyone like us faces at some point. I know because I went through the same thing when I joined Zane's crew

"What if he wakes up and I can't do it?" She asks, turning to look at me

I don't answer her right away. Instead, our eyes lock and I reach out to brush a strand of hair from her face and tuck it softly behind her ear

"No one will think less of you if you can't. Thats why you have us, so you don't have to do anything if you don't want to." I say softly and her eyes drift shut and her shoulders drop a little, like my words have lifted a weight off her

I move to take my hand away, but she opens her eyes and looks up at

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me with unspoken words. She feels lost right now and is hoping I'll tell her what to do, but I can't

See, there is a point in the life of an abuse victim where you either fight to overcome what you endured and become a stronger and better

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person or you succumb to the darkness that grows inside you. Some turn that darkness into something ugly, like hurting and killing for no reason other than to feel something other than pain. Then there are those that use that darkness and harness it into a weapon. A lot of the guys here have taken theor screwed up lives and turned all that pent up anger and resentment and use it for one purpose, as a bullet. They focus it on each order their leader gives and enjoy every second

I decide it's time to tell Emma a little more about where I came from, so I move my hand to entwine it with hers. 7)

"Come on, you can rest a little while. The guys will get everything set up." I say, leading her back to her room

As soon as we get inside, she drops on the bed and I take a seat on one of the chairs at the table set up near the window. She lays down on her side facing me and I smile a little at how small she looks

"I told you about how I saw you at school and was curious about you, but there was a little more than that. One day I saw those girls that would hang around Asher bullying you and they ripped your sweater. I saw the scars and bruises and I knew you were like me. It was the first time I had seen another person at school with injuries like mine. Unlike you, though, the person who hurt me was my mother. The one persona

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child thinks would love them unconditionally, but for me she was the monster of my nightmares. It's also made Zane's offer more appealing

It would be an escape from my mom, but as you know, it wasn't an escape at all. One day, my mom pushed me down the stairs when I was

trying to leave and I broke my arm and cracked a couple of ribs. So I asked Zane if I could stay with someone from the crew. He agreed, but I had to prove to him I was loyal to him. He handed me a gun and brought in one of his men. I was told to shoot the guy. I had no one and nowhere else to go, so I did it. When it was done, he smiled and told me a place for me had just freed up. From that day on I had to do things I never thought I would do just to survive and soon it became less and less hard." I keep my eyes low as I spill my truth to her, but when I'm done, I expect to see disgust in her eyes

She takes in a breath and moves slowly to sit up. I can't help but shift nervously for a second, but then she's standing and moving toward

Instead, I see...understanding

me

"Im so sorry you had to go through that, Wyatt. I wish we could have known each other, so you didn't have to be alone, but I'm here now

and you won't be alone again." She says and now I am the one releasing a breath of relief. "I hate even more the things you went through

to help and protect me. You saved my life. I know that Zane would have killed me if it weren't for you. There is no way I can repay you for

I lift my head just a small amount so I can look up at her. She hesitates for just a second before her hand comes to rest against my cheek

something like that, but I will try."

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Before I can tell her she doesn't owe me a damn thing, her lips brush softly against mine. She moves away slightly to watch my reaction, but the moment only lasts a split second before my hand cups the back of her neck and I pull her to me again. This kiss differs from the one I stole from her at Zane's cabin. It's more

I want it, but because she wants it, too.

When I Kissed her before, it was because I was desperate and hadn't seen her in so long that I wasn't thinking straight. Now, she is the one kissing me and not because

her. I put more distance between us, so she knows I won't try anything more, but she doesn't move. She still stands in front of me, examining me for what I'm not sure

Emma

Something is wrong with me. I know it the instant the urge to kiss Wyatt gets too strong and I give in. What really surprises me is the feeling

Maybe it's because she has no one else to comfort her in this moment or because she feels she owes me, but it feels like a gift either way. I

hope one day she will care about me for more than gratitude, but for now, it has to be enough. So when she slowly pulls away from me, I let

after the kiss. I don't regret it or feel wrong for wanting to kiss him. It feels right. Any other girl might find Wyatt a bit too much after everything he's told me, but to me he reminds me that if things had been different, I wouldn't have been alone. Maybe if Wyatt had come to me and we found strength in each other, then maybe we could have run away and be free of the demons in our life. To me, he is a missed

opportunity in a life I'll never know. One where I was seen and loved by someone with no pain. I

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So, yes, I wanted to kiss him because in all that he is; I feel like he's already mine. He was my shadow, and now he is my savior. I°

because his eyes grow wider. I "Emma..." He starts to say, but I cut him off

I don't care what people think or have to say about me; I know what I want and who I want. Maybe I'm crazy and a little greedy since I

I must say those last words out loud while I was looking down at him

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already have four guys, but I don't care. This is my chance to say screw the world and do whatever the hell I want. .?)

"Wyatt." I say before connecting our lips
again with more force this time.

He pulls away from my kiss but his arms are tight around me. "I'm yours. I always have been."

Another Dark Angel in my life

I'm not going to think right now, I just want to feel

I smile

Now I need to claim my dark side and finally become one of them

Actually, I think I prefer red. I')

That thought sends a thrill through me, and that fear I felt about facing Zane burns away for good. His won't be the only blood I spill, so I better get started

A angel of fire and blood. That's what I will become in this city, their reckoning. \

"Take me to him. I'm ready." I tell Wyatt when we finally pull away from eachother

I laugh at that. Yeah we are going to get

along just fine. \\*.

He smile is dark. "As you wish." I