

Taming A Billionaire

Taming A Billionaire #Chapter 101 - One Hundred And One : Her Alternative Self - Read Taming A Billionaire Chapter 101 - One Hundred And One : Her Alternative Self

Chapter 101 - One Hundred And One : Her Alternative Self

Nik's POV

It took us about an hour to track down the car after a series of twists and turns; they had taken her to the outskirts of the city.

I knew Sakuzi had a lot of properties but I didn't know he had one just at the outer edge of the city, I thought he was within.

The parcels of land stretched for miles and we had to cleave our way through poor and dusty tracts lighted with electricity. The lands were uncultivated, featuring wild flowers and tall bushes and possibly wild rodents currently rustling the bushes.

Soon enough we arrived at the main entrance and as expected, were locked out by a huge intimidating gate and a heavy patrol.

My men came out and encompassed me, ensuring my safety as I stepped out of the car.

Almost immediately, the remote operated gate was opened and two armed men stepped towards us.

"Identify yourself !" They roared at us with a condensing tone that made Judy's eyes flash with anger .

"How dare you !" He tried to charge at them but I held him back and warned him with my eyes.

I glanced up at them " Tell Sakuzi that Niklaus Spencer honours his invitation "

The both stared at each other before communicating into the device strapped to the back of their ears.

After what seemed like it lasted an eternity, I got a reply that made me see red.

"Sakuzi says he's too tired to entertain unwanted guest at the moment, you should come back tomorrow "

At once I fired two shots into the air causing them to grab and point their guns defensively at me but my men shielded me with their body while pointing their weapons at every visible enemy.

I gritted through my teeth " Tell your boss it's not a request but an order "

"Sakuzi takes no order from the likes of you - " One of them was still saying when his partner tapped him on the shoulder and muttered something into his ears.

With a huge scowl on his face, the fool glared at me while I gloated at him in return, I could already tell what happened ; Sakuzi ordered me in.

He tore his ugly gaze from me and turned to face a tiny, almost invisible camera built into the huge gate and waved.

Seconds later, the gate automatically opened and he mumbled under his breath."? Go in "

I slid back into my car and Judy drove into the compound accompanied by my men.

We pulled up at the driveway and stepped out just as another set of Sakuzi's men intercepted us.

It was already late in the night and our source of light was from the electricity that lit up the place.

"You all can't go in " A stoic looking guy dressed in a suit amongst three others, said particularly to me.

I lifted my brows, amused mirthlessly "So how many exactly am I supposed to bring along? "

He replied at once with an unreadable expression " Choose five of your best men and seven if you're not confident enough "

I ignored his sarcasm and made eye contact with Judy as he went ahead to select the guards he thought would be suitable and strong enough to protect me, in case things go south.

The stoic guy nodded his head before requesting "Guns please "

"No way " Judy protested.

"That's the only way you would be able to see sakuzi tonight " The stoic looking guy continued.

Judy faced me with a clenched fist "Sir Niklaus, tell me you're seriously not considering... ."

" Don't worry, we'll do it, " I interjected, causing Judy to sigh in disbelief.

We offered them our weapons and they did a body search before letting us go.

I gritted my teeth and took all the shame. "It was all for Maya " I chanted inwardly.

"Alright then, you all need to go - "

"What's the assurance I won't be shot in the head as soon as we step into the house with you "

The stoic guy was taken aback by my question but he was quick to reply " Sakuzi wants the girl, not you at the moment "

I felt like someone took a knife and stabbed me in the chest upon hearing his comment. Who knows the kind of torture he has put Maya through.

This was all my fault, I knew the kind of background I was from and yet I involved myself with her - but I would correct everything soon.

Judy's jaw ticked as our eyes met but I understood his frustration, he was my shadow guard and his sole responsibility was to keep me out of harm's way.

But I haven't made his job easy for a while now ; firstly, I had ordered him to keep Maya safe, now everything I've ever done since the past hours was to put myself in more danger.

No one trusted Sakuzi since mob leaders weren't exactly associated with honesty. But I had no choice, Maya's safety was all that mattered.

She was probably all alone and scared out of her mind in Sakuzi's prison, who knew if her catatonia had? relapsed again?

Sakuzi's men led us into the large mansion and Judy reluctantly resumed his duty.

He and his men were alert and made sure I was properly protected.They surrounded me as we walked, using their body as a sort of human shield against sneak attacks or snipers.

Taking in the large and almost endless hallways, I knew if I planned an attack on sakuzi, conquering this place would be quite difficult yet not impossible; I would need enough spies.

Unlike my organization, infiltrating Sakuzi's horde was almost mission impossible. The Sakuzi clan has existed for quite some time and has a firm grip on its members.

So when it comes to hierarchy, the Sakuzi clan is a tier above us but unlike them, we have quite an influence in the government and the underworld.

"Stop" Stoic face ordered, he glanced up and said to me "Only one person can join you from henceforth "

"Alright " I nodded and gestured to the grim Judy.

Immediately, the doors to a large dining room was opened and they led the way.

I hardly stepped into the room when I froze, was I seeing wrong?

Sakuzi and Maya seem to be in a deep discussion cause they didn't even notice our presence.

During our journey here, I conjured this moment in my head without stopping but none of my imagination seems close to what I was seeing right now.

I had imagined her tossed to the cold floor, battered and bruised all over or tied to a pole while being tortured repeatedly.

But each time I thought of any gory scenario, my heart would tighten painfully and I felt like I was running out of breath.

Thankfully, she looked nothing but comfortable and all I wanted was to run to her and embrace her but I couldn't.

Sakuzi was watching, showing my fondness of her wouldn't do her any good but put her in more danger.

He was looking for my downfall and if he knew Maya made me soft and vulnerable, he would surely strike - I had to tread carefully here.

"Boss " Stoic face bowed and attracted Sakuzi's attention. He lowered his head and whispered something into his ears - probably announcing my presence.

Sakuzi turned around and our gaze connected - Maya's included but I didn't return her stare.

"Ho ho, the mighty Niklaus decides to visit after all " He guffawed but I was not in the mood for pleasantries.

"You've aged more than the last time I saw you " I told him, not hiding the sarcasm in my tone and walked towards the dining table.

Judy was not allowed to follow me, he was told to join the rest of Sakuzi's? men guiding the inside of the room.

"Yeah, that's right, " Sakuzi acknowledged "That last time should be exactly after my son's death "

"You have two sons and several illegitimate ones across the globe, yet you can't seriously let go of one? Aren't you too petty? "

Sakuzi worked his jaw and his expression remained the same but I heard a derisive snort from the side and my gaze moved to her.

Brows furrowed together, I realized she was in a different dress and my fist curled up - they couldn't have done anything to her right?

But I knew Maya, if indeed they had violated her she wouldn't be this calm, probably hysterical by now.

Wait a minute, Maya was calm, very calm, like a tiger watching its prey, giving it a false sense of security while waiting for the best time to strike.

It was totally unlike her usual behavior, the Maya I knew was quite impulsive and judging from today's event, she would have left already if she had safely made it home.

Did she retract her claws because she was scared? I looked at her and couldn't find any bruise nor injury on her body, if anything Sakuzi treated her quite well - like a guest instead of an abductee.

Why was Sakuzi doing this? What was he hoping to get from treating her well? Turn her against me? Give her a false sense of security before he kills her?

But my thought was shattered when I saw Maya gulp down a bottle of wine and my mouth dropped open.

No wonder, she was so calm ; she was drunk and let her alter ego take over - things just got worse.

Maya was a good drinker but once drunk, it's another story put together. Once bombed , Maya becomes this totally different person and I was speaking from experience.

Initially I thought she had a split personality but after I had a secret checkup done on her, it turns out it was just her drunken behavior.

Once wasted, she becomes this daredevil and a total pain in the ass and it wasn't good for the situation she was in.

Chapter 102 - One Hundred And Two : Her Alternative Self -2

Nik's POV

"So, not only are you a chronic heartbreaker but a murderer as well?" I sensed the acid in her tone as she spoke.

Alright, she's officially drunk - time to face the music

I looked up and our gaze met and held. Unlike the shy Maya who blushes tomato red when looking into my eyes, this one boldly held my gaze.

I calmly replied " Stay out of this Maya, this is between Sakuzi and I "

"Of course " She sneered, picked up the table knife placed beside her and sliced through the whole chicken so vigorously that I wouldn't be surprised if the platter broke.

She began to complain "That's what I've always been doing. Each time I ask about your past, you tell me 'It's nothing! "

Maya picked up a fork and examined it carefully before stabbing it into the chicken with such a momentum that rattled the dishes on the table.

I gulped, it was already obvious she was visualizing me as the chicken in that platter .

"You say I matter but the things you do contradict that! " She bellowed and forcefully brought the fork down into the chicken breast.

My hands unconsciously went to my chest and clasped it tightly - my heart was still intact thankfully - maybe it was a good thing I was facing her in this state with Sakuzi around.

"I confess my feelings for you but you don't dare reply?! Who the hell do you think you are?! "

This time she dropped the knife and fork, instead used her hand to steady the chicken while the other crudely ripped off the wing and took a huge bite out of it.

Poor chicken, poor me.

I swallowed and subtly flexed my shoulder, the fact it was still functioning properly filled me with joy. Seriously, this was mental torture.

