

Chapter 44

Luke drags in a breath and avoids her penetrating stare. Her face was pale, either it was the results of the pregnancy or it was the news he just delivered. He hadn't intended to blurt it out so. Didn't mean to scare her, but he had and there was no going back after this.

He pinches the bridge of his nose and backs towards the door. When he felt his back touch the surface of the wood he stops. In his mind he thought if he block any means of escape, Rose wouldn't be able to run away when she hear what he has to say.

It was sick for him to do this but he was desperate, he needed this woman like he needed water. He was a fool to think that he could cope without her in his life.

Those two months were bad enough, he doesn't think he'll be able to go on without her a second longer, not when she was carrying his baby in her womb.

Her honey like eyes that instantly turned a fire in his groin stares at him in a stunned silence. Will she despise me? I wouldn't blame her when I myself despise my own being for what happened. His thoughts weren't helping him and he found it difficult to control them from raging on.

"What do you mean?" Her tone has a bit of fear and she looks around in a skittish manner. His heart hurts, it was obvious she was afraid of him. He gulps trying to get the courage to tell her his secret. Something only a few people knew, something he kept locked away.

"I was fifteen when it happened-" He gulps fisting his palms at his sides. It felt itchy, something that happens when he feels nervous. The little hairs on the back of his neck raises when he gets a flash of the night.

His breathing accelerates and he finds it difficult to stay present. His mind flicking through image after image of that dreadful day.

Rose notices his struggle and her stomach drops. She steps towards him without an ounce of reluctance. Her slim fingers wrap around his huge wrist and she trails it down to his tight fisted hands.

Prying his fingers loose she locks hers with his, brushing her thumb on the middle of his palm. "It's okay, I'm here, deep breaths." She instructs holding on to his hands like her life line.

Whatever bad thing he needed to let out of his chest, she wouldn't care. Nothing could make her stop loving Luke, it was basically impossible at this point. She needed him like she needed air.

When his breathing calms down she lets go of one hand to brush her fingers on his rough stubble jaw, tracing the sharp curve. "It's okay if you can't bring yourself to say what happen." She mumble softly, locking gazes with piercing blue eyes.

He leans into her touch, loving the way she gently caresses him. Pulling away he pry her hands away from his face. His long fingers wrap gently around the bone of her wrist. "You deserve to know." He mutters.

He sighs and begins. "Father had invited one of his partners over for dinner. That man happened to have a daughter my age who also came over that night. As usual, father needed us to look like the perfect family. He wanted to force me to be with Elise. It was his usual, making me be with his partner's daughter's to get in their good graces. "

He drags in a breath, his stomach rolling with waves of unease. "He prodded me to show Elise around and I did. It wasn't hard to get into her heart and before you know it, it wasn't long until we slept together."

His stomach tightens seeing the image of Elise pop in his mind, stopping him in his sentence. Rose sees his attention span had gone to his haunting thoughts. He drops his gaze in shame, his throat feeling tight. She hated seeing him like this.

What could have possibly happened that was so dreadful to have him so? Whatever it was, had a hold on him and she wondered if he'll ever heal from it. Could she save him from this? Rose laughed at her silly thoughts in her head. How could she possibly save him when he wouldn't let her.

With a shaky breath he continues, his eyes avoiding hers. "A few months later and she found out she was pregnant." His voice is croaky like he was holding back from crying. He feels cold remembering the day she had come to tell him. He wished she hadn't and wished he had stayed away from her the first day they met.

Rose's heart leaps and all of a sudden she feels a hot rage of jealousy that she wasn't the first woman to carry his child. She hated that she felt this way but couldn't help it. She gulps but doesn't say anything. How could she when she couldn't even bring herself to speak. It felt like her throat was clogged up.

"She came to tell me of the news. We were both fucking fifteen, too young to think straight. Not knowing what to do, I went to my father for help." His voice turns harsh when he mentions his father. Like the very thought of him brings a burning rage to his being.

Rose stayed quiet, listening, not knowing what to say. He avoided her stare like he was ashamed. "His solution was to abort the baby. It was too dangerous, not when Elise had health problems. It could risk her life. But he wasn't having it. He wanted the pregnancy gone, even involving her dad who agreed with him."

He breaths in a shaky breath and rakes a hand through his hair. "I didn't love her Rose but that was my kid she was carrying and I cared for her. I couldn't risk her life when I had caused this to her. She didn't deserve to get knocked up at fifteen. I should've been more careful."

Tears start to blur his vision and his throat tightens impossible more than it was already. "So I drank that night and came up with a stupid plan to run away with her, I needed to save her Rose. I wasn't thinking straight and stole some cash from my father's safe and took his car even though I didn't have a driver's license."

The tears he was holding fell freely and Rose's heart clenches like a fist had been wrapped around the delicate organ. Somehow she knew that whatever he would say wasn't going to be good.

She squeezes his hand urging him to continue but not finding her voice to say it out loud." I drove to her house and picked her up. She was already packed and ready to go, threatened for her life, since both our parents were forcing us to go with the abortion. So I drove down that road, taking her with me, she trusted me. Thinking in my stupid head that everything would be okay. But I was fucking wrong." His tone is shaky and holds regret.

His blue tear filled eyes come to lock into hers. "I fucking swear I saw that green light Rose, I fucking swear. But what I didn't see was that huge truck heading towards us and before I could swerve to get out of the way, it collided into us, hitting her side."

Rose's body goes cold, her earlier jealousy diminishes. Never was she prepared to hear this. He continues, pain drawn on his face. "She and the baby fucking died Rose. What I was trying to save her from, I had caused myself. I fucking brought her to her death. I killed them. She trusted me to keep them safe and I caused their deaths." His voice breaks.