

Chapter 126: This is a nightmare!

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Tess's POV:

Okay, I knew that Alex was in deep trouble, but my life couldn't be better than today. Later tonight, would be my rehearsal dinner, and I've probably be

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living the best week of my life so far. Unlikely him, everything that was happening to me was working perfectly. I had finally got rid of Ethan's ridiculous ex-wife, Hannah, and I've seen Ethan running to my open arms with the promise that he would

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help me to raise our "child" and proving me that he had divorced her, so he was free to marry me.

I promised him that I would give him the heir that he needed when he came back from wherever he was in this damn world, but before the hypothetical heir could take control of Brown's Enterprises, Alexander and I would find a way to get rid of Ethan too, either through a corporate maneuver on business, or more permanently, like we did to his grandfather if we needed so. Our plan couldn't be working more perfectly.

But today, it would be all about me, so I gave myself a royalty treatment. I spent the whole day at the most expensive spa in the city because I deserved all the pampering after working so hard to clinch this marriage. I finally had gone back to the original track that I've lost two years ago when Ethan married Hannah, and everything was as it should be from the beginning.

I started my day with a good massage, and I was practically in heaven when the masseur finished with me. Later that day, I had mani and pedi followed by a hairdresser that made the most beautiful hairstyle that I have ever seen, and then, finally, the make-up artist gave me her final touch, and I was done with my preparation.

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While I was getting ready, though, I got some text messages from Ethan asking me if everything was okay with me. That was good news, because it showed to me that he hasn't given up on us and was still interested in sharing his life with me.

When he was traveling to wherever he was, he was ghosting me, and when he came from his trip, he seemed a little distant too. But not anymore. He was all-in in this relationship, and I would guarantee that he would feel like that until I could dismiss him from my life and could be able to carry out my clan plan without him.

I was slightly late that night. It was just 15 minutes after all, but knowing who these people are, they would probably rather adulate Ethan and his future wife than complain against them at this moment. I headed towards the hotel and went straight to my chamber. And then, I made the wedding organizer call Ethan so she could arrange the guests in their right places, and we could make our triumphal entrance.

Alex called me several times during the day and a couple of times at night. I wasn't ignoring him or anything, but tonight, I knew that he would drag me down, and I couldn't deal with that right now. My life couldn't be better than it was right now, and today was the apex of all that I have been

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fighting for. And the cherry on the top of the icing was the wedding planner that I hired. Ethan didn't want to know how much I would spend on this wedding, but I knew that she would take a large slice of the expenses. Still, she was worth each penny spent on her services. If Ethan even complained about her, I would argue that she was actually an investment.

I was still distracted with these thoughts when I heard Ethan's phone ring in the other chamber. I was happy, because he was just there, and in a few days, I would be his wife. I didn't pay much attention to his call though, and his words were muffled. Anyways, I didn't really care. I was focused on the rehearsal dinner tonight and the wedding in less than 48 hours.

Ten minutes went by, and I was completely ready by now, so I texted the wedding planner saying that she could finish organizing our guests and later come for Ethan and I. My heart was racing, and I was a little nervous. It was not that I didn't like to be the center of all attentions, but still, all the event was making me a little anxious. But anxiety is something good, isn't it?

Another 15 minutes had passed. Okay, now I wasn't anxious anymore. I was officially worried.

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The wedding planner didn't come in. Another 20 minutes had passed, and I got desperate. Did Ethan run away from our rehearsal dinner? I couldn't believe that this could be happening, but my head was creating bad scenario after bad scenario. My feet were restless, and I was tapping the floor. My arms were getting stiff from being crossed for so long. I really meant to do a surprise to Ethan but I couldn't wait any longer, so I opened the room door to see what was going on when I saw something uncommon.

Ethan was staring at me with a hard face. He has never given me this look before. This was reserved for Hannah whenever he thought that she had done something wrong. He looked as stiff as I was and his impassive expression was giving me nothing, so I risked: "Ethan, darling, what is going on?" I asked him.

I looked at him with a mix of fear and confusion, and I felt my stomach drop when I saw that he wasn't alone. There were four other men in suits with him. At first, I thought that they might be from the security team that we hired for today, but they all looked like something serious was going on.

"Miss Astor, you are under arrest," a tall man told me.

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I started to laugh. I never knew that Ethan could be so daring. "Did you think that I would like to see a show? Why did you bring these fake cops here, Ethan? I told you that I didn't want a bachelorette party," I told him.

"Tess, please, stop talking," Ethan said grimacing.

"Miss, I don't know if you are under the effect of drugs or something, but please, cooperate. This is not a joke or a surprise. You are under arrest. It's true," the tall man said to me.

Suddenly, my stomach sank. "What? No! This isn't true!" I shook my head and exclaimed. "No... no... no... something is really wrong. This can't be happening, please!" I started to stutter. I looked at Ethan seeking help. His face was still impassive.

