

## Royal Contract 321

### Chapter 321 - The Delicious Entrees

Nick learned that the lovely couple went missing this morning. A welcome surprise that he could capitalize on to his advantage if the rumors were true.

He learned from a source that Marcus could not contact his best friend, his bodyguards, and even Dani. They were still trying to determine where the couple decided to go or why they left in the first place.

"Hi, Cassie. How was your sleep?" He moved towards the bed, sat down near her, and touched her face, waking her up in the process.

It was already late in the morning, but he did not want to disturb her peaceful sleep until now. He could not wait for her to wake up so that he could share his news with her.

"What do you want?" She muttered under her breath as she stretched her arms, then suddenly feeling the leather-bound that prevented her from moving.

She remembered that he tied her up on the bed, preventing her from running away and escaping. Since he caught her with her bags packed and ready to leave, he had held her hostage at his apartment.

She could not talk to anyone, only him. She was now a prisoner in his house. She still had no clue how she would break free from his abusive clasps.

She suddenly regretted opening the door and letting him inside her apartment. He automatically saw red when he saw her things packed and ready to leave.

"I have some news for you. But before I tell you, I want you to fix yourself, and we shall eat breakfast." He lowered himself and planted a solid kiss on her lips.

He did not allow her to avoid his lips as he held her hair in his grip. He also shoved her back to the bed as he deepened the kiss. With her hands tied, she could do nothing to stop him.

When she got the chance, she bit his lips, making the red flesh bleed. It was the only way she could stop him from his onslaught. She might be able to stomach his kisses and touch before, but not anymore.

"Stop!" She twisted her body until she was free from him. "I am hungry." She complained, but she would not allow him to walk all over her willingly.

He might have her as a prisoner, but it did not mean she would follow him blindly. She would fight tooth and nail to get out of here and start over again, away from him.

"That is not nice, Cassie." He wiped the tiny drop of blood that came from his broken lips. "But I will need you to behave or else." His voice was full of venom. A threat that she should heed because he was not fooling around.

"Of course, but you have to untie me first." She told him, feeling the fatigue ness of her muscles for being tied all night.

He usually locked her in the room. But after fighting him last night, he decided to tie her up as her punishment. She realized that fighting him was not the way to escape him.

"Follow what I say, and we will eventually go back to the way we are. You know I cannot let you go. You are important to me and my plans." He touched her face again, running his fingers through her cheeks and down her throat.

He could not simply let her leave him because she still held a lot of valuable information about Ethan Hamilton's secrets. Other than that, she also was privy to his secrets.

He had to make sure that she would not share those details with his enemies. He had to know what she still knew and if it could damage his plans.

"If I say I will behave, would you believe me?" She asked him, doubtful that he would. She already savaged their relationship. Trust would be hard to achieve again.

She could not walk to him like before and pledge her loyalty. She wondered if he would ever believe her again. But she had to try if that was the only way to set her free.

"We'll see, but for now, I am taking off your ties. I expect you to do what I say because I hate hurting you." He started pulling the bond that tied her to the bed.

He needed her cooperation to fulfill his plans, but he also believed she needed him with hers. He still had no idea that she had already given up on her revenge.

"I promise. I will cooperate this time." She smiled at him, trying to win him over again.

She was glad that her evidence was now safely in the hands of Alex. If Nick found them in her possession or discovered that she had already betrayed him, she could only speculate on what he would do to her.

He already managed to slap her on the face, locked her up, and tied her. She believed he would not hesitate to do more horrible things to her if he learned of what she did against him.

"That is my girl." He ran his fingers through her hair as if he was taming her. He tapped her cheeks, who still had slightly bruised skin from his slap. "I hate hurting you. So, don't force my hand." He whispered, leaning over to kiss her on the affected area.

"I also don't like us fighting. I think I have learned my lesson." She entwined her arms around his neck, pulling him to her until their faces were inches away.

She had to find a way to convince him that she was still on his side. It would be a stretch, but she had to try. At the same time, she could also use this to her advantage.

She could find out more of what Nick planned against their enemies, but she would use it for something good this time. She was not going to let him use her anymore.

"Good, then shall we eat?" He pulled her out of bed and into a table, already set with their breakfast. "Then, we can discuss my news.." He said excitedly to her as he presented the delicious entrees under the covers.

## **Chapter 322 - Off The Grid**

Alex guided Dani out of the car. With her eyes still closed, he walked her to the villa he had reserved for them for the weekend. He only hoped that she would love the place.

He planned for them to have a relaxing moment under the hot sun, compared to the almost cold weather they left behind. At the same time, away from the stress of their everyday lives.

"Don't peek." He reminded her. "You need to keep closing your eyes." He kept assisting her until they reached the patio at the back of the villa.

He was sure that Dani would like this place, remembering how she had enjoyed their mini adventures together. He did not plan any strenuous activities, knowing that their bodies were still recovering from a tiring week.

Therefore, he only designed a relaxing weekend for them. A time where they both could unwind and enjoy while conserving much of their energies. It was a time to procrastinate.

"Aren't we there yet?" She asked, already feeling eager and excited to see the place.

She could already feel the breeze on her skin. Her hair blew from side to side. She also heard the soft waves, but she had expected it since she already knew they were going to the beach.

All she wanted presently was to look at the beauty of her surrounding, to enjoy the serenity of nature. She could not wait for the start of his surprise.

"Ok. You can open your eyes." He told her, revealing to her the magnificent scenery in front of them.

He had visited this place when he was young. One of the many places he had learned to love. He had fond memories of his grandparents when they took him here for a vacation.

Sometimes with his family, but most of the time, just the three of them. It was a place where he could be himself and be young without the pressure of being a prince.

"Wow, I already love this place." She could not take her eyes away from the beauty of the blue ocean that stretched to the horizon.

She could see the end of the water as it spread on the sandy shore. It was only one of the wonders of nature that fascinated her. She loved the city, but places like this still had a special place in her heart.

"I'm glad you love it. This place is also very special to me." He admitted, gazing at the view. "But now, it has become more special because I am sharing it with you."

He turned his head to look at her. He found her more beautiful than ever, feeling he was the luckiest man in the world, finding the woman with who he would be spending the rest of his life, forever.

He ushered her to the lounge chair at the veranda, overlooking the ocean, then a woman appeared behind them. She would be assisting with all their needs while they were staying at the villa.

"Do you need anything else?" She just served them some refreshing lemonades, produced by the local farmers, and some muffins, freshly baked by the resident chef.

"We'll just call if we will need anything else," Dani said to the young woman, who quickly made her excuses, leaving them alone again.

"I can get used to this." She warned him as she sipped on her refreshing drink. She lay on the lounge chair and gazed at the clear sky, amazed at the few clouds that scattered sparingly above her.

