

Chapter 116

Alexander's POV

"Sam, how's Catherine doing?" I asked, stopping in front of my secretary's desk.

"Terrible! Awful! Horrible! But Margaret made her some tea and that calmed her down. Now I'm swamped with work, but since I left her with plenty to do and haven't heard any more crying, I haven't gone back to check on her," Samantha replied.

"I need to talk to her. She needs to understand why I'm doing this shit," I said as I walked toward Catherine's office.

"Alexander, don't upset my friend again. I'm not sure if this mess has any justification," Samantha warned me.

"I'm sorry, but I need to speak with her," I turned and entered her office.

When I looked inside, Catherine had her head down on the desk with her eyes closed. I approached and called her name softly, but she didn't respond. I tried again, but nothing. I picked her up in my arms – she was completely out cold. I opened Patrick's office door; he was at his desk and merely raised his eyes at me as if asking what was happening. I walked to the couch in his office and laid her down, placing a kiss on her forehead. I motioned for my friend to join me outside.

"I didn't want to take her to my office; she might get upset if she wakes up there. I came to talk to her, to explain, but I found her passed out over her desk," I explained to my friend.

"It's okay, man. I'll keep an eye on her for you. Let's let her rest. Virginia told me she hasn't been sleeping well," Patrick told me.

We left Catherine's office and I went to Samantha's desk.



"Sam, what kind of tea did Margaret give to Cat? She's completely knocked out. I tried to wake her up but couldn't. Should I be worried?" Samantha looked at me surprised.

"Hold on." She picked up the phone and dialed. "Dear Margaret, what did you give to Cat? Something strong enough to knock out an elephant?" She smiled hearing the response. "Yeah, she really needed it. Thanks, Margaret, she's really relaxed now." Samantha hung up the phone and looked at me with a smile. "She made a tea specifically to knock Cat out. She said Cat needs to rest to deal with everything, and I agree."

"But what was in that tea? Will Catherine wake up or is she in a coma?" I asked, genuinely concerned.

"Chamomile, lemon balm, passion fruit, and valerian!" Samantha said. "That, my dear, is better than any sleeping pill. I'm not sure if Cat will wake up today at all. But she needs the rest."

"Alright." I sighed.

"What did you do with that hideous arrangement?" Samantha asked.

"It's in my office, but I'm going to deal with it now. And I kept the card, it might come in handy." I said with a plan in mind.

Half an hour later, I parked my car in front of Johnson's house. I grabbed that horrible arrangement from the passenger seat and headed towards the gates of hell.

When I entered that awful house with its frighteningly tasteless decoration, I felt tense. The place was dreadful. I was standing in a room with dark green walls and gold furniture with leopard print upholstery. My God! Who has such bad taste? There were countless colorful vases, photos in extravagant frames, and red curtains. I was truly in hell. I felt a shiver when I heard the devil's spawn's voice behind me.

"Honey, you came to see me! I knew you couldn't resist my charms."

Anna Caroline screeched while walking towards me. As she approached, I took two steps back and held out the flower arrangement.

"I just came to bring the flowers that I'll put on your grave if you and your creepy family keep messing with Catherine." I said, dripping with hatred. 1

"Ugh, honey, what horrible flowers." She said with a disgusted face. "And don't talk to me like that because I'm the mother of your child and I'm going to be your wife. Always this Catherine! You're mine now, understand? MINE!" She screamed, nearly deafening me and making me even more furious.

"Listen here, you evil creature, I agreed to this circus of a wedding on the condition that you all stay away from Catherine. You shouldn't even mention her name. It's either that or there's no wedding – that's the deal and you know it damn well. So don't bother her again," I said with pure hatred running through my veins.

"I want that little woman far away from you, far from our company. You're mine and, whether you like it or not, you'll be tied to me. You can't escape! I want her gone," Anna Caroline didn't hide the horrible person she truly was. "And I want full access to our company from now on."

"The company is MINE! You don't meddle there! You don't set foot there! Do like your mother, who never showed her face at her husband's workplace, that's how it's going to be with you. The agreement was about marriage and nothing else, that's very well defined, so don't even think about making more demands or I'll cancel this whole mess!" I said, barely containing my irritation. I turned my back and started leaving. "And tell your entire family to stay away from Catherine, or there won't be a wedding," I shouted before going through the door. 2