But it seems Maya was not done with her torment yet cause she didn't even finish consuming the chicken wing and tossed it into the empty plate beside the platter.

"I bet you and Tina gloated at my foolishness! "

She grabbed one of the chicken legs and tore it off, bones and all - wow she was this strong, how comforting.

I shifted uncomfortably on my seat and stretched out my legs just to be sure, you never know what's going on in a woman's mind.

My throat dried up when my sight fell on the oven roasted whole chicken with lemon and thyme and couldn't help but mourn for it ; several vital parts were brutally lacerated.

Alright, I couldn't take this anymore.

"I didn't mean it that way, Maya " I tried to explain but she was quick to find fault with me.

She raised a brow "Oh really? No longer Tigress but Maya? "

"Wait - What?! " There was a trace of confusion on my face.

I ran my hands through my hair and gripped the root so tight it hurt, but the pain helped me to calm down.

How did "Calling her Tigress? " concern the issue we were currently resolving.

Oh God ! She is slowly driving me crazy.

"May-no Tigress-Maya..."

I couldn't call her ' Tigress ' in front of Sakuzi, it would only show how much I valued her and that wasn't what I wanted.

Maya threw her head back and laughed " See? You're now so overwhelmed with guilt you can't call me that. You're an asshole, you know that ?"

"But you've always known I was an asshole before getting together with me " I said pointedly and I swore I saw her eyes spit fire.

I shivered and knew I had finally pushed her button, I'm definitely dead meat.

As depicted in movies and novels, I expected Maya was going to throw the glass of wine she was currently claspng tightly in my face but that wasn't what happened.

Even in my wildest dream, I never imagined Maya would grab the chicken or what remained of it and hurled it straight at me.

Caught unaware, the chicken hit me square in the face and God knows I can't recollect what happened next.

All I knew afterwards was the fact that Judy ran to my side and helped me up to my feet.

"What happened? " I asked, slightly swaying to the side but Judy was there to support me.

My face was greasy while I reeked of lemon and garlic, I even plucked out a thyme leaf out of my hair.

Oh right, I was trying to prove to Sakuzi that Maya was nothing but one of my usual playthings but the person in question didn't take it well and sent a chicken flying to my face.

The force and the shock of the unexpected attack must have tipped the seat backward and I fell to the ground in the process.

My eyes searched for her, in fact her eyes were red and thirsty for revenge that I shivered and goosebumps sprang up all over my arms.

I might have numerous enemies but I was not scared of them since I was sure of conquering them in the nearest future but right now, just the thought of looking into Maya's puffy, bloodshot eyes scared the shit out of me.

Sakuzi laughed and raised his glass saying " This is the most entertaining night I've ever had "

I glowered at him "I'm here to take back what you took from me! "

"I'm not your f*cking property! " Maya retorted.

My jaw ticked, her rotten drunken attitude was now getting on my nerves. Can't she see I'm trying my best to save her ass here.

"Niklaus Spencer " Sakuzi called me grimly by my full name " You should already know by now what I want "

I snorted "Why are you being so obnoxious?You clearly know Maxwell was shot in the heat of the moment "

Sakuzi's eyes darkened and he raised his voice "I can't be fooled! "

Realizing he lost control of his temper, he lowered his voice but the venom dripping off his words were apparent.

"If you haven't doublecrossed me, I wouldn't have lost Max "

"Why would I double cross you in a deal that caused me my wife too! " Niklaus yelled back at him.

Maya, who had been surprisingly quiet since the chicken attack, spoke up at once.

"Hollerup, what the hell is going on here?! "

"Stay out of this " I warned her, as if she ever listens to me.

"Perhaps you would like another chicken? "

I turned to face her with an ugly scowl on my face "Is that a threat ? "

"Depends on how you read it " she said back fearlessly.

I rubbed my face with my palm, sighing "I'll deal with you later "

"The girl isn't worth your attention " I went straight to the point "You would gain nothing from ending her "

"Yeah trust the asshole, you would gain nothing from killing me. No one would miss me, not even my mom - the asshole included by the way " Maya chimed in.

"Maya " I growled a warning and she sat back in her chair grumpily - at least she still acknowledges? my threat.

"The girl might not be worth my attention but she's worth your attention. " he pointed out and walked towards me " Don't you get it Niklaus, I'm going to take something you desire the most from you just as you took from me "

There was silence for a moment before I glanced up and with lightning speed, snatched the gun from stoic Face's grip and pointed it at Sakuzi's? head.

Instantly numerous rifles were pointed at Maya and Judy. Unlike Maya who was outwardly glaring at me, Judy was calm and maintained eye contact with me.

He laughed scornfully "I thought you were smarter than this , Niklaus? "

I knew if I dared make a wrong move, Maya would definitely die right away. There was no escaping it, she couldn't outrun that many bullets unless she was supergirl.

I swallowed the humiliation and the anger, dropped the gun and slowly went on my knees eliciting a shocked gasp from the crowd - Sakuzi was not left out.

"She's not the woman after my heart but I made a promise to keep her safe. I want to take her place but I know you? would never allow it, you want me to feel the pain and humiliation of watching a loved ones die helplessly "

There was a stunned expression on Maya's face and Sakuzi was not left out either, even though he hid it perfectly.

A shocked silence reigned for a while until Sakuzi decided to break it

He laughed in disbelief " Let's say I do believe the garbage you just said, aren't I at a loss? I didn't gain anything from this - "

"I'll give you Gerald's ledger " I offered and heard Judy hurl profanity upon profanity.

He knew I? just signed my death warrant, the Oldman would definitely kill me for this.

Gerald was Sakuzi's enemy and was once ours, if we hadn't gained possession of his business ledger and used it to tame him ; everyone, gang or mob leader, knows how dangerous their ledger is in the hands of an enemy.

So once Gerald has an idea his ledger is no longer in our possession, it would give him the incentive to attack us while he would have no choice than to fawn over Sakuzi in order to get in his good grace .

A smile stretched Sakuzi's mouth "Absolutely fine by me but that doesn't mean you can take the girl tonight "

My countenance changed and my eyes turned murderous but he sensed it cause and explained,

"Rest assured, I won't do anything to her tonight after all the girl is now my guest and we have been having a good time before your arrival, isn't that right Maya? "

Sakuzi directed the question at her and my blood chilled, he was doing it on purpose .

Why ask the drunk Maya, the answer was obvious.

And just? as I expected Maya answered, "Yes, it is. I'll be honoured to spend the rest of the night here " She boldly declared while staring me in the eyes challengingly.

You've got to be kidding me.

Chapter 103 - One Hundred And Three: Stay The Night With You

Nik's POV

I felt the urge to throttle the life out of Maya. What was she doing? Does she even have an idea of what she's putting herself in?

I was trying to get her out of the lion's den but she sure has made herself comfortable in it, like a lamb to the slaughter.

"You can't really be serious? " I let out a laugh of disbelief "You're serious? "

"Did I come off as someone who wasn't serious? I meant every word I said " She told me sternly, no hint of a smile on her face

I closed my eyes, took a deep breath, and said a short prayer. "Father Lord, give me the strength to handle her, but not enough strength to strangle her "

Trust me even if I don't strangle her, three or four spanks on the butt should be enough to bring her back to her senses.

"You are not staying here and that is final! " I declared furiously but she snorted derisively.

"And who are you to command me? " Maya challenged me with her raised brow " Brother? Boyfriend?? fiancé?? Husband? I don't think we still have anything to do with each other" She pointed out.

I gritted my teeth, curled up against my fist, and forced myself not to curse out loud. How did we get to this point?

One moment, I was planning to willingly spend the rest of my life with her but the next, my plans were extinguished like a flame and now I have to get away from her in order to keep her safe.

Then I thought of someone and reminded her slowly "You're still my daughter's nanny, remember? "

Maya rolled her eyes "Oh please, spare me the bullshit. " She inched closer and placed both hands on the table, staring at my eyeballs to eyeballs

"I quit the moment you kissed that bitch "

My heart sank and I felt the urge to explain things but I couldn't with Sakuzi around and watching our interactions. If I said anything that contradicted my earlier claim, then she would be in more trouble.

"Niklaus respect the girl's decision, " Sakuzi supported her but I bet he was scorning me inwardly, that sly man!

"Fine, you can stay " I concurred and saw a victorious grin stretch her mouth.

Unfortunately, the smile disappeared when I added " Since I'll be staying here with you anyway "

"You what?!"

The look on Maya's face was epic. Shell-shocked, she stuttered "Y-you can't b-be serious! "

I smirked " Oh yes I am "

It was her turn to be rattled. She glared at me for what lasted like ten minutes before facing Sakuzi,

"We won't be staying in the same room, right? " Maya asked for clarification

Sakuzi's gaze and I connected just as her question arrived, though I didn't say anything, my eyes said it all.

He scratched the side of his eye and told Maya "Sorry but I have only a room available "

Maya's Jaw dropped "Tell me you're kidding me! "

But when she saw Sakuzi's blank face, she knew he wasn't kidding but then, Maya wasn't one to give up without a fight.

She tried to argue "B-but there are numerous roo-"

"I have uncountable men to house and feed " Sakuzi interjected.

"But still I don't think it's - "

"Since you're so desperate, you can share a room with any of them " Sakuzi offered

My head jerked up, what is this evil man trying to do? He must be pulling my leg, right?