"I hope so because I plan to do this every opportunity we have." He promised her, wanting to spend more time with her if possible.

"When did you have the time to plan this?" She asked, not expecting that he would take her away on an island.

"I only thought of it last night, after seeing you so stressed with work. I gathered a weekend away from our job was what the doctor recommended." He also sipped on his drink, finding it relieving the heat of the ocean breeze.

He would not wait for them to get burned out before he would do something about it. They had earned to make use of their resources in exchange for the hard work they had put into their responsibilities.

"I truly appreciate this." She waved her hand in the air, indicating her surroundings. She would kiss him, but she was too lazy to stand up and move from her current position.

She loved the comfort the chair was providing to her tired muscles. She loved the ambiance that the view also contributed to making the entire experience relaxing.

Then suddenly, she remembered that she had not checked in with Jacky yet. From the haste of packing and excitement early that morning, she forgot about her phone and to notify her friend.

"By the way, have you seen my phone? I need to call Jacky and inform her that we went away." She shifted her position so that she could look at him.

"That is the problem. Our phones are in our bags. We can't use them to communicate outside." He closed his eyes, not seeming to worry at all.

"What do you mean?" She questioned him with a bit of curiosity.

She was not panicking because she was sure that Alex would have informed Marcus of their whereabouts. In turn, Marcus would tell Jacky.

But she still needed her phone just in case of emergencies. Jacky might need something from her. She might also need to call to follow up on some of her works.

"That is the problem. We can't use our phones, so I left them in the bags. The island was having some technical issues with its communication systems. They are still working on it." He explained.

"Oh! So, how can we call home?" She asked, suddenly finding herself sitting down and staring at him. As if he would have the answer to her questions.

"We can't call as of the moment." He confided with her. "But give them a few hours, and communication would be back online. In the meantime, let us enjoy the few hours without the distraction of our work."

He did not want to put too much thought into their situation, not wanting her to panic. He did forget to inform Marcus or his other staff of his plans. It was a quick decision on his part to leave.

But he was not expecting that communication on the island would be out of service. There was no way for them to call the outside world, but that was only for a few hours. He believed they could survive without modern technology for a while.

"I guess a few hours will not hurt." She acknowledged, thinking that she could always call her later.

Unaware that people were already panicking with their whereabouts.? She thought that Alex was able to inform somebody that they had run off on the island.

But since both of them failed to inform anyone, their friends were left wondering where they went. Marcus and Jacky were worried about their safety while their enemies were rejoicing for their possible demise.

"Yeah, I think fate already intervened for the two of us, providing us an opportunity to enjoy our time together without the disturbance of our normal lives.." He concluded, not caring if they were off the grid.

### **Chapter 323 - Amicable To Friendship**

After breakfast, he started to call their staff in search of his friend. Jacky also did the same thing, figuring out who had information about their friends' whereabouts.

Marcus did not want to worry about Alex and even Dani until he had any proof that they were in danger. He would exhaust all his resources first before he declared anything conclusive.

"Please get back to me as soon as you find anything. Check everything." He instructed Alona, Alex's secretary. He even called a few of the staff handling Alex's other activities.

He only called a few, not wanting to spread any news that Alex and Dani were missing. It could create a wildfire that he might not be able to control.

He would wait for their reports before he would decide on his next move. There was no use in wasting his time and energy on things that might not even be significant.

"Any luck?" Jacky asked him after hanging up her phone. No one from their office had any idea of where Dani might have gone.

Unlike Marcus, she could not hide her concern for her friend. Her emotions were all over the place, not knowing where she was. Her mind was already conjuring up images of tragic scenarios that might happen to the couple.

"Not yet. But everyone now is checking all paper trails. We will find them soon enough. I am sure there is a reasonable explanation for their disappearance and why we could not contact them." He assured her. "What about you?"

She already looked like she was ready to pass out with another more bad news. Marcus could not add up to her troubles. He would protect her if he could.

She dropped her phone on the counter and looked at him. "I don't have anything yet." She answered him as she grabbed the coffeemaker and prepared a new brewed.

She needed something to boost her energy because she was about to wait till they received some updates. She was not going anywhere until they had a lead.

"Why don't you sit down and let me handle that." Marcus offered, seeing her agitation.

"Don't worry. I am ok. I need something to occupy my mind." She retorted back.

"How have you been? I know it is none of my business. But I am just trying to start a conversation." Marcus could not think of anything to ask except his curiosity to know more about her.

He returned to his seat behind the counter as he watched Jacky busy herself with the coffee. He was not expecting her to answer him since his question was a bit personal.

She turned to him, assessing if she should answer him. "I am good." She finally answered him, thinking that he was right. They might be here for a while. It would be better to have something to talk about than remain in awkward silence.

Besides, she had already accepted his apology. She could not keep being mad at him forever. She might, as well, have a civilized conversation with him then continue with their feud in front of their friends.

"I'm glad to hear that," Marcus said as he accepted the coffee she offered.

"What about you? How have you been? Are you currently dating anyone?" The question was out before she realized her question. "You don't have to answer that. I think I am just blabbering nonsense."

She walked away from him, returning the pot on its cradle, slightly embarrassed for asking the question. She could not look him in the eye, thinking that he might misconstrue her and believe she was interested in his dating.

It had been a long time since they last had a conversation. Jacky kept telling herself that she was only looking for a topic they could talk about and did not mean to come up with that.

"I am good too. And I am not." He replied before sipping on his hot coffee, careful not to burn his lips.

He could not help the smile that showed on his lips. As far as he was concerned, the mere fact that Jacky asked that question, subconsciously, she was thinking about it.

He was not expecting that things between them would ever be the same again as before. But he hoped that somehow, they could at least be friends.

"What?" She was not sure of what he said since she was not paying attention as her mind was still wondering why she even asked that question.

"I said that I decided not to date for the time being." He clarified his answer.

He did try to date again once, but he did not seem interested to continue seeing her. He went through the process of getting to know her. But at the end of the day, all he wanted to do was be alone.

After that, he stopped dating, choosing to focus his attention on his work. It was perfect timing because, in truth, he had barely enough time for himself with the workloads of his responsibility with the company.

"Oh! Why is that?" It was out of her lips again before she could stop it. She suddenly realized that she needed to work on her filter. Her big mouth, though one of her assets, could also get her in too many troubles.

But before he could answer her, his phone rang, and Alona showed on his screen. He signaled Jacky to hold her thoughts as he answered Alex's secretary.

"Yes," Marcus said on the line. "That is a relief." He continued to mutter on the phone.

Jacky could only speculate with what she could hear from his end, but it was not much. She was still left confused, trying to make sense of his one-sided conversation.