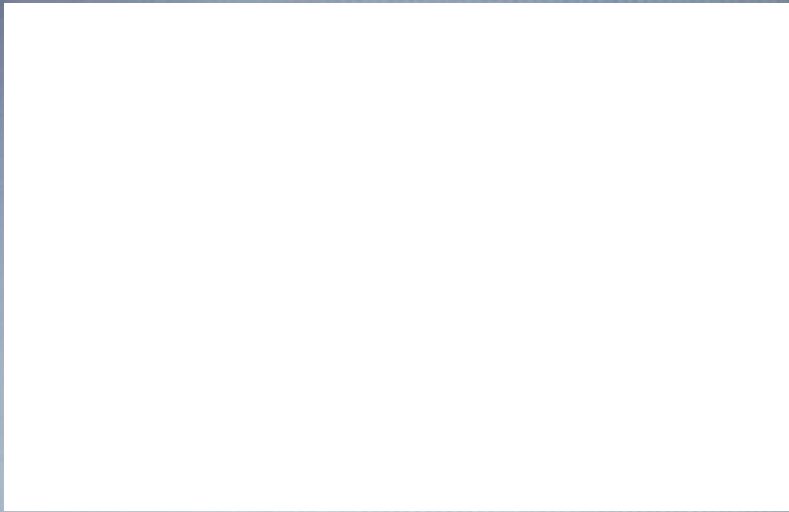
"Tess, calm down, please," Ethan murmured with his hands raised.

"No! How can you ask me to calm down when it is clear that a mistake is about to happen? Today is our rehearsal dinner, Ethan! This can't be happening! I can't be arrested today!" I exclaimed to him.

"Miss, I am kindly requesting you to put your hands behind your back and cause no further trouble," the man insisted.

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"Absolutely not!" I exclaimed. "I have a dinner to attend right now, and I am not going anywhere!" I exclaimed.



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"Miss, it would be easier if you cooperate," the tall man said once again. I didn't say anything else but didn't move either. So, after a minute or two, the man sighed and nodded to the other cops, that came to hold me.

"NO! NO!" I started to scream.

"What are the accusations, detective?" I heard Ethan ask him louder than me. I decided that I

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needed to hear what the policeman had to say.

"Sir, I will cite the charges as soon as she calms down," the detective answered Ethan.

"Absolutely not! I am not going to calm down! Something is clearly wrong with all this s**t! You are arresting the wrong person!" I exclaimed as I started to move to fight against the restraints. I tried to get rid of the two cops, but they were stronger than me.

"Please, miss. This doesn't have to be as humiliating as it has been," the detective told me. "If you keep moving like this, you're going to hurt yourself. Please don't make a scene worse than what is currently happening," he said.

I managed to escape from the cops but obviously didn't go far. I just got to Ethan. So, I held his collar and begged: "Ethan, you have to help me. I am your fiancée, for God's sake!" I told him.

Ethan sighed seriously and said: "Tess, I need to know what the charges are, so I can help you," he told me. "Please, calm down, at least a little bit, okay?" Ethan's eyes were serious and showed me a certain intensity and urgency.

I looked at him and nodded, and the cops managed to detach me from Ethan. The detective

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sighed in relief and said: "So, now that Miss Astor calmed down a little, I am going to inform the charges, okay?" I nodded at him, but I could feel that my legs were finding difficulty to remain tall.

"Miss, you are being arrested for the attempt of murder Miss Patricia Marinello," the policeman said.

"But this isn't killing, is it? She is alive AND RECOVERING!" I exclaimed to him.

"But you did participate in this attempt. Besides, the gun pistol at the scene of the crime is an illegal weapon, miss. So, this is your second accusation."

"Second accusation? Isn't just one?" I asked him desperately.

"Well, this is your third: contempt of authority and resisting arrest," he said, and my stomach sank. I felt my legs go wobbly and I knew I was going to pass out. Suddenly, everything went dark.

I don't know how longer I was out, but when I woke up, I was lying on a sofa, and there were a few worried faces staring at me. Most of them were impassive. Ethan, though, looked worried.

"Tess, are you okay?" Ethan asked me worriedly.

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"I... I don't know, Ethan. This whole s**t is a nightmare, isn't it? Tell me that I am going to wake up in a few moments, and everything will come back as it was," I pleaded to him.

Ethan sighed and murmured: "Well, unfortunately, the charges seemed to be huge trouble. I called you a lawyer and he will be here shortly, but you need to go with these gentlemen now, okay?"

"Please, Miss. It's time to go," the detective told me, and I couldn't believe that this was really happening to me. And then, the cops started taking me.

"Could you stop just a little bit, please?" I asked them. They nodded at me, and I went to Ethan.

He was looking at me with unfathomable eyes: "Our guests," I mumbled to him.

"Don't worry about the guests and all the organization for today. I will find a way," he told me. "And then, I will come after you and look into what can be done," he told me.

"Thanks," I mumbled and took a deep breath to face the humiliation ahead of me.