Maya's expression brightened " I can share a room with any of your men of my choice? "

Sakuzi nodded " Yes, of course, I give you my word "

I saw red, was he really to ruffle my feathers. There was no way in hell I was letting Maya share a room with another man, not in my watch.

I was about to speak the fear of God into her but Sakuzi beat me to it.

"But I can't assure you that my men would keep their hands to themselves. Moreover, they've been here for months without a female companion. "

I saw the smile curling her lips vanish, her face fell. Maya sat back in her seat speechless.

I couldn't help but shake my head, I thought I was cruel but I've seen a better player.

Giving her hope and dashing it right in front of her? That was totally heartbreaking but it brought her back to her senses, so I'm in full support

He went further ahead with his question "So what do you say, Niklaus or my men? "

Maya glared at me openly while a self-satisfied smile graced my lips, she can scowl as much as she wants anyway; I don't care about her tantrums if it means I get to keep her safe.

"I'll stay with Niklaus " Came her grumpy reply.

I laughed inwardly. No matter what, Maya still chose me because the devil she knows is better than the angel she hasn't seen.

"Fine then" Sakuzi clapped his hand and two maids attended to him. "They'll have your room prepared "

"No problem, as long as you don't have us killed in our sleep " I pointed out my concerns.

"I've given you my word, your safety is guaranteed as far as you keep your end of the deal ."

His interest in the ledger was obvious, it seems Gerald has been giving him enough trouble.

"Besides, you said you don't love her so I'll it be a shame if I end an innocent life, right "

Sakuzi's question was clearly a warning, he's got his eyes on me. Like a viper, he was slowly watching and waiting for the right time to strike.

"Give me alone time with my guard," I told him and he acknowledged my request.

I excused myself and walked to a corner of the room with Judy trailing after me.

"Are you crazy?! What were you thinking ?! " Judy whispered yelled at me.

My expression was grim " You know I have no choice "

" Exactly! " he shouted beneath his breath " You should have just given up on her "

My eyes flashed and I gritted through my teeth "You're not seriously telling me I should have let her die in Sakuzi's hands "

"Your life is ten times worth more than hers "

"Because I'm the Spencer Group heir? "

Judy sighed and threw his hands up "Of course, Spencer Group is the reason billions of people aren't in abject poverty. And don't tell me you're seriously in love with Maya? "

"Of Course Not " I denied his accusation right away " I'm not in love with her I just... I just... "

"Just what Niklaus?!" He prompted me.

"I just care for her alright " I whisper-shouted back " My worst nightmare would be she dying in sakuzi's hands. Kay's death is enough"

"Then you shouldn't have gotten involved with her in the first place Niklaus" He chided me " Now Sakuzi has his eyes on her and there's no telling what he would do to her in the future, even if she escapes tonight "

I licked my bottom lips " Yeah you're right Judy, I shouldn't have gotten involved with her in the first place so? I guess I'm truly a heartless and selfish guy as they say "

A wry smile appeared on my face while I shrug " But she was just different from the other girls I have been with, there was something intriguing and original about her. so I decided to have her to myself without thinking about the implications. A little indulgence wouldn't hurt right ?"

Judy's face was neutral, I couldn't tell what he was thinking neither did I get a response from him.

"But you don't have to worry, after tonight I'm cutting off all ties with her. It is the best way to keep her safe "

Finally, he sighed and rubbed his face with his palm "And Gerald's ledger? "

"It's a done deal Judy " I reminded him " Her safety tonight in exchange for the Ledger "

"You know this would cost you a lot of trouble. Your cousin Eden might take advantage of this opportunity to kick you out of your position, not to talk of your father "

I sneered "They can try "

"Niklaus, I'm serious here. Maya is seriously not worth all this trouble "

I glared " Don't you ever say that again! " I warned him furiously "If she isn't worth it, then no woman other her would. You all are just blind, you don't see the potential In her "

Judy shot back "You sound like someone who is madly in love with her "

I growled at him "I just care deeply for her and stop forcing words out of my mouth and get me the damn ledger first thing tomorrow morning before the rooster crows "

"Fine " he gave in at last " I'll take half of the men and leave the rest here "

"No," I told him immediately.

"No? What do you mean no? "

"Take all of your men "

"What?! You can't be serious Niklaus. First the ledger, now this? " he asked frustratedly.

I placed my hand on his shoulder and tugged him closer

"I managed to cover up Maya's kidnap, so no one not even my father - save Eden who had his suspicions- knows about this.

If you return with all the men, Adam would think I'm throwing a tantrum by jeopardizing my safety because of the incident at the Gala tonight.? "

"But still Sakuzi might - "

"Sakuzi would not do anything to me tonight, he might be strong but he knows the Spencer clan would not let him go, which is why he can't hurt me physically, yet. " I assured Judy who seemed hesitant to carry out this mission.

"Judy, this is a request, it is not an order " I pleaded with him knowing what he was about to do was beyond his jurisdiction - Adam would surely not love the fact he was deceived.

"Fine, I'll do it. Now leave me the hell alone " He accepted my request reluctantly.

"Thanks " I smiled and patted him on the shoulder before leaving.

But when I returned to the table, Maya was nowhere to be found. I meticulously scanned everywhere but still couldn't find her.

My eyes darkened and my fist clenched, had Sakuzi deceived -

"I believe she said something about occupying the bed first," Sakuzi told me the moment he saw the murderous look on my face.

Occupy the bed first? Sure, that sounded a lot like Maya.

Chapter 104 - One Hundred And Four : I Need To Sleep

Maya's POV

Niklaus was driving me crazy, what does he think he would achieve from doing these? Yes, he came to save my ass as he claims but if he thinks I'll be moved by this gesture, enough to accept him back, that would be in his wildest dream.

I choose to get drunk cause I seem to be able to handle situations well when I'm in that state. Once wasted, I'm bolder and bitchy - not my usual softheartedness - so people don't take me for granted.

But I was still reeling from tonight's event, especially the part where Sakuzi claims he's doing all these because Niklaus killed his son.

I have always had a feeling that the Spencer family has ties with some underground organizations but Niklaus killing someone? I haven't imagined that, not even in my wildest dream.

It was unreal, the Niklaus I know and seen, was kind; perhaps to me not to everybody, Considerate; not every time though, smart; extremely cunning

But the point is, I highly doubted Sakuzi's accusation until Niklaus arrived and confirmed it with his own mouth.

What was I expecting anyway, I hardly know about his past - if not for the ones I've heard from people and the facts I figured out myself.

Niklaus hardly tells me his plans nor secrets and does whatever he wants without my opinion even when we were still together.

I knew inwardly that whatever happened at the Gala tonight was partially not his fault and the fact Tina and his father were to blame but I still wasn't coming back.

Yeah, I love Niklaus, I admit that, but I don't want to be in such a relationship anymore.

A good relationship is supposed to make someone feel happy and secured but tonight I've felt nothing but drained and distraught.

I don't want to be in a relationship nor marriage packed with uncertainty.

Secretly, I tried to deny it but I've always been on tenterhooks in this relationship, nothing was sure and I couldn't tell when Niklaus would resort to his old ways.

Also, I don't want to be in a family where I'm not respected nor wanted. It was obvious Adam doesn't want me for his daughter-in-law, then so be it. I don't want to relive the same nightmare I went through in the hands of my own family.

I have had my own share of suffering and deserve some happiness even if for a moment. Niklaus is a great guy and all if you look beyond his flaws - we all have our flaws anyway - but I'm sorry, I have to let it go.

Sure it was not going to be easy to let go of the one I loved with all my heart, someone who made me feel alive after Andrew drained me, but I was going to try - I had to try.

It was for my betterment and perhaps in the future, I would finally find someone who I would love better and love me back.

Taking advantage of his discussion with Judy, I muttered a " Thank you for the meal " to Sakuzi, planning to head to bed.

I couldn't face Niklaus alone in that room, so I had to force myself to sleep before his arrival.

"Where are you going? " Sakuzi asked the moment I stood up from my seat.

"I have to call dibs on the bed if you know what I mean, " I told him and though he tried to hide it, I caught a hint of a smile on his face.

"Emerald would lead you there " He gestured to the tall endomorphic looking guard who already started to approach me.

"Let's go, " Emerald said to me and began to lead the way but I somehow noticed his voice was a bit gentler than earlier.

Throughout our journey, I couldn't say anything to this huge guy. I mean, what in the world would I even say to him?

Hello, how did you get to be so tall and huge? Did you come from a long line of giants? Or, are you married? Does your wife have to climb a ladder each time she wants to kiss you? did your height rub off on your thing?

Yeah, those were the lousy thoughts going through my head right now. And you can't really blame me, Emerald's height calls for a good imagination.

"Go in, " He said to me as soon as we stopped at a door " If you need anything, just use the intercom "

"Alright," I told him and shut the door, leaning against it afterward. I took a deep breath before taking in my environment.

The room was lavish and probably would be given a four-star if rated, but I was more grateful Sakuzi was considerate enough to fill the wardrobe with clothes - I wonder if he premeditated I would stay the night.

I quickly took a shower and changed into a cute red Micky print pajamas before lying on the bed. The shower helped sober me up a bit, I would probably deal with the headache tomorrow.