"What?" Jacky mouthed anxiously to him, but he held his hands for her to wait as he continued to listen to what the other person was saying on the other line.

"Is there any way that we could contact them?" He finally asked. He felt relief that Alex and Dani were safe, but he still needed to call Alex as soon as possible.

He could see that Jacky's face slightly lighted up upon hearing his question. She somehow deduced that the two were fine, but there was still a lingering question on her face.

She patiently waited for him to finish his conversation. At least, her heart finally calmed down, knowing that their friends were safe. She would not know what to do if she lost the only family she had.

"They are safe." He quickly uttered upon ending the call, not wanting her to wait for a second longer.

"Alex flew Dani early this morning to a private island for a quick getaway.

But when they arrived on the island, the communications were down because of some technical issues. Alona was able to contact the pilot that flew them through the radio on the plane.

We will probably hear from them in a little while once they fixed the line on the island." Marcus explained to Jacky.

"Then, I guess all we can do is wait until they call us." She concluded, finding herself breathing easily.

For some reason, she was glad that Marcus stayed to keep her company. In a way, she saw the old Marcus that became her friend in the past before things went sour with them.

Did she still love him? She was doubtful, but she could see that he had changed considerably.. However, she supposed that she could be amicable to friendship.

### **Chapter 324 - An Exciting Escapade**

The first schedule for the day was going to the local market. After their breakfast, they did not feel like going for a swim just yet. So, Alex invited her to roam around the island.

It was a small community with a few locals who ran the place. There were other nearby towns, but they would require to travel by land to go there. With the limited time they had, it was simply impossible.

"We can always come back here and explore the other sites of the island," Alex told her, driving the motorbike he had borrowed from the resort.

He preferred the two-wheel vehicle since he could easily maneuver it around the small, intricate street of the marketplace. He could not do that if he took a four-wheel.

But he already considered the incoming weather and some other aspects that could affect their day outside. So far, he did not find any reason why they could not enjoy a relaxing, breezy ride.

"I supposed I can always wait for the next time," Dani shouted over his ears while she held on tight around his back.

She still could remember the last time she back rode on his bike. It was an exciting and thrilling experience, but she still could not get over the fear that they might fall on the ground.

Although, she trusted Alex with her life and his abilities. She still believed accidents do happen in unfortunate times. She could not help but feel a slight chill in her body in every turn he made.

"I won't let anything happen to you. I promise, Dani." He quickly looked over his shoulder to check on her.

He could sense her fear as her heartbeat quickened. He could feel it on his back as she bent closer to him, tightening her hug on him. He wanted to guarantee her safety, but all he could do was reassure him.

He drove with a moderate speed, not wanting to frighten her or be involved in an accident. Besides, he also wanted her to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the sights as they cruised along the galvanized road.

"I know that. I need to get used to this." She did feel the slight rush of adrenaline when she rode this vehicle. But it would take a while before she could feel comfortable around this moving mechanism.

"Well, why don't you open your eyes and check out the sights." He teased him with a chuckle, noticing that she kept closing her eyes. He did not want her to miss the chance to gaze upon the beauty of this place.

She stopped closing her eyes and finally viewed her surroundings. As she continued to check the things Alex kept pointing out, she slowly forgot her woes.

A few more minutes later, they were entering the town proper. It was like they drove into a fantasy town where everything looked different.

"This place is amazing." She voiced out her fascination.

Not exactly strange, but it was from the usual place she had been before. There was something about this small town that was enchanting.

"Yes, it is one of the reasons why we kept going back in this place when we were young." He pointed to another area when he turned the bike in another corner. "You must see this."

He parked the bike on the sidewalk, in front of an old artistic structure. He could not believe that the local community still tried to preserve this place the way it was before.



"So, this is not your first time to come here." She felt honored that he kept sharing his past with her. "Did your parents bring you here often?" She still could not imagine him as a young man, much less a young boy.

"It was not my parents who came with me here. It is my grandparents. They brought me here to spend time with me and enjoy private time together." He revealed to her.

He could still remember the memories he had built with his grandparents. He relished the fun moments he shared with Grandpa and Nanna and some secrets they only imparted with him.

"I also loved the times I spent with my grandparents. They were also short ones, but they made sure that they were memorable." She disclosed to him, recalling the memories as she stared at the people and the structures around her.

"Why don't we travel by foot from here?" He offered as he turned off the engine. "It will give you a better appreciation of the place." He helped her off the bike while following her.

He ushered her to the street with a few tourists roaming around, just like them, enjoying their vacation. It was one of the attractions of this place. He and Dani could play like ordinary tourists without people bothering them.

"Where are we going?" She asked as they started moving with the crowd.

She could already see different kinds of shops, coffee, pastry, dress, shoes, among other things. On the other side, she noticed some fancy restaurants. Not as elegant as in the city, but cozy enough to attract people.

"Let our feet guide us to wherever they want to go." He recommended. He did not feel like thinking of a plan. He would let the moment take them wherever they would lead them.

"I like the sound of that." She smiled at him, genuinely excited with his plans or no plan at all.

She always enjoyed his surprises. Right now, she could not wait to see what else she would discover on this tiny island. It might be small, but she could already see a lot of potentials.

"Then, we should start with the arcade." He offered when he saw a place where many kids were converging around. "Have you been to one?" He asked her as he opened the door to her.

"I wanted to try it once when I was young but never did get the chance." She told him.

She could remember a time in the past she asked her friends if they could play, but such an establishment was not something her friends would go to, so she never went.

"Well, then this is your time to experience being young again." He knew that playing games had no age limit. Everyone had the right to enjoy life, whether young or old.

"Aren't we too old for this?" She asked, looking at the young patrons in the shop.

"Age is just a number. I believe we deserve to have fun." He bought them some tokens and chose a game.

They both settled for a racing game for their first try, then moved on to the different entertainments the arcade was offering. Dani could not help the laughter that kept coming out of her mouth.

"Maybe." She joined him in every game he challenged her, beating him once or twice. But he had an advantage since he knew the game.

She could not believe what she had missed when she was young. If she could turn back time, she would not hesitate to enjoy her life. But since she could not do that, maybe she could have her fun now.

"Did you have fun?" He finally asked when they got out of the establishment and back on the street. "Let's try to look for something else."

He guided her to another street that led to the marketplace. Still, he had no definite plan to where they were going. He was letting fate guide them to their next experience.

Every day, they faced rules and obligations. Their plans and strategies guided them to succeed in their jobs.. But today, screw them all, he would take Dani on an exciting escapade.

### **Chapter 325 - Escape The Prison**

"What was your news again?" Cassie sweetly asked while they ate the breakfast he had prepared, still feeling the sting on her wrist.

