

## Chapter 125: The worst surprise of her life.

Ethan's POV:

I was getting ready for an important appointment, and that would be at least in theory my rehearsal dinner for my wedding to Tess, but I was way too excited for this appointment because it meant she would be arrested soon.

As there was no call from detective Pratt to me so far and no call from Tess asking me for help, I figured out that the arrest hasn't happened yet. Especially because when I got to my phone, I had a message from her: "I didn't have the chance to tell you this today, but I love you and by marrying me, you're making me the happiest woman on the earth, did you know?"

That was too corny even for her, but if I responded in an irritated way, she would definitely suspect that something was wrong.

So, I replied, "We haven't had a chance to talk today, so you're forgiven. I can't believe we're finally getting to our wedding. We've been waiting for this for so long it feels surreal." There you have. Here was an answer that said something she would want to hear, but it wouldn't make her



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receive a declaration of love, as she had hoped.

"I don't believe it either. It feels like we're living a dream!" She sent me. Well, if she was happy for now, it means they hadn't reached her yet to arrest her.

I was done with this conversation, so I sent her a text message saying: "And how are the preparations going so far?"

She replied to me a minute later: "Everything is as it should be, and soon I will be the new Mrs. Brown!"

"So, see you soon?" I asked her.

"For sure!" she told me and stopped texting.

I caught myself thinking about the level of pretense that this woman and her partner had. That audacity of them! But anyway, I had to appear elegant enough just like anyone who was on his way to his own rehearsal dinner, so I dressed up accordingly. After that, I made my way to the hotel where the dinner and wedding reception would be held.

Obviously, the organization of the event received a call from Alexander this morning saying that he could no longer attend this event nor the wedding

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itself, and this was completely natural, since although I knew that he would want to see my downfall through my union with Tess, he would not risk showing up in a place where I was, just in case if he lost his mind and decided to hit me. It was better this way, and this was good for my plan

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because it would leave Tess alone among so many people. So, if she doesn't come to me at that moment of need, she would have no one to turn to.

As soon as I arrived at the hotel, I saw several of the guests at the rehearsal dinner. Some of them



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were already enjoying cocktails and finger foods. Everyone greeted me when I arrived: some of them effusively and others fixed strange looks to me.

There was a friend of Georgie's that was particularly annoyed. I didn't know her very well, but still, she was from high society, so she was on our list. Alissa Thompson saw me among the guests and went to talk to me: "Ethan! it's so good to see you! I haven't heard of you since that dinner at Georgie's house!" she said to me.

"Well, it's good to see you too, Alissa," I greeted her a little bit dryly.

And then, she asked me: "It wasn't that long ago that we had that dinner, wasn't it?"

Where the hell was she planning to get to with this conversation? So, I answered her: "No, not that long ago really," I told her.

Suddenly, she turned to me and said: "But it seems that back on that occasion you were married to someone else. Wasn't her name Hannah?" she asked me, and my heart sank with the mention of my real wife.

"Yes, Hannah and I were married, but unfortunately, it didn't work out," I told her

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discreetly because I didn't want to give her too many details.

"Oh, it's such a shame! She seemed so sweet and was so delicate! Much more discreet than Tess," she said indiscreetly. I got annoyed. What the hell this woman had with my life? I mean, yes, Tess was indiscreet, but this woman lost the perfect opportunity to just be quiet!

"Yes, but unfortunately, it didn't work out for us, and I wish Hannah the best, but we went our separate ways," I told her through clenched teeth.

"But wasn't Hannah pregnant?" Alissa insisted. That woman knew how to be annoying!

I took a deep breath asking the heavens for patience, and told her: "Yes, she was pregnant, but by the way we were at the end of our marriage, we couldn't continue to be a family. Don't worry, she is still receiving all the support that she deserves," I said, and she saw that my face had hardened, so her smile faded a little.

She disguised her discomfort by saying: "Well, I wish you and Tess my congratulations and that this union may last longer than your first one. Good luck on your second time," she told me and walked away.



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I stood there annoyed as hell, but I kept that hidden, because I had a bigger goal to pursue, and that didn't involve me getting into a fight with someone that I knew. So, I went to greet my partners and the board. Some of the partners greeted me effusively, others with a certain indifference, and there were even the ones that greeted me with surprise for the sudden marriage, but they were definitely more discreet than Alissa.

"Excuse me, sir," I heard someone saying behind me.

As I turned around, I saw that the one who called me was the wedding planner that Tess had hired for the occasion. I looked at her I said: "Yes?"

Although Tess was very excited about hiring this lady that she swears was a renowned wedding planner, I didn't even know who she was. I didn't take the time to talk to her before today.

So, she turned to me with a smile on her lips and said: "I am this event organizer. Could you please accompany me, so we can start tonight's event?" She asked me.

I nodded at her and murmured: "Of course," and went with her.

While we were on our way to wherever she was

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taking me to, she said happily: "Well, the bride-to-be informed me that she is ready, and you two should make a triumphal entry to start the event. So, it would be wonderful if you would just wait in this room for a few minutes while I get the guests ready to sit in their assigned seats."

I nodded at her and murmured: "Sure."

She smiled at me as if it was a great pleasure for her that I was obeying her command and said: "I will come to pick you up in about ten minutes." And then, she opened a door to a resting chamber. The local was simple, but well decorated, like the rest of the hotel.

I got into the chamber, and she pointed to another door at the end of the chamber and said: "Well, Miss Astor is on the other side of this door. She said she wouldn't see you before you two being announced, but if you want to talk to her for these few minutes, you can open the door a little," she said.

I murmured "Thank you." She nodded at me and left the room.

A couple of minutes later, I receive a call that was as precise as a Swiss clock. It was detective Pratt.

"This is Brown," I answered the phone quickly.



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"Mr. Brown, this is detective Pratt," he told me simply.

"You couldn't have called in a most perfect timing," I murmured to him.

"I was actually going to apologize, because we are ready, sir. We are about to arrest your fiancée," he said a little uncomfortably.

"Oh, no need to apologize. I was waiting for this call for the whole day now," I told him.

"Well, sir, if you say so... We are at the hotel building. Where are you?" He asked me.

"The conference room and courtyard were adapted for the occasion. I am in one of the back rooms that they are calling a resting area, and my fiancée is on the other chamber," I explained to him.

"Good. How do I get to you?" Detective Pratt asked me.

"There's another entrance through the hotel hall. The receptionist will be able to bring you and your team here discreetly. But please, I beg you, get here quietly, okay?" I asked him.

"Sure, sir. We don't want to scare your guests either," Detective Pratt murmured to me. "See you



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in a few minutes," he said and killed the call.

I couldn't disguise the smile on my face.

Everything was finally flowing as it should be.

And soon, my fiancée would have the worst surprise of her life.



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