

The Love of a Lycan

Chapter 171 - WHO IS THIS RICH GIRL?

I truly believe that every single person has to go through something that absolutely destroys them so they can figure out who they really are.

-TheMind&Journal-

They arrived at the entrance gates of the University after twenty minutes driving, they neither early nor late, the time just right.

The black sport car drew people attention and made them glanced for the third time when they saw it. This was the rarest type from the brand, thus the owner shouldn't be someone simple.

Some of girls even flocked together and waited for the person, who would come out from such a car. If it was a boy, he would surely become very popular among the girl and if it was a girl, the same thing would happen to her, with the addition of the jealousy from the girls.

"Don't you want to come out?" Torak looked at Raine and tucked a strand of her hair behind her ear. "Do you want to stop right in front of the lobby?"

"No. No." Raine waved her hands frantically. She was wearing a dark purple sweater, jeans and sneaker. Nothing was special with the way she dressed, but if she came out from this car, she would be the center of unnecessary attention and that wasn't in the list of her first exam day. "Can you drive the car a bit far? Over there?" Raine pointed at the corner of the street.

"That's so far my love..." Torak frowned. "You will be late."

"Of course not." Raine retorted. "There is still twenty minutes left before the exam." She checked on her expensive watch that Torak had bought for her. She didn't want to know how much it cost, because she would end up to not used it.

[Alpha, I think she feels uncomfortable with this attention.] Calleb mind- linked Torak, but the Alpha growled in replied.

"Alright, Calleb will drop you there, but I will walk you here." Torak said calmly, without slightest evidence in his voice that he just scolded the Gamma.

Of course Torak knew that Raine felt uncomfortable with all the attention, but he wanted those people to see that his mate wasn't someone simple that they could mistreat in the future.

Torak's statement surprised Raine even further, not only her, but Calleb also needed to turn his body to see Torak's seriousness. He wouldn't do that, right?

It was fine to appear in business news, but if he was about to walk with Raine along this University street, he would become the headline in gossip news in the following days instead.

"Please..." Raine turned her expression into a pitiful one. "You know I don't like this..." She hugged his neck and whined.

[Let's make a bet.] Calleb mind linked Raphael beside him. [I will give up my one month salary for you if Raine succeed to make the Alpha yield.]

Even before Raphael could answer the Gamma ridiculous bet, Torak had opened his mouth said. "Drive somewhere that less people." He said.

"Got it." Calleb said happily. [You owe me your one month salary!] He mind linked Raphael.

However, as an answer, Raphael slapped the back of his head again. "Stop that!" He growled.

People, who were looking at the car and waiting for someone to get out from inside, were slightly disappointed when the car drove away.

"Probably wrong place." A girl said to her friend.

"I think so..." Her friend replied.

"No way someone so wealthy like that stops in the entrance gates instead of going inside to and stop at the lobby." The other girls commented.

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Caleb stopped the car at the less crowded corner of the street, under a maple tree.

"I will go now..." Raine took her backpack and gave Torak a brief kiss on his cheek, she waved goodbye to both Raphael and Caleb before she got out from the car.

"I will ask someone to pick you up." Torak reminded her again.

"Alright." Raine replied cheerfully and closed the door.

Inside the car, Caleb was about to drive the car away because they had meeting to attend when Torak stopped him.

"Wait until she enters the gates." Torak rested his back against the backrest and watched Raine was walking slowly toward the entrance.

If he could, he would like keep Raine by his side and would never let her to walk alone like this and disappeared from his sight.

Torak was worried if something unexpected happened to her during that period of time he wasn't nearby. Learning from his experience, Raine would be caught on something whenever he wasn't around.

However, no matter how strong his desire to protect her, Torak couldn't be possibly to force his own will on her. That would hurt her and it would hurt him in the process.

Torak had been treating Raine like a fragile flower petal all this time, which now flutter brightly and gently in his hand. He didn't want to crush her with his worried.

If this what Raine wanted, there was no reason for him to not grant it. He would take another measurement for her safety.

"You have arranged everything?" Torak asked Raphael. This was the fourth same question that he had asked his Beta since this morning.