She had to play her cards right if she wanted to escape Nick. She had to make him believe that she was still on his side. She could not allow him to know her plans.

The only thing that caused his ire was the thought that she was leaving him. He still had no clue that she had already betrayed him. She planned to keep it that way.

"Well, it seemed that our lovely couple had gone missing this morning. No one seemed to determine the whereabouts of the two." He explained as he shoved his mouth with a mouthful of toast and bacon from his plate.

"Where did you get this information?" She was slightly alarmed, but she had to play it cool. He could not suspect that she had a vested interest in Alex.

Alex could not go missing when she gave him all her evidence. She was counting on him to correct the wrongs she had made in the past. It was also her only chance to be free from Nick forever.

Once she escaped, she could always run away from Nick. But she would be looking over her shoulders most of the time, thinking that Nick would come after her.

"I have my sources," Nick said, not telling her more since he was beginning to doubt her loyalty.

After catching her with her bags packed, he knew that she planned to leave him together with the information she still was withholding from him. He could not allow that.

"But can you trust them?" If her instincts were correct, she could surmise that he had paid someone in Alex's payroll to report to him. That had always been his ammunition.

She had to find a way to tell Alex about this. She hoped that nothing terrible happened to him and Dani. She was counting on him to help her in her situation.

"Hold that thought." He wickedly smiled as his phone started buzzing. He snatched it on the table and quickly answered, hoping to hear more good news.

She continued to eat her breakfast, wanting to have all the energy she needed to keep with her charade. She could not let her guard down, especially around Nick.

She was confused by Nick's sudden change of expression. She could see the frown on his face as he continued to listen to whatever the person on the other line was telling him. She already could tell that it was not pleasant news.

"Damn." He slammed the phone so hard on the table that she noticed the screen cracked. "Why can't you just die?" He mumbled to himself, but it was loud enough for her to hear him.

"What's going on?" She asked, putting a slight concern in her voice. She had worked hard on her acting, and so far, it had not failed her yet. She believed she could continue to fool him if she did her best.

He looked at her, assessing her. He still had hesitations on sharing things with her, but since she had already heard some of it. He might as well tell her the rest of the bad news.

"It would seem that Alex and Dani landed safely on a private island." He continued to tell her the rest of the news, disappointed that Alex was still alive.

Nick would have liked that Alex met his death in an accident. But he would prefer that he did not take Dani with her. Nick still had many plans for her. But knowing that Alex was well and enjoying his time was not what Nick had wanted.

She could feel his anger as he stood from the table and paced the room. She already knew he was trying to concoct another plan to make Alex and Dani's life miserable, just like him.

"Oh!" She felt a sudden gush of air enter her lungs as relief took over her body upon hearing the good news.

Alex was alive, and he could still help her. It was all she ever wanted, especially now that Nick would not stop until he had exacted his revenge in the Hamilton and took everything they had.

"I almost thought that I had already rid myself of one of my thorns. But apparently, Alex was not that easy to eliminate from the equation. But I will find a way." He swore to her as he returned to his seat, calmer.

After a few more minutes, he started eating again, then drank his coffee as he watched her every move. "Any suggestions on how I can do that?" He asked her.

"What do you mean?" She played dumb, but she knew what he was asking her.

She could not help him like before, but he could not know that. She had to find a way to divert his attention away from all of this, just until she could figure out what to do.

"I want to get rid of Alex. Take him out of the picture. What do you suggest?" He talked to her as if he was only discussing a business strategy. But the way it sounded in her ears, it felt like he wanted Alex gone for good.

"Let me think of something." She needed to stall for some time.

She swiftly moved out of her chair and sat on his lap. She hated doing this with every fiber of her being, but it was a necessary evil that she must do to survive.

It was her number weapon against him. She was hoping that it would still work on him, or else she was doomed. She would have no way to tame the beast that was now holding her gaze.

"Well, think fast. In the meantime, what do you have in mind?" He ran his fingers along her cheeks, down her neck, encircling it on her throat.

She could feel the slight pressure of his fingers on her skin, but she could not show him fear, or he might suspect something. He was already on edge. She could not start pushing him more.

"What about this?" She whispered in his ears as she leaned forward, running her tongue on the inside of his lobes. Then, she went further down the side of his neck, feeling him getting excited with her every seductive movement.

"Keep going." He encouraged her, missing the way she satisfied his cravings. It was one of the reasons he could not get rid of her. She knew how to please him, not like the other girls who shared his bed.

"As you wish." She pulled the nightgown off her body and worked on removing his shirt.

He liked it when she played seductress, enticing him with her body. She moved her lips over his and played with his tongue until he finally responded with his domination.

Her hands traveled down from his shoulder, running her fingers in the contour of his muscles. If he had been a nice person, she would have fallen for his handsome and physique.

"You are mine." He also began his exploration on her chest, claiming her as his property. "Only mine. Remember that." There was an edge on his tone, a warning. "We are in this together. Death is the only way out."

He had to ensure that she understood him. She belonged only to him. She could not run away because he would always find her. There was no place that she could hide.

When she failed to respond to him, he asked her. "Do you understand?" He stopped her from what she was doing, wanting her to acknowledge what he said. He pulled her face until it was inches from him.

She stared him in the face, looking directly into his eyes. She could lie to him through her teeth, but her eyes might give her away. So, she concentrated hard to make it seem believable before she answered.

"Yes, I am only yours." She emphasized the last word, hoping that he did not see through her facade. She continued to stare at him until he pulled her closer to give her a punishing kiss.

It was a show of power. "You better remember that." He said as he pulled away. He stood up, taking her with him. He pushed her to the bed, reminding her that he had the upper hand. "Show me that you are still mine."

He laid down the bed next to her, waiting for her to make the next move. She was his puppet, and she would act according to the strings he pulled.

But if he discovered that she was taking him as a fool, using him to her advantage. He would make sure that she realized her mistake. She would not get away with double-crossing him.

"Then, lay back and enjoy the show." She started dancing in front of him. She performed to him just the way he liked it. She was a good dancer, and her flexibility was what fascinated him.

She went on top of him, kissing him. She could not tell him how she despised him at the moment. All she could do now was convince him that she was still the same woman he could trust.

She suddenly realized that she used to be like him. Always not satisfied with what she had. She wanted to inflict so much pain on others that she failed to see reason.

But now that she saw a way out of her misery, she planned to grab it. With the help of Alex and maybe Dani, she might make it.. All she had to do was escape the prison he built around her.

### **Chapter 326 - Playmate And Partner In Crime**

He allowed her to drag him from stall to stall as she checked out what the local sellers offered. He enjoyed watching her as she bought souvenirs for the people that she loved.

