

Chapter 30

🔒 Rose's pov 🔒

I could feel Luke stiff beside me. He tugs me closer to his body, hands on my waist as he whispers. "Remember act like we're a couple."

I nodded not knowing what to do. He moves his hand from my waist and places it on the small of my back. His palm burns through the material. He starts guiding us up those steps. I forced out a smile on my face when I reach beside his parents.

Their eyes are on Luke's hand, the one he had placed on the small of my back. His mother's eyes slowly scans my body before it settles on my face. She forces a tight lipped smile. "Oh Luke, I didn't know you would be bringing a guest." From the tone of her voice I could tell she was lying and she was far from pleased.

"This isn't just any random guest Sophie, it's Luke's girlfriend." His father announced. He sounded anything but elated when he said it. It was like the mere thought disgusted him.

"Yes this is Rose, my girlfriend." He says begrudgingly. He slid his hand to my waist and gave it a comforting squeeze. He must've sensed my unease.

Sophie was dressed in a white pencil skirt and white blouse. Her jewelry screamed wealth and the silver heels she wore looked like it cost more than my car. Her husband was dressed in an expensive suit. They looked like the perfect couple.

Rathic turns to his wife with a crooked smirk. He pulls her to his side. "Seems that our boy has finally settled down-" He taunts then snaps his eyes to me, his eyes identical to Luke skims over me. "At least for now." He smirks.

Luke's hold tightens. "What the fuck does that mean Father?" He spits out. I bring my hand to place on the one holding my waist and give it a firm squeeze. He relaxes instantly and it doesn't go unnoticed by his parents.

His mother has an odd gleam in her eyes as she takes in the way her son holds me protectively. It was almost like she was jealous. But I didn't linger on that thought.

Rathic chuckles and doesn't bother to answer Luke's question. He steps forward and outstretched his hand. "Nice to meet you Rose." He says.

I stare at his hand, a second ticking by as I waited for something bad to happen. I didn't know what exactly but I didn't trust him. Not with the way he blatantly showed his dislike towards me. But still, I outstretched my hands to give a handshake.

"Nice meeting you too Mr. Knight." I grumble. I retracted my hand quickly out of his when he seemed reluctant to let go. He grins, teeth pearly white like his son's. "Call me Rathic, we are almost family now."

I froze. What the fuck does he mean by almost family? A firm squeeze to my waist by Luke lets me know that I should play along. With a bite to my tongue I forced out a smile. I then turn my attention to Sophie who's eyes were still on Luke's arm wrapped around me.

I outstretched my hands to her. She stares at it, lips curling in disgust. She sucks her teeth, turns around and walks into the house. Her husband stares at her and shakes his head. "Don't mind Sophie, she's just a little upset that Luke stayed away for so long. "

My brows furrowed in confusion. Luke hadn't been visiting his parents? Then again I would've done the same thing judging by their character. Luke sighs beside me, seeming to be bored of the conversation." Can we just have that damn lunch now so Rose and I can leave?"

I bite my bottom lip to stifle a laugh at the way he worded it out. Rathic nodded, opened the door then ushered us in.

If the exterior of the house looked expensive then inside was definitely draw dropping costly. Everything screamed money. I felt out of place. Luke guides me inside, not once dropping his hold of me.

I scan around the room, drinking in how lavish everything looked. Though everything screamed luxury I couldn't help but notice that it was plain and not homely. It felt more like an expensive hotel that you could only afford once a year or not at all.

White walls, glass chandeliers and expensive paintings. It's all I could see. There was a painting to my far left that piqued my interest. I find myself walking towards it, forcing Luke to come along.

Blonde hair, piercing blue eyes and pillowy lips. The only thing different from the now grown man. Was that the young boy in the painting. Has grown out of the chubby cheeks and now had the sharpest of jaws.

I turn to Luke and grinned." You were cute." I teased.

He rolled his eyes and puffed out his chest. "Yeah and now I'm handsome."

I snickered. "Now who filled your head with that?"

He was about to respond when his dad cuts him off. "You two can flirt later on, come on Sophie must be waiting for us."

I couldn't lie. I kinda liked the idea of her waiting. Still we followed him until we were out of the house, in the veranda. The pool was a few feet away.

I could spot Sophie already seated on one of the chairs. Her face screamed irritation as she screamed something at the maid who's placing the food on the table. Luke pulls me over to the two vacant chairs that were near each other.

Rathic sits down at the head of the table while his wife occupies the one on the opposite end. Two vacant chairs were on the opposite side of us. The only thing separating us was the huge wooden table. Two plates were already placed in front of them, same as ours. My brows knitted in confusion. Were we expecting more guests?

Luke's hands sneak under the table and lays it on my thigh. The action has me sucking in a sharp breath. From the corner of my vision I could see the smirk grow on his face by my reaction. But it disappears completely when a shrill voice breaks the silence.

"Oh sorry we are late, daddy needed to get some paperwork from the office first."

I look up to see a raven haired girl heading our way. If I thought that my dress was short hers didn't leave any for the imagination. Her long glossy hair falls over her shoulder, reaching below her bellybutton.

I couldn't see her eye color because of the shades hiding them from sight. But I could tell she was beautiful. A tall well dressed man was beside her and they both screamed power.