I hardly closed my eyes when the door snapped open and as expected, Niklaus strolled in.

I ignored him and shut my eyes tight, trying to force myself to sleep all to no avail, so I just lay like that.

My ears picked up sounds of somebody rummaging through stuff, so I peered over my shoulder curiously but was surprised when I saw Niklaus searching for God knows what in the wardrobe.

"What are you doing? " I asked and sat up, watching him curiously.

"Well unlike you who has made herself comfortable in enemy territory, I have to be ultra-careful," He said and almost immediately, discovered a bug hidden in the pocket of one of the dark blazers.

An "I told you " smirk was found on his face and I rolled my eyes, whatever.

What would Sakuzi gain from eavesdropping on our discussion anyway? He was probably just making sure Niklaus doesn't stab him on the back.

He went ahead to enthusiastically search the cabinet, under the table, bed, bathroom, the electric bulbs, and ended up with six bugging devices.

Niklaus gathered them and flushed them down the toilet before taking a shower, leaving me with the opportunity to force myself to sleep.

I tossed and turned on the bed, counted sheep from one to hundred yet, sleep didn't cross my eyes. I stared at the wall clock, it was already one in the morning and still no sign of sleep.

My senses were on hyper-alert when the door to the bathroom clicked open and Niklaus strolled into the room, shirtless.

My throat dried up at the sight while my pulse raced and I had to flush my brain free from dirty thoughts. Niklaus and I were no longer together - not official yet but he knows that.

I don't trust my body nor mind which was why I adamantly refused to share a room with him, but it seems luck was not on my side.

He came to stand beside the bed with his arms on his waist while staring at me intensely.

"What? " I asked him, why was he staring at me that way?

"Move to the side Maya," he said and tried to climb the bed but I quickly stretched myself fully on the bed, making sure there was no space left for him to occupy.

I snorted, "I'm sorry but I've called dibs on the bed " I turned my head and gestured to the pile of sheets on the floor.

"I was kind enough to order those for you "

His gaze moved to the thick blankets on the floor and then back at me. He cocked a brow, "Really Maya? "

"Yeah, really. "

I saw him wipe his face with his hands "Maya, I've had a long day today, I need to catch a wink right now "

The stress was evident and he looked a bit drained but I refused to be fooled; we are never sharing a bed, I don't trust him.

"Alright, you can knock yourself out "

He breathed a sigh of relief.

To his shock, I added "On the floor "

"Maya, be good... " there was an etch of warning in his voice.

"Or what? " I challenged him.

Suddenly, an evil smile graced his lips and he began to walk towards me slowly, the way a predator would close in on prey.

I panicked and began to crawl back with my hands until my back hit the headboard - a dead end.

"I swear to God if you come any closer, I'll call the police and have you charged for assault "

Niklaus paused, then started a peal of mocking laughter that left me stupefied.

"Sure, call the police. Have you forgotten where you are ?"

Oh right, I was currently staying in a mobster's house and planning on calling the police? Sakuzi's organization would definitely hunt me and my family down - hunting Kim's family? How delightful.

I gulped " In case you don't remember, I am a black belt so don't you dare come close else... "

But the more I kept talking, the more Niklaus kept crawling towards me until he closed in on me.

"I'm? sorry sweetheart but I need to sleep, " Niklaus told me and before I knew what was happening, he carried me off the bed and dumped me on the blankets.

You bastard!

Chapter 105 - One Hundred And Five : You Will Never Find Happiness

Nik's POV

Sometimes it frustrates me the way Maya trusts people so easily, how could she sleep comfortably in a room provided by a mobster called Sakuzi. Wasn't she scared that she would be strangled or shot in her sleep or does she think every mobster is as kind as me

But something was still strange, why did Sakuzi spare Maya? Yeah, it was a trap but the Sakuzi I know wouldn't have left Maya untouched, he would have at least tortured her before I arrived as evidence to show his sheer dislike of me.

The same thing happened with one of the models, I showed favoritism to years ago when our bad blood was still fresh. Sakuzi thought I had fallen for her and had his men capture her.

Though my men rescued her afterward, the girl was never the same. She had to be surgically operated and rehabilitated before she could communicate normally with society.

Though Sakuzi left after that, I made sure none of the women I dated, lasted beyond a month until I met Tina. Unlike the other girls, even I knew Sakuzi wouldn't carelessly mess with her.

Tina comes from a family with a long line of government officials, every member of her family was in a position of power thus making it hard for people to mess with her.

I gathered the bugging devices and flushed them down the toilet. Sakuzi knew I would find them, he was just messing around with me purposely -? giving me a hard time was his hobby.

After the shower, I walked back into the room hoping to catch some sleep after such a long day. I was physically, emotionally, and mentally exhausted.

But I was surprised to find Maya sleeping across the bed, her body was hardly occupying the whole space but she also intentionally made it impossible to find a space to sleep on.

I stood beside the bed with arms akimbo while staring at her intensely, what do I even do with her?

"What? " Maya asked me as if she didn't know why I was giving her a look.

" Move to the side Maya, " I told her and tried to climb the bed but Maya readjusted her position with lightning speed, this time stretching her body fully on the bed.

My mouth quirked up, what should I make of this situation? I didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

She snorted, "I'm sorry but I've called dibs on the bed " and directed me to the pool of sheets on the floor.

"I was kind enough to order those for you "

I scoffed inwardly, kind my ass. Maya was obviously still angry at me and she has every right to be, but I seriously needed sleep to be able to tackle tomorrow's problems.

I had a lot on my plate now, after dealing with Sakuzi tomorrow, I still had my father to face because of the ledger.

"Really Maya? "

"Yeah, really. "

I wiped my face with my palm "Maya, I've had a long day today, I need to catch a wink right now "

I tried to reason with her and was very relieved when she finally gave in.

"Alright, you can knock yourself out "

"She was indeed kind after all " was what I thought until she added,

"On the floor "

"Maya, be good... "? I warned

"Or what? " she shot back

Fine, since she doesn't want me to get a rest, she wouldn't either. Two can play at that game. My eyes twinkled with excitement and I began to crawl towards her.

Maya must have sensed the sudden change in my demeanor cause her eyes grew wild and she began to crawl back until she came to a dead-end.

"I swear to God if you come any closer, I'll call the police and have you charged for assault "

I stopped, thought over her word, and burst into laughter. As experienced as my men were, they wouldn't have found this place had they not been tracking the kidnapers.

Moreover, Sakuzi had his own people in the police force and this mansion was highly secured: such calls would be intercepted before reaching its target.

"Sure, call the police. Have you forgotten where you are ?"? I reminded her.

Her expression also told me she remembered I had the police in the palms of my hand.

She swallowed down her saliva " In case you don't remember, I am a black belt so don't you dare come close else... "

Her fear seemed to excite me, the more she kept talking, the more I kept approaching her until I had her where I wanted her to be.

I said to her "I'm sorry sweetheart but I need to sleep, "

Without warning, I carried her off the bed and tossed her on the pile of blankets that muffled her fall.

"Peace at last " I breathed and assumed a position on the bed.

Unfortunately, Maya was like a toddler who hardly tires out once excited. She sprang up like a cat and jumped onto the bed, before pushing me to the edge of the bed with a heavy grunt.

I let her do what she wanted since I was too tired to fight back and was curious to see what she was up-to.

When Maya pushed me to the edge of the bed, I thought she wanted to occupy eighty percent of the bed's space but what I never expected, was she to kick me to the ground.

"Stay down and never come up! " Maya who was kneeling at the edge of the bed commanded me but I guess she never expected to slip.

In the process of turning back to the bed, she somehow slipped and fell, headbutting me in the process.

I grunted, rubbing my forehead, it was really painful and the headache just intensified by times two.

I was really angry, I wanted to yell at her but Maya's pitiful eyes connected with mine, and my anger dissipated at once.

"I'm sorry," she said with teary eyes and almost quivering lips - my heart melted at once.

God, this girl would be the death of me!

"Fine, just go " I waved her away and she climbed back to the bed.

"What? " I asked when she suddenly patted the side of the bed.

"Let's share, " she said without looking me in the eyes.

Oh, she now feels guilty for almost breaking my head. Well, who in the world refuses free services.

So I gallantly climbed into the bed but my gaze couldn't help but focus on her.

"Are you okay though "

"What? "

"Your head. I might have taken much of the impact but you injured yourself as well "

"Oh this " her hand went to her forehead "I'm totally good, it's nothing compared to yours " She replied to me.

I truly hoped it was as she said cause I wasn't ready to nurse anyone with a concussion.

Tucked warmly under the covers, Maya used the surplus sheet to create a demarcation between the both of us.

I stared at her back and reached out my hands, the urge to thread it through her silky hair overwhelming me.

Midway, I froze, both of us weren't together anymore. The reality finally dawned on me.

I no longer could hug, kiss nor touch her because she no longer belongs to me - I didn't like the sound of that.

But there was nothing I could do, it was for her own safety. Besides she doesn't deserve a jerk like me, Maya deserves so much more. Perhaps it was better this way.

My heart hurts, it felt like a knife just went through my chest. Why was I feeling this way?

There was no way this was heartbreak. I wasn't in love with Maya, just care for her. Also, my heart is kevlar protected from such feelings.

Maya's tossing and turning roused me from my thoughts, was she as disturbed as I was?