Those material things might not be expensive, but she picked them, thinking of the people that would receive them. She also considered helping the local producers with their products by buying them.

"I think I have enough," Dani stated as she looked at the bags he was carrying in his hands. "Wait, how can we carry those home?"

She could not imagine them with all those bags in his hands as they rode the motorbike. She was fascinated with all the locally made crafts and unique artifacts that she forgot about their mode of transportation.

"Don't worry about it. We can have it shipped to the villa later." He guided her to a building where they deposited all their shopping bags. They would deliver their things to where they were staying.

"Where next?" She asked when they were free to roam again. But she was already feeling the fatigue of her legs from walking.

But she was too excited to complain. She wanted to do more things with Alex before they went back to the villa. Moments like this were hard to come by. She would like to make the most of it.

"What about lunch? It is almost noon anyway." He turned to another corner where they could see a local diner serving different locally produced food, from meat, fish, and vegetable dishes.

They were immediately seated near the oceanfront, overlooking the bay. She could feel the breeze on her face and hair as the wind picked up and blew in their direction.

"What would you suggest we eat?" She asked the waiter that came to their table.

"Our plates of seafood are our best-selling. But we also offered several different kinds of meat specialties." The boy cheerfully informed them.

Eventually, they both settled on trying out the buttered lobsters and a few other sumptuous seafood dishes. Dani could not wait to sample the food as the delicious scent of their entree wafted in the room.

"Oops!" She covered her mouth out of embarrassment when the piece of the crab she was trying to crack landed on the plate of the man, eating on a nearby table. "I am sorry." She quickly apologized.

The man, seeing that she did not intentionally cause the accident, acknowledged her. He saluted in their direction and smiled, saying that it was no big deal.

"I'm sorry again." She smiled at the couple at the other table who seemed to be on their honeymoon.

"No worries." The lady next to him smiled at her, understanding her situation.

"Congratulations. Enjoy your honeymoon." Alex greeted the couple, and they thanked them in return.

"How did you know that they are newlywed?" She whispered to Alex, not wanting the other couple to hear her.

Alex wiggled his finger, indicating the wedding bonds that were still shining on their fingers. He could not wait to put his ring on her too and bound her to him forever.

"Let me," Alex ended up helping her with the hard shell of the crustaceans. She liked eating them, but she usually ate them with the hard covering already removed.

After removing the shell, he took the delicious white flesh, holding it in his fingers. "Taste this." He fed her with the mouthwatering finger-licking, juicy crab.

She quickly took it in her mouth, savoring the luscious flavor that the butter and the other ingredients added to its taste. She suddenly felt the juice dripping on the side of her lips as she swallowed what remained in her mouth.

"That is so good." She uttered, licking her lips. He suddenly leaned over to her with the use of his fingers. He wiped the butter on the side of her mouth.

Then, he placed his fingers in his mouth, tasting the buttery juice in his mouth. "Yes, it is." He uttered before putting some crab on his mouth.

They attacked the lobsters and the rest of the food on their table with gusto. They enjoyed their lunch with their usual banters and the unique ambiance the place provided.

"Oh my. I think my stomach is about to explode." She muttered under her breath as she felt the fullness of it.

She laid back on her seat to feel a bit of comfort, allowing her tummy some room to breathe. Although she never did go on a diet, she had never felt this bloated in a long time.

Presently, all she could think about was going on a run for a week to burn all those unwanted fats. She wondered if Alex needed to work out to keep his physique in good condition.

"Well, I am thinking of dessert, but I guess we can have that later on." He winked at her, suggesting something else that could fill his appetite.

He wanted her, but that would have to wait until they got back to the villa. A little taunting would not hurt. In truth, it was a foreplay to a much better encounter later on when they were finally alone.

"Well, that is a dessert that I am looking forward to." She responded, biting her lips for emphasis.

She had come a long way from her cocoon when it came to sex. He had managed to make her comfortable, from talking about it to expressing her wants and needs.

Although, she could not claim that she had become an expert in the art of seduction. She could honestly say that she had learned to enjoy every part of their intimate time together.

They left the restaurant for another rendezvous. Alex walked her back to their vehicle and told her that he needed to make one more stopover.

"Where are we going?" She asked as he revved up the engine. She could feel her heart starting to speed up too, but it lessened compared to earlier.

"A friend that I want you to meet." Since he could not contact him, Alex decided to drop by his place instead to see him and introduced Dani to his friend at the same time.

It had been a long time since he last saw him. He wanted to visit sooner, but other things always got in the way. He ended up postponing it until now.

"Really? I can't wait to meet your friend." She was delighted that he was introducing one of his long-time friends.

Every part of his past and present he shared with her was a testament to his intention towards her. Opening himself to her, together with his vulnerability, was a clear indication of his love for her.

She could not ask for more proof of how much he loved her. He had already attested his love for her with all his actions and his words. She was a lucky woman to have found her soulmate.

"I am sure that he will be glad to meet you too." Alex felt ecstatic that he would see his old friend again.

He did feel guilty for not keeping up with his promise to stay in touch, but since he was here now. He would like to continue with that promise.

When he came on the island, it was hard at first to have no friends.. But when he met his friend, he had been his only playmate and partner in crime whenever he came with his grandparents for a visit.

## **Chapter 327 - Guardian Angel**

"Have you reached your daughter?" Ethan asked as his private nurse helped him on his chair.

He was recovering at a good pace but not fast enough for his liking. He wanted to be back to his old self, but the doctors informed him that it would take time for his operation to heal and his strength from coming back.

"Not yet. Maybe something is wrong with Dani's phone. I'll try to contact Jacky instead in a bit." Laura moved around their room as she cleaned up and prepared for the day.

She was not alarmed about their daughter's whereabouts. She knew if she found herself in trouble, they would immediately inform them about her condition.

"You do that. I want to see my daughter tomorrow with her fiancé." He directed his wife.

He was bored out of his mind since he got out of the hospital. Laura was still adamant on her rules that he could not discuss any business during his recovery.

Laura assured him that Alex was doing a great job in running his business. But he still would like to hear some details coming from him.

Besides that, he genuinely missed his daughter, who had not been around to visit him. He knew that she was going through many cases, but it should not be a reason not to have time to see him.

"Let me see what I can do, but I can't force her if she is busy." She reasoned to her husband, who was becoming more irrational every day that went by.

She was a bit concerned, but she knew she should take a stronger stand against his wishes to work and stress himself. She would believe his doctors rather than be sorry in the end.

"Well, she and Alex should make time for an old, dying man." He insisted as he signaled for his nurse to leave the room.

He could not help but be sentimental about his condition. He felt like he was an imbecile who could not even take care of himself. Would he still be the same if he did recover?