"Yes, Torak." Raphael said patiently. "Everything is fine." And he reassured him again. He knew his Alpha was getting nervous with the thought he would part with Raine.

After all, Raine had never left his sight these past three months and because now she has to enter the college life, it was inevitably he must accept with the condition.

Torak stared at his little angel that disappeared into the crowd of people after she entered the gates.

"What time the meeting before the representative from the de Medici family come?" Torak glanced at his wristwatch, it was 07.30 a.m.

"Ten o'clock. De Medici family will come after lunch." Raphael replied.

"Re- arranges the morning meeting and makes it earlier." Torak said and closed his eyes. "I will pick her up by myself."

Even though earlier Torak said he would ask someone to pick Raine up from the university, but in the end he felt restless and decided to come.

[I had expected this to happen] Calleb mind linked Raphael.

[Shut up and drive.] Raphael shut him up and continued with his work.

An almost collapse business has much paper work to do than the others. This business was still running just because the Alpha needed an excuse to stay in this place, no matter how much money they had lost.

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Raine looked around her and was enchanted by the university building. The atmosphere was so different here, even the air that she breathed didn't feel the same.

She would have never thought that she would be able to enroll college life. When Raine was in the orphanage, she always had a plan to work right after she came to age and graduated from high school, never a word of college entered her mind.

But, now here she was, taking an entrance exam together with the other people in her proper clothes and new backpack. Raine couldn't form into words how excited she was right now. She felt like she wanted to grin from time to time, but that wouldn't do as people would see her weirdly.

Speaking of weird, this was also kind of weird because since Raine was together with Torak, she saw less supernatural creatures around her, not to mention the hostile one.

She had asked about this to Calleb and he said it was because she was always with Torak, it caused his scent attached on her and the smell was very strong that could manage to ward off the other creatures in lower ranking to not mess with her, that was Calleb's explanation.

Despite she was still confused, but she liked the part that even Torak's scent that attached on her could protect her, but...

Raine sniffed her hands, hair and shoulders, she didn't think she smelled like Torak, because his was the smell of pine wood.

Shrugging her shoulder, Raine walked lightly toward the lobby.

She took out her exam identity and started to look for her class this place was so huge, and there were a few long corridors.

Raine thought to ask someone in case she got lost and couldn't make it to her test room in time, when suddenly someone snatched the paper from her.

"It's over here." He said boringly.

Raine gasped and caught the man's face in time before he turned around and led the way for her. She knew him, no actually they had met once and that wasn't something pleasant to be remembered.

"Why are you still standing there?" The man realized that Raine didn't follow him and turned around to face her. "Don't you want to take the exam?"

Raine looked around and be thankful that there was many people around her, at least he wouldn't do something atrocious in front of so many people like this.

"Ah! I forgot, you are mute." He slapped his forehead regretfully. "Come here, hurry! The exam will start in five minutes." He waved his hand toward Raine, but she still refused to come closer.

This man was the dragon shifter that Raine met when Torak brought her along to their manor, but what he was doing here?

Raine felt uncomfortable with this, she kept the distance between them as she was standing three steps away from him.

"Hey, I don't bite, come here." Stephan said agitatedly and when he looked Raine didn't move an inch, he took the initiative to approach her.

This gesture made Raine startled and backed away. She didn't like being so close to him.

"Oh, please!" He sighed ruefully. "I am here because of the order of your mate!" He hissed so another people that started to glance twice at them couldn't catch his words clearly.

Raine frowned because Torak didn't say anything about this, if Stephan was there because of Torak's order, he would tell her beforehand, right?

"You have a phone, make a call to him!" Stephan almost lost his patience as he told her to make a call to confirm his statement. "I know he said to look after you secretly, but I don't see something will go wrong in approaching you directly." He mumbled to himself as he waited for Raine to make a call.

Actually it was Calleb who had told him about that, because at that time, Torak had something else to do and couldn't meet him, thus Stephan didn't take it as serious as if Torak himself who told him.

That was why, when he found Raine was looking for her room to take the exam, he couldn't help to approach her, ever since the first time he saw her, he had found Raine was attractive with her innocent face and timid nature.

However, the girl in front of him didn't make any movement as she stared at Stephan with creased brows.