I didn't know when I grabbed the sheets and flung it aside, covering the distance between us as I wrapped my arms around her waist from behind.

I felt Maya freeze, then she tried to wriggle out of my embrace but I said to her

"Please, just this last time. "

Maya didn't reply for a while, but I got her answer when she turned to my side and snuggled against me.

"Just for tonight " She reminded me, hinting I shouldn't expect it another time - if there would be another time.

"Yes, just for tonight " I assured her. But I couldn't assure myself.

I drew her closer, content with the warmth of her body against mine, and her scent.

Come tomorrow, comes its problems, so I internally prayed this moment never ends. Sadly, all good things must come to an end

Maya was still fast asleep by the time I got prepared and went to complete the deal with the Sakuzi.

I was in the living room with Judy while a long table was between me and Sakuzi.

His men all dressed in black suits and glasses with stoic expressions were witnesses.

"The ledger? " Sakuzi's brow shot up.

I gestured to Judy and he handed over the ledger to one of Sakuzi's men who in turn handed the ledger to Sakuzi.

"So the deal has been made, you would not hurt the girl " I reminded him.

"I give you my word, the girl would not be harmed as long as you keep your own word. Cause trust me Niklaus, as far as I, Sakuzi lives, you would never find happiness "

Chapter 106 - One Hundred And Six : Relieved Of Your Services

Maya's POV

I swear I'm never drinking again.

I felt sick to my stomach and the urge overwhelmed me so much that I jumped out of the bed, racing to the toilet like a fox whose tail was set on fire.

I bent over and vomited everything into the toilet bowl while using one of my hands to gather back my hair which tried to get in the way.

By the time I was done, my stomach was empty, my throat raspy, and aching from retching too much. Exhausted, I leaned against the tiled toilet wall before sliding to the ground.

I was so hungover, I felt like dying. Being in a foul mood today was a given, judging from the splitting headache and body aches I was experiencing right now.

I cursed out loud when a knock sounded on the door. Who was it this early morning?

Oh right, I was still in Sakuzi's place.

Though the bed was empty when I woke, it couldn't be Niklaus on the door. The Niklaus I know wouldn't knock but walk in, so it could only be Sakuzi's people.

I groaned out loud when memories of last night flooded my mind plus the nonstop knocks on the door weren't doing me any good.

Lethargically, I rinsed my mouth and made it to the door but wasn't really surprised when I found out it was one of the maids.

"What is it? " I asked, irritated.

"Good morning ma'am, your presence is requested "

"Alright," I told her, inwardly I had already planned to go lay back on the bed. They didn't exactly specify the time my presence was needed right - exploiting that loophole, how smart of me.

Planning to shut the door close, I was surprised when she added,

"And this " She brought a tray containing a cup of hot coffee to my notice "Sir Niklaus said you should have this "

I shook my head, " I don't think I can stomach that at the moment "

The maid smiled " He knew you would say that, so he told me I should tell you that drinking coffee acts as a stimulant, and helps with the grogginess "

That sounded a lot like the nerdy side of Niklaus but I might die if I drink that.

"Still no. " I refused.

The maid still persisted " He knew you would say that and told me specifically 'Shove it down her throat if that stubborn ass still refuses ' "

I frowned, that definitely came from Niklaus, no need to be suspicious. And whenever he uses that tone, he means it.

"Fine, I'll drink it " I grumbled, took the mug from the tray, and tried to shut the door but the maid put her leg in the way.

My brows raised questioningly.

"He instructed me 'Make sure she finishes everything, not even a drop should remain and confirm it with your eyes ' "

I groaned and ran my hand through my hair vexed. How did this guy know me so well? After taking just a few sips of the coffee, I was planning on getting rid of the rest.

I bit my lips with an annoyed expression "Fine! " and brought the coffee to my lips, the tantalizing smell wafting into my nostrils.

I hoped it tasted as good as it smelt, the last time I tasted his coffee, it was insanely bitter thanks to Izzy's prank.

" Mmm," I couldn't help but moan when the liquid went down my throat, the taste was heavenly.

I had to give it to Niklaus though, he was really good at making coffees. If he quits his job as a CEO and sets up a coffee shop, he would really make millions out of it.

Though I wasn't much of a coffee lover I wouldn't mind waking every moment of my life to his coffee - what the hell was I saying? Both of us weren't together anymore.

My mood turned sour and the rest of the coffee in my mouth somehow tasted like shit but I swallowed them down.

"Done. Anything else? " I said with a sarcastic tone and handed the mug back to her.

"He instructed that you should take a glass of water since coffee is a diuretic and aggravates dehydration and - "

" And what again? " I interjected.

Why was he so bossy this morning?

"You have less than fifteen minutes to get your ass down cause I'm leaving or you can spend the rest of your life here " The maid conveyed with a tone and demeanor that was comically similar to Niklaus'.

"Duly noted, " I said to her and slammed the door shut, albeit not in her face.

It wasn't her fault I was feeling crappy this morning, no one had forced me into drinking - even though she was the same maid that served the wine yesterday.

I eyed the bed, it was so tempting, I wanted to have just a little rest but having known Niklaus' attitude, he would probably storm into the room and get my ass moving.

So I ignored the bed, took a glass of water instead as he instructed, and went into the shower.

After dressing up I felt a bit better, though a slight headache still remained. It was better than the dizziness and vomiting.

The moment I opened the door, I was startled out of my pants. Emerald stood right in front of the door as if he premeditated I would be coming out at that exact time.

"Let's go " He commanded and started down the hall.

I calmed my racing heart and followed after him to the living room where the others were already waiting for me.

Judy must have brought a change of clothes for Niklaus cause he was donning an outfit that wasn't from Sakuzi's wardrobe.

"You're here " Sakuzi expression was welcoming as soon as his sight fell on me.

I don't know what was wrong with me, this man was a bad man as said by Niklaus but truthfully, I didn't feel much dislike towards him - I must definitely be insane.

"Good morning Sakuzi " I greeted him without the hugs and kisses.

My eyes met with Nik's and I looked away, the memory of last night coming up in my mind.

It was just a snuggle, nothing else and last night marked the end of it.

"Let's go, " He said to me and I nodded.

"I would love to chat with you over tea sometime Maya," Sakuzi said as soon as I turned and I saw Niklaus pause in his footsteps, his jaw was tight and fist clenched.

I flashed Sakuzi a strained smile in response and left right away with Niklaus.

Alright, I might not feel threatened around Sakuzi but he definitely makes my skin crawl.

Once in the car, I sighed in relief - freedom at last - but my stomach growled loudly that very moment.

My hands flew to my tummy and I glanced sideways at Niklaus, wondering if he heard that.

But the person in question was staring out through the window, arm propped against it and caressing his jaw, as if in deep thought.

"ThankGod, he didn't hear that, " I said inwardly.

I couldn't help but take a second glance at him, he seemed to be lost in thought, was it because of the ledger?

I had no idea what that ledger worth but I wasn't stupid, Niklaus must be in deep trouble for handing it over to his enemy.

Would Adam do anything to him because of it? Well, Niklaus is his son, what could he possibly do to him?

Yes, it was Niklaus' fault I was kidnapped - If he hadn't killed Sakuzi's son - but secretly I was glad he had the guts to come and rescue me.

He knew the danger and risk yet still dived straight into it. But that doesn't mean I'm going back to him. Moreover, Sakuzi was against him settling down or whatever he's planning on doing.

So returning to Niklaus? Mission impossible.

"Stop there," Niklaus said to Judy out of nowhere.

At once Judy pulled up at a restaurant and my cheeks flushed, he definitely heard my stomach rumble earlier.

"Let's catch something to eat, " He said to me and stepped out of the car.

Unlike the restaurant Niklaus frequents, this one was so-so which confirmed the fact he only stopped here because of me.

We picked a table but Niklaus took it upon himself to choose the menu for both of us.

Expecting he would choose one of those sophisticated dishes, I was more than stunned when I was served chicken noodle soup, egg salad sandwich, and coconut juice.

"Stop staring at me like I'm Jesus " he complained when I didn't stop giving him a look.

"What's this? " I tilted the plate of chicken soup for him to take a glance.

"It's good for hangovers. The salt in the broth helps your body retain much-needed water, while the chicken provides protein and boosts liver detoxification " Niklaus explained and took a huge bite out of the hamburger he ordered for himself causing my mouth to water.

My expression was sullen, I didn't want this chicken soup or whatever it's called but there was nothing I could do, it was my fault for drinking.

So I had no choice than to dig into my meal. As awkward as the silence was, we still kept our thoughts to ourselves.

Halfway done with my meal, he suddenly said,

"You don't need to nanny my daughter anymore, you're relieved of your services "

What? A bomb must have went off in the background cause I didn't hear him well

"E-excuse me? "

"I want you to quit Maya "

Niklaus must be pulling my legs.

Chapter 107 - One Hundred And Seven : Never See You Again

Hi guys, due to a technical error while publishing this book, please refer back to chapter one hundred and six before coming over to this very chapter.

Maya's POV

"You don't need to nanny my daughter anymore, you're relieved of your services "

His words rang continuously in my head. What did I just hear?.