"You are not dying, not if I can help it." Laura pointed out all the effort she was making to keep him alive. "So, please listen to me." She could not stress her reasons enough for him to understand.

She could see that he was starting to lose hope. She began to doubt if she was doing him the right thing by taking what he most loved away from him.

But she could not tolerate the stress that it caused him every time he dealt with his empire. She was so glad that he finally turned over the reign to Alex, but it seemed not good enough.

"Well, I might as well be because I am going out of my mind being coop up in this place without anyone else to talk to about anything else." He complained as he grabbed the remote of the television.

It was the only connection he had with the outside world. It was his only source of information about what was happening with his company and with his competitions.

He did have several visitors, relatives, friends, and business associates. However, he was tired of talking about the weather or the nonsense topic.

"Come now, honey. Stop doing that to yourself. You will be strong again. Then, we can live, normally again." His wife pleaded with him to be open-minded about his situation.

He could already see her expression change. Her earlier enthusiastic outlook had disappeared, replaced with the worried line on her beautiful face.

"Fine. I will try to make an effort this time, but call your daughter because I want to see them." He told her, needing to see Dani, not just to talk but to tell her how much he loved her.

In all honesty, he had some things that he wished to share with her. He wanted to clear the air between them. If anything would happen to him, he had to tell her the truth about their misunderstandings.



"Ok. I will try Jacky's line. Maybe she is with her, or she might know where she is." She dialed Jacky's number.

She had already tried calling her daughter's number, but she was out of coverage. She also did it with Alex's number, but she came up with the same result.

Finally, Jacky answered her call. "Yes, Laura. What can I do for you?" She asked over the line.

She was slightly startled that Dani's mother was calling her. She rarely did that, but she realized that she might be looking for Dani. With her phone unreachable, she was the first person she would call.

"I am trying to reach Dani, but I can't seem to contact her," Laura stated as she began to search for answers to her questions. "Do you have an idea where Dani and Alex are right now?"

If anyone had an idea of their whereabouts, it would be Jacky. She always made it a point to know where her friend was most of the time, making her the best friend that any parents would want for their child.

"Well, Alex took her to an island for a quick vacation. Unfortunately, the communication had some problems, the reason why we can't contact them." She continued to explain to Dani's mother the situation.

She did not want her to worry any further when there was no cause for it. Her friend was safe with Alex and having a great time. They could all relax until they came back from their trip.

"That is nice to hear. Can you inform me when I can contact Dani or Alex? I need to talk to her." Laura notified Jacky.

She was glad to hear that her daughter was safe and in good hands, having some time to relax and having some fun. Although, she would have preferred her home at the moment with her father, who needed her.

"I will sure to give you a call as soon as I hear from Dani," Jacky promised Laura before ending the call.

She could not disappoint Laura since she was like the closest mother to her. Growing up in foster homes, surrounded by parents who never gave a damn, was not an ideal way to grow up.

Meeting Laura was like heaven-sent since she became her guardian angel.

### **Chapter 328 - Enigmatic Man**

Back in the city, also early that day, another scene was unfolding. It had nothing to do with Alex and Dani but about two people who had a connection with them.

"Wait." A buzz on her door at an early hour in the morning was quite unusual for her.

Lately, she rarely had visitors, much more on the weekend. The sun was barely up, and her eyes were still droopy. She dragged herself out of her bed and slowly made her way to the door.

She had difficulty sleeping last night as her mind pondered on her life. She was only able to shut her eyes for a couple of hours when exhaustion finally took over her body at the break of dawn.

She suddenly wondered if she imagined the buzzing in her head. Maybe she was still dreaming, thinking that someone was outside. She stopped on her track midway to the living room, staring at the front door.

"Oh! Wake up, Tyra. What are you doing?" She looked around her place, checking her surroundings. "Get yourself together." Believing that her mind was playing tricks on her.

But a knock this time on her door made her realize that she was not dreaming. Another soft pounding sound snapped her back to her senses as she moved closer to the door.

She tried to think of anyone that might be on the other side of the wooden barrier, but she could not think of one. She was on vacation, so her manager would not be around to bother her unless something urgent came up.

"What is he doing here?" She mumbled to herself, seeing on the peephole the other person behind the closed door.

She could choose to ignore him, but would that make him leave. Or, she could let him in and find out what he wanted. She debated between her two options as she stood in the confine of her apartment.

Another buzzed on the door, she finally decided on the latter. She unlocked the bolt and opened the door. "Why are you here, Troy? Aren't you aware that it is still very early?" She sleepily questioned him.

She would point out the time, but she did not have a clock in her living room. She suddenly covered her mouth, yawning without caring if her visitor was watching her closely. Maybe that would tell him that he should not be here at this ungodly hour.

"I went for an early jog and passed by your building. Since I am already here, I thought of inviting you for an early breakfast." He explained to her his unexpected presence.

He had tried changing his routine lately. Instead of running in his usual route in the park, he decided to go on the street. He had no idea that he would end up in her block, which was fortunately not that far from his apartment.

"As you can see, I am not prepared to go out." She pointed her outfit. She suddenly realized that she was standing in front of him in her skimpy nightgown, forgetting to wear a robe. She quickly covered her chest with her arms as she stepped behind the door.

"Aren't you at least going to invite me in while you change?" He was not giving up that easily.

He was already here. He might as well make the most of the day. He had no plans scheduled anyway. Taking the time to spend with her seemed to be a better alternative, in comparison to sitting in his apartment doing nothing.

"Fine. Come in." She opened her door wider for him to fit in before excusing herself to change. "Make yourself comfortable." Leaving him in her living room to tend to himself.

She was not about to parade in front of him, almost naked. But she still wondered why she did not just send him home and decline his offer.

"Sure. Take your time." He hollered back, seeing her disappear behind her room. He was not in a hurry anyway as he took a seat on the couch.

He searched his brain for a reason why he was now waiting for her to get dressed. Was he starting to genuinely like this girl? He believed that it was not far from happening. The last time they were together, he did have a great time.

After the movie and him taking her home, she suddenly told him to give her time to think this through. He did try to give her the space she asked for, respecting her wishes. So, he wondered what he was doing now.

"Oh! What now?" She asked herself as she picked jeans and a shirt to wear. She was not expecting to see him.

After she requested time off, she felt that he might have changed his mind about her. She assumed that it would be the last time she would see him.

She felt that they were moving too fast. She knew that it was her who suggested this ridiculous idea, but now, she wondered if she could go through with it.

"Are you that weak?" She reprimanded herself as she stared at her reflection in the mirror.

She felt like she was developing some feelings for him. It was a weakness that she was working on about herself. She believed that she could easily fall for guys who showed her any signs of affection.

