

Chapter10

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The three of us got out of Sam's car and headed towards the front door. When Natalie opened the door, the base of the music hit us full force.

The ground was shaking with the thumping of the bass and I could literally see a few pieces of furniture vibrating on their spots on the ground, but I don't think anyone minded going deaf at such a young age because everyone was already dancing like crazy.

Bodiesweregrindingagainsteachother.Red cups werelitteredeverywhere. Zombie-like people were lying on the couchespasded out from intoxication, and it was not even 10 o'clock.

Samantha grabbed my hand and started leading me towards the kitchen. How she knew where the kitchen was, I had absolutely no clue! As we walked, I could sense several pairs of eyes following us and checking us out. Some even wolf whistled at us. I blushed at the attention.

When we made it to the kitchen, Natalie handed me a beer bottle and we downed our rst drinks of the night.

My eyes roamed the entire place for a certain person who invited me to this party but he was nowhere to be found. Slightly disappointed, I grabbed another drink and nished it in a few seconds.

Natalie grabbed our hands and led us to the makeshiftbarwas the wildest and the spontaneous person of our group.

I didn't have the heart to tell her that I really wanted to roam the place and check out where Harper was.

Hiding my disappointment at not meeting Harper yet, I tried to at least enjoy the party. I moved my hips to the rhythm of the music. Swedish House Ma a was on and the crowd went wild and started jumping and dancing with more vigor.

I was having so much fun that I almost forgot about Harper. Almost.

After about an hour of dancing, I yelled in Natalie's ear that I was going to the kitchen to get another drink. She just nodded and went back to her seductive dancing.

I made my way towards the kitchen with much more diculty than I had experienced earlier. It looked like more people joined the party and even more of them were passed out, as if this was their own house. There was barely any space to move.

The kitchen was relatively quieter and the music was mu

I grabbed a beer and drank a few sips. I found myself alone in the kitchen with empty beer bottles and a lot of trash and I was thankful for some silence because I could nally hear my own thoughts.

Just then, Aiden Knight entered the kitchen. Aiden Knight was Harper's best friend. He was insanely good looking and was a player too. Why are good looking guys all players? So damn unfair. With sandy blonde hair and brown eyes, girls fell to his feet and worshipped him but he wasn't exactly like Harper. He at least treated girls with respect and had the decency to o er them a cup of co ee after he kicked them out after a one night stand. But nonetheless, he too, used girls to get whatever he wanted which were mostly sexual favors. As far as I know, he too never had a girlfriend, just some casualngs.

Now, as I think about it, I have always been in the same school with the same people for so many years and have never once talked to them.

Aiden smirked and winked at me.

"So, Zara, right?"

He knew my name was Zara, which was new. I was like a wallower. I had absolutely no intention of coming in the spotlight and being the topic of everyone's interest. He was just trying to make conversation, I reminded myself. Let's see, do I help him or act like a bitch?

I just nodded.

He leaned against the counter, at a respectable distance, his whole body facing me. "So, are you enjoying the party?"

I smiled. "Yeah" and held my red cup upwards in the universal sign of "cheers".

He abruptly stood up and covered the distance between us in two short strides. Somehow, I just knew that he didn't want anything to do with me. Anything romantic or sexual, I mean. I didn't get turned on by our proximity at all. Unlike with Harper.

He just leaned forward and whispered softly, "If you're looking for Harper, he is on the rst oor. On the balcony. The last door on the left side."

He leaned back, winked at me and then left me speechless.

That was random. I have a doubt it was random at all!

Great, now I am going crazy too!

How could he have known I was looking for Harper? It was not like I have looked for him at other parties before! Or maybe, he just thought I was another one of his hookups who cling to him for a relationship and would be satis ed with a quickie instead. I sco ed at the thought.

I nished my beer and placed the empty bottle on the counter and headed towards the staircase. I followed Aiden's directions and reached the

I turned left and kept walking straight till I felt the soft breeze of the wind which could only come from the open doors of a balcony.

The sliding glass doors of the balcony were open. The curtains that covered the doors wererattering in the breeze.

I reached the glass doors, grabbed the curtains and moved them to look out onto the balcony and there he was. Harper.

The only problem was, he wasn't alone.

In his arms, there was a girl. I couldn't find out who she was, though. But that detail was irrelevant. What matters was, that they were both making out, quite passionately so.

I was just rooted to my spot. I didn't know what to do, because out of all the scenarios I prepared myself for, I didn't think about this one. My heart plummeted to the ground and I felt sick.

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