I choked " E-excuse me? "

He glanced up, "I want you to quit Maya "

My spoon slipped from my grip and fell to the ground with a clatter while my mouth opened and closed helplessly, it was obvious I was shocked to the core. So in one word, he was trying to say I'm fired from my nanny duties?

"But my contract - "

"I'll take care of the contract and compensate you for all damages since I'm the one that breached it this time " His words flowed freely and firm as if he had practiced this line for a long time.

Was that what he was thinking all this time, how to get rid of me?

"I-I ... " I tried to speak but words couldn't flow from my mouth.

I was still finding it hard to believe what I just heard. I would no longer nanny Isabella?.

" Why? " I asked, my voice thick with emotion.

Niklaus looked into my eyes and answered "You know why Maya "

The intensity of his words shook me and made me shiver, he was sending me away on purpose.

"Why? " I snorted in disbelief, then taunted " Because you know deep inside that you wouldn't be able to keep your lousy hands off me?"

His jaw was clenched tightly as he growled " You know that's not entirely why "

I laughed sarcastically "Oh please spare me your lame excuse Niklaus " my gaze hardened "Don't you dare use Sakuzi as an excuse "

"What are you trying to say? " he asked, the tension in the room was increasing.

"Why are you behaving like a fool Niklaus? Why are you playing right into Sakuzi's hand? Do you think I don't know about the rules of Spencer's heir ?"

I watched him stiffen, then his brows came together " Who told you about that? "

"Why are you so damn curious when you never bothered to tell me in the first place? "

"Eden " he nodded his head as the truth finally dawned on him. Niklaus came up with the only person he knew wouldn't wait to expose that piece of information.

I gritted my teeth with my fist folded at my side. "You knew Sakuzi would do little to nothing to me once I got married to you, yet... ."

I took a deep breath and calmed myself down before glancing around the environment.

Thankfully we were the only ones in the restaurant at the moment save the owner who was wise enough not to butt into our argument.

I heard about the rule from Isabella, truth be told. The little girl was knowledgeable about a lot of things her father doesn't even have a clue about.

Just like the Sakuzi clan, the Spencer Clan hardly allows one of their own to be maltreated by others.

Once you become a member of the Spencer by marriage, blood, or adoption, you're covered - they value their blood above any other thing. They could, and would wage war against anyone or clan that dares to touch one of their own.

With my voice lowered, I stretched my hands towards his and covered the top of his hand with mine, stroking it tenderly

"What's holding you back, Niklaus?" I asked softly, this time hoping to get through to him.

His eyes rested on his hands I took in mine for a while before he withdrew his hands abruptly.

He instead said " I will compensate you heavily for your services, you might not even have to work throughout your life "

I snorted. Then a burst of joyless laughter was drawn from my mouth? "Why does this scene look oddly familiar to the ones shown on television "

I wiped away the tears that were forced out of my eyes as a result of laughing too much. "Why would I not work for the rest of my life? Are you paying off your mistress? "

He heaved "Maya - "

My eyes flashed with anger "Fine! Since you're so rich, I want every single dime paid. For the breach, for every physical, psychological, and emotional pain I went through "

"Maya -"

I interrupted him by standing up abruptly "I hope this is the last time I ever see you "

He stood up as well.

"Wait, Judy would give you a ride," he said as soon as I turned on my heels but I ignored him.

"Maya! " He grabbed my arm and whipped me around.

"Don't you ever dare touch me! " I rebuked him, flinging his hand off me.

"Maya listen to me! "

"No, you listen to me! " I roared back and his mouth closed.

I jabbed him in the chest furiously, it was time to give him a piece of my mind.

"I'm sick and tired of all these games! I'm not a fucking toy nor an object for your self-gratification Niklaus! I have feelings too and it has been repeatedly tossed and taken for granted throughout this relationship..."

My chest was heaving up and down from my riled up emotions "This time buddy, you have to make clear your stand. Stop confusing me! "

I drew closer to him, looking him straight in the eyes, and said sternly

"And this time, I do love. Take it or leave it "

His jaw tightened. Other than that, there was no other emotion on Niklaus's face.

I have always admired his ability to keep calm in the face of a storm, but right now his apathetic features irritated me like hell.

"Bastard"

I called him and turned to leave when I suddenly remembered, "Thanks for rescuing me by the way, but I hope to never get in that kind of situation because of you again "

I didn't look back this time and left the restaurant. I ignored his car with Judy inside of it and flagged down a taxi instead.

Once I reached his residence, I would take my own stuff which thankfully wasn't much, leaving the rest of the items he bought for me.

But the problem was facing Isabella, it was obvious Amanda would not bother me if I refused to say a word.

The song playing from the radio suddenly attracted my attention and the driver increased the volume on that.

"You said nothing's wrong, but something's wrong

You know my insecurities are always there alone

And I can show my weaknesses, it's something to be proud

God, it'd be so beautiful to see that side of you

All the messy parts, every part, your whole, whole heart

So come on, baby, open up

I swear you won't be sorry

You know I never ever judge "

" Could you please turn that off ?" I pleaded with the driver who obeyed without much hassle.

The song was hitting close to home and I didn't like that, I wanted to bury everything about Niklaus behind me.

It was now obvious all my relationships were doomed to fail, so I'll focus on myself - value and show love to myself, I deserve to be happy.

My thoughts were all over the place throughout the ride to Niklaus' place that the driver had to tap me on the shoulder in order to bring me back to the presence.

Thankfully Isabella wasn't at home when I arrived, she spent the night at Adam's place as narrated by Amanda.

So I? went into my room, packed my little properties into a duffel bag, and soon was good to go.

"Maya? " there was a worried and inquisitive expression on Amanda's face when she saw me leaving.

I flashed her a smile " Don't worry, he knows I'm leaving "

"And Isabella? "

My heart hurt all of a sudden, when did I get so attached to that kid. I was really going to miss her crude and sarcastic tongue.

"She knows, " I answered Amanda.

It wasn't a lie. Isabella was at the party last night and saw what happened. The little girl was a smart one and must have figured out what would happen, no wonder she decided to spend the night at her grandfather's place - she hates emotion and I bet I would have shed a bucket of tears if she were here.

Suddenly Amanda walked up-to me and engulfed me in a motherly hug.

"You did your best, little one, " She told me, and my eyes pooled with tears which began to fall slowly.

I rasped " It hurts "

"I know " she agreed, her hand smoothing my hair while the other rubbed my back.

"Alright, I'll be going " I pulled away, sniffing and wiping away the tears in my eyes.

"Trust me, you're going to find another person who would love you with all his heart " she tried to comfort me

I smiled weakly at her "I don't need love anymore " I told her, took my things, and walked out of the door while she continuously waved at me.

But the moment I reached the entrance, a red Ferrari stopped right in front of me and a fabulous looking blonde stepped out.

Tina.

Chapter 108 - One Hundred And Eight :The One I Let Get Away

Nik's POV

It was a huge relief to finally leave sakuzi's place. Last night had been a terror and a turning point in my relationship with Maya. It was a nightmare, I don't ever want to return.

I felt her taking secret peaks at me but I couldn't face her, I couldn't look her in the eyes, there were a lot of thoughts running through my head now.

Hearing her stomach rumble, I remembered she hadn't taken anything since she awoke aside that coffee.

Though sakuzi prepared breakfast, I was too eager to get her out of there. Who knows what sly old man was cooking up.

I pretended not to have heard it and looked away yet ordered Judy to pull-up when we came across a restaurant.

The restaurant was not up to my taste but there was nothing I could do, Maya was hungry and she had suffered a hangover upon it, so the best thing to do was to get something quickly into her stomach before she gets sick or something.

"What's this? " She asked me and I looked at the chicken soup tilted towards me.

I knew this was going to happen which was why I chose her meal by myself, left for her alone she would have just chosen some random junk food. I wonder how she's been able to take care of herself all these years.

Seeing the displeasure on her face, I explained the benefit of the soup to her body and she had no option than

to suck it up.

I was eating but the food tasted like ashes in my mouth, how was I going to bring it up?

After forcing the hamburger down my throat, I glanced up at her and discovered she was almost through with her meal when I broke the news to her.

"You don't need to nanny my daughter anymore, you're relieved of your services "

I saw Maya stiffen for a second

"E-excuse me? "

"I want you to quit Maya "

Her spoon fell to the ground from shock and I gulped, why was I feeling nervous?

"But my contract - "

"I'll take care of the contract and compensate you for all damages since I'm the one that breached it this time " I assured her.

She didn't have to worry about that part, I'll compensate her heavily for the losses.

"Why? " She asked, still finding it hard to believe.

"You know why Maya "

This was for her safety, Sakuzi doesn't go back on his words and since he has made Maya his target, he would follow her up.

I'm supposed to stay away from her but it will be increasingly hard if she's within reach. Moreover, you can't fool Sakuzi twice - the best option was to let her go.

She snorted derisively "Why?? Because you know deep inside that you wouldn't be able to keep your lousy hands off me?"

"You know that's not entirely why " I tried to reason with her

Her sarcastic laughter made me uncomfortable "Oh please spare me your lame excuse Niklaus. Don't you dare use Sakuzi as an excuse "

"What are you trying to say? " I retorted, can't she see this was hard on me too.

"Why are you behaving like a fool Niklaus? Why are you playing right into Sakuzi's hand? Do you think I don't know about the rules of Spencer's heir ?"