Her arrangement with him was for a platonic relationship. She was afraid she might be the first one to break the rule when she fell for him for being such a nice guy.

She walked out of her room, still trying to make sense of her plans. Should she get rid of Troy while things were not yet that complicated? Or, should she let fate decide their destiny?

"Where do you want to eat?" She finally decided. For some reason, she could not say no to him.

Staying in her apartment was not an option. She opted to talk to Troy in a public place where she could be distracted from her thoughts. She realized she could not trust herself around him when she was feeling vulnerable.

"I spotted a deli, walking distance from here if you don't mind walking." He checked her reaction, seeing if she was up for it.

He was not sure that seeing her was a good idea, but it did feel right. Looking at her, he could not help but admire her grace and beauty, a big difference from Cassie.

He did not want to compare the two of them, but sometimes, his mind could not help it. Cassie had qualities that he loved about her. On the other hand, Tyra also possessed a different persona that fascinated him.

"Yes, I don't mind walking. I like going there. That place offers some of my favorite pastries." She said excitedly. "But..."

As much as she wanted to indulge in sweets, she had to watch her weight. In her profession, her face and body were her capital. She had to take care of it very rigorously.

She also had some rare occasions that she made some exceptions. But if she kept doing it, it would become a regular, bad habit that she could not afford. It would be her body who would be suffering in the end.

"Hey, stop starving yourself. A few bites will not hurt." Troy could see her hesitation, but her eyes were telling him differently.

He had observed how she had always picked on her food, avoiding consuming too much. He had heard that models usually had to follow a particular diet, even starving themselves to achieve their required weight and body structure.

He did not see any reasons for her to do that. She was almost perfect in his eyes. He would not change anything about her, as far as he was concerned.

"Ok," Tyra finally conceded. She was starting to learn that he did not like to give up easily. After her experience with Edward, she had sworn she would not allow a man to dictate her life again.

But she was discovered that he was also a persistent man who always wanted to get his way, but not to the point that he would force it, unlike Edward.

He listened and observed the situation and worked his charm to get his way. She slowly realized she had no powers against his charms.. She found him fascinating, such a very enigmatic man.

## **Chapter 329 - Weather The Storm**

"Whose house is this?" She asked as they stood outside its door.

It was a small concrete house situated in a small community just outside of the town proper. It had a low perimeter fence that separated it from the nearby neighbors.

"A friend that I have not seen for a long time." He answered her, knocking gently on the door. He hoped his friend was home because he would like to reconnect with him again.

"Wait." A woman's voice from the other side of the door shouted. A few seconds later, the door opened, and a woman revealed herself. "Yes, what can I do for you?"

The woman seemed to be surprised to see two strangers outside her door. She wondered if they were lost and was about to help for some assistance.

She could see that both of the couples were dressed well and were not local on their island. She seldom had guests in their house, but she doubted if they came here for them.

"I am looking for Alfred. Is he here?" Alex asked the young woman, who looked confused, still had no idea of who they were.

"Why are you looking for Alfred?" She asked, curious about the two strangers.

"I am an old friend." He explained. "I am Alexander Princeton, and this is my fiancé, Daniella Hamilton. It had been a long time since I last saw him. Since I was in the vicinity, I thought of visiting him."

"I'm sorry to inform you, but my Dad passed away three years ago." She said regretfully as she opened the door wider. "Would you like to come in?"

"I also sorry to hear that." Alex suddenly felt guilty for not being able to visit his friend sooner. "We would like to come in." He wanted to hear more about what happened to his friend.

He did remember that his friend had a young kid at the time they met. Well, she was not a kid anymore. He wondered what happened to his friend and his wife.

She opened the door and guided them to the living room. "By the way, I am Renee." She offered them some refreshments before settling in on the spare chair across from them.

"What about your Mom. Where is she?" Dani asked as she wondered why this young lady was alone in their house.

"My Dad and my Mom were both involved in a car accident. They both did not survive. But I do remember my Dad talked about you on occasions." She smiled in fond memories of her parents.

"Who is taking care of you now?" Dani could not help but ask, sympathizing with the young teenage girl. She could not imagine losing two important people in her life in an instant.

If something like that happened to her, she would not know how to deal with it. Just thinking of her Dad dying was almost breaking her heart. What more if he did die? How would she be able to handle it?

She was amazed at the strength of this kid for surviving such a trauma. She looked like a kid who was still living normally. There was no sign of hardship on her face.

"My grandma took me in when my parents passed away. She is just in the market, but she will be home soon." Renee told them as she showed them some family pictures before they died.

Alex and Dani could see that her grandmother was a good guardian. She took care of her grandchild with a lot of love, evident in the smile that showed on the young girl's face.

They talked more about her parents during the time they were alive and her life since they died. Alex was glad to know that his friend had a good life. But still, he was sad that he did not even see him before he died.

After a while, they also met Alfred's mother, who took care of Renee. But they could not stay for long as they eventually said their goodbyes.

Since they were already both tired, they settled on going back to the villa to rest. It had been a long day. The news of his friend passing also slightly dampened his mood.

"Alfred was working at the resort. He was a young man who impregnated his girlfriend at an early age. I caught him trying to steal some things in my room." He narrated to her as they both sat on the patio, watching the waves as they rolled on the sandy shore.

Alex remembered the day he first met him. He was still a kid when he walked into the room to find Alfred rummaging through his things. When Alfred saw him, he was ready to bolt, but he did not.

Instead, he knelt in front of him and begged for mercy. He did not wish to steal from him, but he was desperate. His child was in the hospital and needed an operation. He badly needed money.

"At the time, I saw his sincerity. I know I have to help him. I called Mom, and with her help, she checked on the child's condition and financed her operation. From that day, we became friends." He had a solemn look, remembering the past, but he quickly wiped it with his hands.

He could not do anything about it, but he was glad that he had a friend like him, even for a short while. Alfred might have made a mistake, but he repented for it and turned his life around.

He offered him more money. So, Alfred could start a new life. But Alfred refused, saying that he had done enough. His help and friendship were all he needed.

"You always had a good heart. I am sure that wherever Alfred is now, he appreciates the friendship you shared." Dani could only console him, seeing the regret in his eyes.

It was another side of him that she only had a glimpse of now. Every day she spent with him, she discovered more things about him. Some were good and some not so bad.

She was glad that so far, she had not seen a side of him that she might not like. But she kept wondering if such a time would come. What would be her reaction?

"I want to do something for Renee." He was thinking of offering her a scholarship or any form of help that they might need.

He could do nothing for his friend, but he could still make up for it with his family. There was no sense in regret. It would not bring back the past or his friend. But he still could do something for the people he loved.

