

Chapter 9

RENEE

Was -was Marcelo kissing me right now?

My eyes were wide open unable to believe what was happening.

As just as I was about to get sucked into his kiss,he pulled away from me and suddenly ordered Luke.

"Stop the car!"

Luke immediately stopped the car by the side of the road.

"Get down,Renee."Marcelo said to me.

I frowned,confused."Why?"

"Get down!"He ordered again.

"You...you just kissed me and you're asking me to get down in the middle of nowhere?"

This man was confusing the heck out of me.

"Get down!Do not make me repeat myself again."

I felt like punching him.And I got so angry at his attitude that I didn't want to spend another second sitting beside him.

I got down from the car and lashed out at me."You're so annoying!"Then I slammed the door hard.

The car drove off,immediately.



Ugh!

I stood there for a second trying to calm down.

Why did he kiss me?

I decided not to think too much about it so I wouldn't go crazy.

Well, considering what I had done to him in front of Andrew, I decided not to hold it against him for kissing me in his car.

And I wouldn't delude myself into thinking that Marcelo's kiss was born of affection.

I'm not sure that man is ever capable to feeling any tender affection.

His motives to kissing me was simply a mystery.

MARCELO

I felt suffocated as Luke drove on. I roll down the window trying to get some fresh air.

I needed to dispel the odd heat within me and the dryness in my throat.

A part of me wished I hadn't sent her out of the car. I wished I hadn't ended the kiss because all of a sudden, I wanted to feel her lips on mine again.

I was already missing the sensation of having her lips on mine.

What was wrong with me!



Why did I even kiss her in the first place?

I have always had control over myself and I hated the sudden loss of emotional control.

And that was why I ordered her out of the car.

So I could think properly.

I sighed and met Luke's eyes on the rear view mirror.

He was staring at me,questioningly.

"What?" I asked.

"Mr King,I think it isn't fair to have left Mrs King by the roadside."

He didn't know what had happened because I had raised the partition when I kissed her.

"Do you want to join her by the roadside?" I snapped.

I watched him blink and he quickly shook his head.

"I'm sorry,Mr King.I spoke without thinking."

I leaned against the headrest,trying to calm down and get myself under control again.

RENEE

As I made my way back to Marcelo's house,I received a call from Grace, Catherine's mother.

"You ingrate!" Grace began.

I rolled my eyes. "What now?"

"What now? Is that how you speak to me now?"

"What do you want, Grace?"

"Catherine told me how you came to the house and ruined her dresses! How dare you?! After all we've done for you, you repay us by mistreating my daughter?!"

Clearly, Catherine had told lies to her mother as usual.

"I already repaid you guys for everything by marrying Marcelo. And those dresses were mine! Your daughter stole them!" I shot back.

"Are you calling my daughter a thief? My daughter has a pure heart and I'm sure what happened with the dresses can only be your fault. You must have provoked her!"

I rolled my eyes, simply glad I was out of that house.

That family just can't stand the sight of me. I wasn't even living with them anymore, yet, they still can't leave me alone.

"If this happens again, I'll make Nana suffer!" Grace threatened.

I stopped walking as I instantly felt cold.

"Don't..." I realized Grace had hung up and my teeth clenched hard.

Grace's threat reminded me that I hadn't gone to see Nana this week.

I quickly caught a taxi and headed for the Nursing home.

Nana had no family of her own. She had told me she had lost her parents at a young age. She had such a sad story. She had been married once before, she was heavily pregnant when she got into an accident, she lost the baby and her ability to conceive.

Just as she was recovering from all day, her husband left her. She started working for the Hudsons so she could find purpose in life again.

She always told me that the first time she saw me, she felt her purpose was me.

Maybe that was why we loved each other so much. Because we were kinda alike. I had no family and so did she.

But we became family to each other. Giving each other the love we had always needed. She was so dear to me because she was the closest thing I had to a mother.

"Renee!" Nana squealed looking so happy when she saw me.

"Nana? How are you?" I asked with tears filled eyes as I hugged her.

"I'm fine, my dear." Nana took hold of my hand. "What about your husband? Is he treating you well? If he isn't, tell me and I'll..."

"You don't have to worry, Nana. He's good to me." I lied, effortlessly.

Nana smiled at me and asked more questions. I replied all of them with reassuring responses, I didn't want her to worry at all about me.

"I was worried you might have a hard time adjusting to the King family especially because of your previous engagement to Andrew. I'm glad your husband is a good man. I hope..." She was interrupted by a violent cough, her frail body trembled.



I quickly helped her lie down.

"Nana, you should agree to come live with me, that way, I'll take good care of you." I pleaded.

Nana sighed, heavily. "I'm already in a care facility, my dear. And it doesn't seem right for you to take me in. It'll be such a great responsibility for you and I can't do that to you."

I sighed, feeling sad that I wasn't related to Nana.

I'm sure that was why she doesn't want to move in with me.

Determined, I resolved to find a way to improve her living condition and not let the Hudson use her as leverage.

"Renee, I might not have much time left but I'd love to see you and your husband's children. Will you let them call me Grandma?"

My eyes watered. "You have a very long time left, Nana. You're going to live long and see my children and yes, they're going to call you Grandma. Please get well soon for me, Nana."



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