I paused while my brows knitted. How did she know that? I don't remember telling her that unless someone else did

" Who told you about that? "

"Why are you so damn curious when you never bothered to tell me in the first place? "

" Eden " It had to be him. He was the only person who would be willing to leak the family secret just to cause a problem between Maya and me.

"You knew Sakuzi would do little to nothing to me once I got married to you, yet... ." Maya burst with anger but managed to compose herself.

But the rule wasn't as simple as it looked. Yeah, we protect our own but the family patriarch had the right to exempt any Spencer from that immunity - I guess Eden didn't explain that part.

My father Adam was currently the family patriarch and yes, I am the next in line but my authority is still restricted to a certain degree.

Even if I end up marrying Maya if he

exempt her from that immunity, Sakuzi still has the opportunity to strike.

Initially, I had planned on tackling Adam my own way once I got married to her but who knew Sakuzi would make things more complicated - not to talk of Tina.

Suddenly I glanced down when I saw her hand covering the top of my palm I had placed on the table.

"What's holding you back, Niklaus? " She whispered.

I swallowed down my saliva, the urge to spill the beans to her tempting me so much I had to withdraw my hand at once.

"I will compensate you heavily for your services, you might not even have to work throughout your life "

I saw the fire in her eyes, I had made her very, very, angry.

"Why would I not work for the rest of my life? Are you paying off your mistress? " She sassed.

"Maya - "

"Fine! Since you're so rich, I want every single dime paid. For the breach, for every physical, psychological, and emotional pain I went through "

Paying her for all the damages done wasn't a problem but I didn't want us to part this way, I want her to understand the reason I had to do this.

"Maya -"

Maya stood up " I hope this is the last time I ever see you " She spat at me with anger and disappointment.

I stood up as well.

"Wait, Judy would give you a ride," I told her but that stubborn ass ignored me and kept walking towards the entrance.

"Maya! " I went after her and grabbed her arm.

"Don't you ever dare touch me! " She told me off sternly.

"Maya listen to me! "

"No, you listen to me! "

I took a step back as a result of her jabbing me in the chest furiously.

"I'm sick and tired of all these games! I'm not a fucking toy nor an object for your self-gratification Niklaus! I have feelings too and it has been repeatedly tossed and taken for granted throughout this relationship..."

Her breath was labored and her face flushed as she took a deep breath "This time buddy, you have to make clear your stand. Stop confusing me! "

Holding my gaze, she took a step forward "And this time, I do love. Take it or leave it "

My jaw clenched as I pondered over her word. I liked Maya but love was something else. It's too risky for me to love her.

"Bastard" She called me, her word filled with venom, and turned to leave.

But she turned back around when she recalled something "Thanks for rescuing me by the way, but I hope to never get in that kind of situation because of you again "

Then she stormed out of the restaurant.

Of Course, no one would bother her anymore. As far as I keep my distance from her, my enemies would think she was just one of my usual flings; one of my playthings I used to satisfy my sexual urge.

Funny thing was that for the time in my entire life, Maya was the first woman I dated and broked up with without having sex with her.

This piece of news would really shock the media if it leaks out. The playboy Niklaus Spencer never had sex with his past girlfriend? How shocking!

Through the glass door, I watched her ignore Judy and flagged down a taxi instead. The girl was still determined and stubborn as ever.

I knew she was heading to my residence to get her things without looking back. Somewhere deep inside, I wished Isabella would stop her.

But who was I kidding, Isabella would help her pack her stuff instead; my daughter had warned me not to mess this up but here I am, back to square one.

My mood became sour and it was aggravated when Judy came to view and announced,

"Your father wants to see you instantly "

I sighed deeply and rubbed my temple, of course, he had found out already, it was time to face the music.

"Fine, let's go," I said to him and headed to the car while he paid for the meal and trailed after me.

I thought I would run crazy, It felt like hell, I couldn't relax and felt angry at everyone and everything. But I couldn't pinpoint what exactly brought up the anger.

Maya: my girlfriend I just broke up and severed ties with?

Adam: who caused all this shit in the first place and who I would be facing in the next few minutes?

Sakuzi: the bastard who is hellbent on making my life a living hell?

Tina: An annoying ex-girlfriend I can't seem to rid off?

Or the music playing on the radio right now.

"There's a girl but I let her getaway

It's all my fault cause pride got in the way

And I'd be lying if I said I was okay

About that girl the one I let get away.. "

"Could you please in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ turn that off " I spat at Judy in annoyance.

He glanced up at me through the rearview mirror, noticing my grim expression before turning it off.

Judy didn't say a word to me throughout the ride which I was grateful for, I would have probably transferred my aggression on him.

The moment we arrived at Adam's residence, I was instantly referred to his study.

Immediately I stepped into his room, a teacup met me square in the face before breaking upon impact with the ground.

Blood trickled down my forehead.

Chapter 109 - One Hundred And Nine: Missing Her Already

Nik's POV

Blood trickled down my forehead but I remained still, more was yet to come.

"You bastard! " Adam raged and rose up from his seat with a jerk, grabbed a golf club from its bag leaning against the wall opposite his desk.

He approached me while removing the headcover and brought it down on the side of my arm.

"Do you know what you have just done !"

The second hit was on my back but aside from a quick intake of breath, my expression was neutral.

"All because of a woman! " he took out his anger on me.

This time Adam hit me on the back of my leg forcing me to my knees but it seems my silence aggravated him further.

"Say something you fool! " He yelled and hit me, this time the impact sent me sprawling to the floor.

I groaned out " What do you want me to say? "

Spitting out a mouthful of blood, I looked up at him. "I did wrong and came to take my punishment, what more do you want to hear from me? "

There was anger in his eyes and he made sure to show it. Adam tossed the club to a side of the room carelessly, breaking some pictures hung on the wall showing him accepting one award or the other in the process.

He began to walk to and fro the room exasperatedly while I pushed myself off the ground with a pained groan and assumed a kneeling position, my body was aching all over.

He suddenly stopped right in front of me, glaring down at me before he asked " Where is Maya? "

I wiped away the trail of blood about to drop into my eyes, answering

"You don't need to worry about her anymore, she's gone as you wanted. So just let her be "

Adam scoffed in disbelief? "Let her be? I should let her be?!? "

My face whipped to the side while blood was drawn from my lips as he backhanded me.

"You took away Gerald's ledger and handed it over to our enemy just for her sake? Do you know the gravity of what you just did?

"You betrayed your own clan for a woman! You jeopardized the future of the Spencer clan for the sake of a woman that isn't worth an inch of you "

"She's worth everything, you are just too blind to see it " I defended Maya.

"Say that again and I make sure she doesn't see the limelight tomorrow? "

I looked away, there were still words unsaid but it was unsafe to push my father's button now.

Of course, I knew the intensity of what I did, but I had no choice and I wouldn't mind doing it over again if I'm given the chance.

I watched Kay die with my both eyes, there was no way on earth I would have let the same thing happen to Maya. I would not live with that amount of guilt for the rest of my life.

After the death of Kay, I had managed to dull the guilt and pain by distracting myself with women and work. Sure it worked fine but late at night when I'm all alone, I battle the demons inside.

Until Maya came, she showed me the light even when I was afraid of tainting her with my darkness.

She was one of a kind, a softhearted angel who wouldn't mind putting herself in danger if it meant saving the people that mattered to her.

Maya took my shit and everything, even when I hadn't shown her all of my messy sides. Letting her go was the best, she deserves more than me.

"Niklaus, what has come over you! Do you know you sound like someone who is bewitched! "

I choked a laugh, bewitched? Maybe I was. Maya truly might have bewitched me else I wouldn't be behaving this way.

Adam lowered himself to my level and said to me sternly "I never brought you up this way Niklaus, what did that woman do to you "

There was a spasmodic silence the moment our eyes met but I froze, coming to a startling realization.

I croaked," Did you not even have this much of a feeling for mom? "

Adam froze too, then his gaze hardened and he warned me "Do not bring your mother into this! "

"At least these strong emotions I have for Maya, did you never experience it with mom or were you just a cold, astute, emotionless bastard who deceived the woman he claimed to love till she... "

A crackling sound was heard as a slap sounded on my cheek. Twice.

"Don't make me regret ever grooming you to be who you are today " he said through gritted teeth but the threat was apparent.

He stood to his feet, hands on his hips, face scrunched tight in concentration.

"Just when we had Gerald wrapped around our finger " he mumbled under his breath but I heard it clearly.

He turned back around " From now on, you're engaged to Tina "

My head jerked up "You gotta be kidding me "

"Oh, I'm deadly serious "

I shut my eyes tight and blinked away the blood "Don't do this to me father "

"She is what I need exactly, that girl from the slums has infected and manipulated your senses, Tina would help reset that," he said without taking my opinion into account.

My fists clenched at my sides and I threw back my head, laughing so much that tears slipped from my eyes mingling with the blood at the tip of my eyelids.

"You think I would take this lying down? " I challenged his authority boldly.

"I believe you don't want to wake up the next morning to discover Maya's body floating down the bridge"

My eyes darkened as I got angry and shot to my feet ignoring the lightheadedness that made me unsteady as I stood.

"I can take your beatings and scoldings but don't you dare threaten me with Maya's life!" I faltered, lowering my voice to a growl as I told him

"Don't force my hand father. Don't make me become what I'm afraid of becoming "

His eyes went wide " You've really gone insane " he raised his hand, about to hit me when a voice came from behind.