"Let me handle it," Dani told him, having more experience in dealing with this kind of matter. "Now, would you like to swim with me?" She suggested, trying to divert his attention to something else.

She stood from the chair and dragged him along with her. Instead of going inside the house to change into their swimwear, she pulled him near the water.

She started removing her clothes, leaving only her underwear. She ran towards the water, diving into its warm, calming waves. "Come on. The water is great." She beckoned him, waving to him.

He smiled at her effort to cheer him up. He appreciated what she was doing. "I am coming." He also followed her example, removing his pants and shirt before diving in and swimming towards her.

As soon as he touched her, he did not want to let her go. He held her tight, encircling his arms around her waist. He knew that she was all he needed.

Like what Alfred did for his family, he would do anything for her. Alfred was a good man with principles, but when it came to his loved ones, he did what he thought was best for them, even if it caused him his life.

"I love you," Alex whispered to her, professing his love for her.

He knew that the first few months of their relationship would be like roses and rainbows. New love would always be sweet and full of excitement.

"I love you too, Alex." She entwined her fingers on his hair as she stared into his eyes. She allowed him to support her as they continued to be chest-deep in the wavy water.

She was not naive to believe that their marriage would always be perfect. It might seem to the outside world that it was a match made in heaven, but in truth, they were like any human beings.

As they continued their journey together, she expected that thorns and storms would eventually catch up with them. She just hoped that they would be able to handle them together.

She could only hope that the foundation of their relationship would be strong enough to withstand the trials that might come their way.. Their love would be able to weather the storm that might be brewing on the horizon.

### **Chapter 330 - Magic Word**

She woke up with the man she was about to marry, sleeping peacefully beside her. She stared at his face and wondered if he did ever dream of her. He did not seem to have a hard time sleeping.

She rarely saw him stay up late at night unless they were doing some activity. She did not even notice him having a bad dream as she used to have.

"Good morning." She barely uttered in a whisper, careful not to wake him up.

She moved out of bed and grabbed her robe, walking in the direction of the balcony adjacent to their room. She stepped out of the double doors, looking at the vast ocean in front of her.

She immediately felt the gentle breeze of the fresh air as it touched her face. She savored the feeling of the wind blowing on her skin. She held on to the rails, leaning a bit forward as she admired the magnificence of the rising sun on the east.

Inside the room, he woke up alone on the bed. His hands roamed around the sheets only to find it empty. He quickly opened his eyes, searching for Dani. But he did not see her immediately.

"Dani," Alex called out, but no one responded. He scrubbed his eyes to clear his sight, finally noticing the open door of the balcony.

He could not see outside because of the light pouring inside through the glass partition and the curtain hanging over it. But he figured that Dani might be on the balcony admiring the enchanting view of the sunset.

He slowly strode to the open area, hoping to find her, and when he did, he was in awe. She was more stunning than the view outside when the rays of the sun reflected on her hair. He stood by the door just staring at her, unable to move and look away.

He thought he already knew what he wanted in a woman. But he was proven wrong when he met her. He did not know that someone like her did exist, and she was more than he could ask for as his wife.

"How long have you been standing there?" She asked, slightly startled to find him silently watching her.

She did not notice that he was already awake. She only saw him from the peripheral of her vision when she shifted her gaze to her right.

She turned around to face him and waited for him to answer her. Based on her point of view, with the sun shining on him, he looked like a Greek god, curved into perfection.

She could not peel her eyes away from his shirtless, muscular chest and abs displayed in front of her, glowing under the rays of light. He could pass up as a supermodel or an actor who just came from a shoot.

"A few minutes. I am not sure. All I know is that I love the view from here." He stated with a boyish grin, noticing where her eyes were gawking.

He was not talking about the sky nor the ocean, but the only thing that caught his attention. His eyes could only see one thing, and it was standing in front of him.

He was assured of her feelings for him, seeing the way her eyes glowed as she stared at him. It was all over her face, the way she felt about him.

"Stop that," Dani could already guess what he was talking about, and she was flattered by his words. She never felt more desired as she watched his lustful stare.

"What did I do?" Alex questioned her, playing innocent, but the glint in his eyes showed his true intention.

He wanted her as he had never craved anyone else before. She was the only one who stoked a flame inside him like this, and she was the only one who could extinguish the fire.

"You look like you are about to..." She did not finish her sentence when he swiftly took her in his arms and covered her lips with his, devouring her words to oblivion.

She did not fight it. On the contrary, she encouraged Alex as she wrapped her arms around his neck, using him as support. She slightly tiptoed to reach him comfortably as she enjoyed the onslaught of his mouth on hers.

Then, she felt him slowly push her until her behind was resting on the railings of the balcony. His hands began to explore her body, starting from her back until it landed on her waist.

"You always drive me crazy." He mumbled between their kisses. "The way you look at me as if you can't wait to have your ways with me." He said in a teasing manner.

He always loved to rile her up. It spiced up their relationship, giving them a very healthy sexual connection. He believed that it could not only be about love. They should also take into consideration the physical aspect of their relationship.

"I do, but let's face it. You can't keep your hands to yourself when I am around." She retorted back, letting her hands travel from his chest to his abs, loving the feel of his muscles underneath her touch.

She grabbed the waistband of his shorts in her fingers, pulling it away from his skin. Only to release it, letting it snap on the skin of his waistline.



"You know you should not taunt a starving man. That is just impolite." He grasped her by the waist and lifted her until she had no choice but to wrap her legs around him for support.

"Is that so? Then, what are you waiting for, anyway?" She let her fingers slide along his cheek, landing on his lips. "Do you want any further invitation?"

She moved her hands along his hair, pulling it until he tilted his head to him. She could not wait anymore for him to make the first move as she attacked his lips with so much intensity, losing all control.

With him, she had learned to let go of her inhibitions. She was more confident to show him how she truly felt. Her sexuality had become more daring, something that she never thought she would be able to do.

He quickly carried her inside the room, unable to wait any longer. He ached for her so much that he felt like he was about to burst. He laid her on the bed, letting her slightly bounce on the sheets. Before he followed after her, covering her with his body.

"Please make love to me." She said in a barely audible whisper, biting her lips, enticing him more.

She moved her hands along his shoulders down again to her waist, but instead of playing with him. She was serious this time as she removed what remained of his clothes.

He also did the same as he carefully untied her robe and opened it to his gaze, admiring what lay beneath the thick covering. There was barely anything left to remove as she finally sprawled naked under his touch.

He claimed her lips once more until they were almost out of breath. Then, he stared into her eyes, reading the intensity of her desire. It mirrored the same feeling he was feeling inside of him.. "I think you just said the magic word."