" Isn't that enough grandfather? "

Isabella who stood in the doorway strolled into his study without passing a glance at me.

"There is a degree to punishing a child unless you really want to kill him. Moreover, even if I desire his position, I'm too young to clean up his mess and still need to consummate my teenhood "

"Go back to your room Isabella! " he barked at her but the young girl in question remained unfazed.

She went on " You know deep down that this is all your fault if only you gave him what he wanted. I love you grandfather but I must speak out on this one cause I'm really angry too! "

Adam began to laugh, hysterically "Even you Isabella, she bewitched you too "

Suddenly his laugh came to an abrupt stop and his gaze hardened "You there! " he commanded his men stationed outside his room.

"Take her and lock her up, make sure she doesn't leave her room until I say so " He ordered and his men bowed and went ahead to fulfill his task.

"Don't you dare! " She boomed at the both of them but her threat was powerless.

"He just wanted a little happiness, don't you see you're making him miserable! " Isabella struggled as one of the men tossed her effortlessly over his shoulder.

"Let me down, gosh! This is so humiliating " Izzy complained since she was carried with her face down while her bottom was pointing up.

"And you! " She focused on me this time as she was being carried away

"I warned you but you took it for granted. Now you have me to face for the rest of your life! " her voice drifted off the passage.

Silence ensued until I asked, "Are you done? "

Adam glanced up, annoyed " Get out of my sight "

"My pleasure " I gloated at him before staggering out of the room. I winced with every step I took, my body aching all over.

"Here " Judy made me lean against his body, resting most of my weight on him.

He helped me into the car before asking "Should we head to the hospital? "

" No " I groaned and lay across my leather seat " Let's go home "

Home? Was it still a home? Maya who made it lively was no longer there.

When we got home, Amanda screamed her lungs out immediately she set her eyes on me.

"Oh my God! " She cried shockingly while circling me " What in the world happened to you? "

"It's nothing " I replied to her and gestured her out of my way.

"Where are you going? That's not the direction to your room... ."

I ignored her and walked into Maya's vacant room. The room was almost the same, she didn't take most of the stuff I bought for her.

The once warm room was oddly cold and lonely. My gaze fell on the white linen-covered bed as memories of the time we spent together there flooded my head.

With my bloodied body and clothes, I climbed into the bed and lay down quietly.

I was missing her already.

Chapter 110 - One Hundred And Ten : Nanny With Benefits

Maya's POV

"Do you need help with that, it sure looks heavy? " Tina asked politely, but the scornful smile tugging at the corners of her lips betrayed her kind gesture.

I ignored the fool and tried to move away but she purposely got in my way. I glanced up, glaring at her to the extent I wished my eyes were a bullet.

Tina's hand flew to her mouth and she said " Oops, my bad. I didn't know you were coming this way "

I rolled my eyes and stepped to the right but she moved along with me too - the first time could have been a mistake but the second time? Definitely not.

"Oh, you are going there too? " Tina pretended not to have known I would come that way.

I clenched my fist tightly, she was beginning to get on my nerves. With a huff, I strode to the left but she moved along with me again, blocking my path.

Okay, this is it, I'm done with her games.

"Leave me the hell alone! " I? screamed and hit her in the face with my duffel bag.

The force from the hit made her fall back to the ground. Tina spat out saliva mixed with blood and she looked up at me with sheer hatred in the depth of her eyes.

"Miss ! " two of her guards called after her before helping her to her feet.

"What are you two idiots doing? Get that bitch! " She ordered them sternly causing my eyes to widen in horror.

Both of them attempted to grab me at once but I moved back, tossed my duffel bag to the ground before stepping to the side, and avoided their grips.

I subtly put out a leg in the way, intentionally tripping over one of them who kissed the ground face first.

The other one punched at me but I dodged on time. He launched another blow without wasting time having sensed I could fight, but I kneeled him in the place where the sun never shines.

His hands went to his crotch as he released a loud cry of pain. He moved back and his knee began to buckle but I didn't let him off that easily. I jumped off the ground and sent him a flying kick that made him fall back to the ground unconscious.

My blood was boiling, I was very angry and the short fight made me all the more thirsty for more - I wanted to transfer my aggression on them.

Turning around, I never expected Tina to kick me in the stomach with her God knows how many inches tall stiletto heel.

I stumbled backward and bent over with my hand crossing my stomach, God that hurt!

A slap met me on the face while her fake nails scratched my skin, but that action aroused more anger than pain.

I stood up at once and backhanded her, drawing blood from her lips as she cried out sharply.

"Oops! My bad, I didn't know it hurts that much " I taunted her, using the same mocking tone she used on me earlier.

"How dare you bit-!"

I backhanded her again, this time sending her to the ground and the words rushing out of her mouth unheard forever.

"Sorry, my hand moved on its own. You were saying? " I squat down to her level while examining my red hands.

Tina's eyes were wide and she was holding her face with her palm while her lips were quivering. She bit on it to suppress her cries as she stared at me with an aggrieved expression.

"I told you, not everybody was trained with a silver spoon; some are mad dogs who won't let go until they chunk off something, " I told her pointedly and she shivered.

I raised my hand but Tina winced and shrank back thinking I was about to hit her, but I simply ran my hands through her hair eliciting an odd look from her face.

"Tsk Tsk " I clicked my tongue " Even your hair speaks of luxury yet you're not satisfied with it "

Suddenly my eyes darkened and I clutched a fistful of her hair so tight she cried out in pain.

"I'm normally a good person but not when I'm pushed to the wall. There's a limit a person can take and you have been crossing that lately Christina. "

Tears slipped down her eyes but it didn't move me at all, if anything, it made me want to hurt her the more - heartbreak must have really turned me into a psycho.

With a deep sigh, I reluctantly let go of her hair and gripped her chin instead, lifting her face to my level and reminded her.

"Unlike others, I am all alone in this world so I've got nothing to lose. I have nothing but myself to take care of, family? None. So perhaps, the next time you think about ruffling my feathers, remember I'm willing to die alongside you If push comes to shove " I told her with every seriousness in me and I hope she got the message into her head.

I let go of her, picked up my duffel bag, and glared at one of her men on his feet that was torn between fighting me and helping out his missus.

"Trust me, I'm a blackbelt, " I told him, hinting he should make his choice wisely and even went ahead to crack my fist.

The moment he saw my gesture, the conflicted look on his face was cleared instantly and he went to Tina's aid. What a chicken.

With a devil may care manner, I flung my duffel bag over my shoulder and walked out of the mansion. My taxi was still waiting and I bet the driver must have enjoyed the drama from earlier, even though there was a scared expression on his features.

"I'm not a gangster, don't call the police, " I told him as soon as our eyes connected through the rearview mirror.

He gulped, then nodded a reply and started the engine. I was going back to my old place and thankfully have a good rest while putting everything behind me.

The fight with Tina somehow calmed me down - must be the adrenaline or something - but I'm thankful to her for that.

I was not afraid of Tina calling the police since she fought back anyway, and she values her reputation more than anything. If videos of her getting her ass whipped by me surfaces, she would probably go into hiding until the buzz dies off.

Thankfully I kept my apartment. I wondered what I would have done in this situation.

It took about an hour to reach my place and I settled the driver who drove off as if the devil was on his heels.

But the moment I tried to step into the building, uncountable camera flashes blinded my eyes and I had to shield my sight with my hand.

As if someone shouted, "Action! " paparazzi swarmed out from God knows where in a twinkle of an eye and encompassed me.

"Maya, what would you say about your relationship with Niklaus?!"

"Did you really come between him and Tina?!"

"What would you say about his engagement to Tina?!"

"Are you really a gold digger?!"

"Did you approach Niklaus Spencer on purpose?!"

"You were the nanny to his daughter, was it a job with benefits?!"

My head was spinning, there was no space to breathe, not to talk of moving. Cameras and mics were being shoved to my face as they peppered me with questions.

"Get the hell out of my face! " I roared at them and tried to move away but there was no path at all - I was trapped.

"Ouch! " I cried out in pain when someone grabbed my hair from behind just to get my attention.

"Seriously, let me the hell out of here!?" I cried out but my voice was drowned out by their own clamoring.

I could now understand why celebrities hated being caught in this kind of situation without security, no matter how much I struggled I couldn't find a way out.

Suddenly, a Mercedes-Benz came to a halt in front of the house and two other cars of the same model followed suit.

Everyone turned around to satisfy their curiosity while men dressed in black suits stepped out of the car and moved towards them.

They forcefully created a path until they reached me while I stared on in confusion.

"Come with me, you're in safe hands," One of the men said to me, while the others pushed back the reporters, using their body as some sort of shield.

With no choice left, I nodded and he began to lead me out of this hellhole until I climbed into a car.

"You! " Eyes wide, I shouted while pointing at Eden who was in the back seat with me and going through a newspaper.

Eden looked up at me, "What century are you from? " he chided me to my utmost surprise "Don't you ever read the news? How could you put yourself in danger like that?"

He dropped the newspaper on my laps and that was when I saw the headline.

"FROM MODELS TO NANNY: Has billionaire playboy Niklaus Spencer's standard dropped? "

And that was just one of the many others.