Out of frustration, Stephan was about to snap at her when suddenly Raine walked toward him, slowly and warily.

Her eyes were in alert when she took back the identity paper from Stephan's hand and looked at him, waiting.

Frown and more frown appeared on Stephan's expression before the understanding dawned on him that Raine was waiting for him to show her the way. "Over here." He walked ahead and this time Raine followed.

Raine didn't see any reason for Stephan to attack her with dozens people around, didn't the supernatural creature had their own rule to not reveal their existence in front of human? Especially after whatever Torak had done to him and his brother. At that time, when they left the manor, Raine could hear an agony roar.

She would ask about this later when she met Torak at home.

While Raine and Stephan were having one side argumentation, with Stephan who had done all the monologue because Raine didn't speak at all since the beginning, some girls had noticed her and Stephan.

The two looked outstanding among the crowd, Stephan was a good looking man who would draw attention from the opposite s.e.x. Meanwhile some girls noticed Raine's backpack, as they didn't have interest with Raine's face, the backpack that she used was limited items from a famous brand.

Who is this girl?

Chapter 172 - THE REPRESENTATIVE OF DE MEDICI FAMILY

Raine was filling the answer of her test diligently and finished it twenty minutes earlier than the due time, she used the ten minutes to double check her answer and another last ten minutes to look around the test room silently.

Some students had done their paper just like her and checked it again and again, afraid there was a missing question or an error from their side, while the other students still had their nose buried behind the question paper. Getting anxious when they forgot the answer.

From today onward, if Raine managed to pass the exam test, she would be able to see this sight every day. She was so thrilled only by the thought of it.

Raine's eyes landed on Stephan, who was sitting at different row from her, she frowned because she caught him was sleeping soundlessly without the care for the world.

How he could fall asleep in the middle of the test?

But then, Raine found that she didn't care about that, she would ask Torak when she met him, and continued her little observation until the bell rung,

which indicating the time was done and they needed to submitted their answer.

Raine was waiting for her paper test and answer to be taken while putting all of her belonging inside the backpack.

Only when half of the people had left the room and it was less crowded, Raine stood up and walked toward the door. Torak had said that he had asked someone to pick her up, knowing Torak, Raine was sure that person must have been waiting for her by now.

"Hey! Someone will pick you up?" Stephan ran after Raine and managed to catch with her only two seconds later. "Or do you want me to drop you at Donovan Company?"

When Stephan mentioned Donovan Company, Raine could feel every eyes, in the room, were staring at her questioningly. She was still not used to be the center of attention, even now.

Raine didn't answer Stephan's question, but she quickened her step, almost running.

However, regardless of her effort, the dragon shifter still managed to catch up with her without even breaking sweat.

"I am being polite here, why are you running away?" Stephan asked, but he smirked triumphantly when he witnessed Raine was being uncomfortable. "So, you will come with me? Yes?" He was still trying to get an answer from her, yet since Stephan knew Raine couldn't speak, he said generously. "A nod will do, Just nod your head."

Regardless what he said, Raine shook her head instead.

"Why are you so meant to me?" Stephan complained. "I know our first encounter didn't leave a good impression on you, but I am not that bad." He tried to explain himself.

But, Raine quickened her steps to get away from him.

Stephan looked at her with amus.e.m.e.nt. Why this little girl thought she could outrun him?

"Hey, I am talking to you..." Stephan chased after Raine because she started to run as fast as she could.

This scene was getting more and more people attention as both of them were running inside a long corridor all the way to the lobby.

The thing that Raine wasn't aware was; most of shifter liked to chase after their prey, thus when Raine started to run it only incited Stephan's instinct to catch her.

Raine ran as fast as her feet could take her toward the entrance gates where many students were walking together with their friends.

From the corner of her eyes, Raine caught a sight of familiar car. It was Torak's car. But, didn't he say that someone would pick her up? Did he change his mind and decided to come by himself?

The last option didn't seem impossible, either way, Raine's focus was to run toward the car.

Just like this morning, this flashy car, attracted people attention and made them stopped walking to relish the sight of this rare car.

Covering her face with her backpack so people couldn't catch a sight of her face, Raine ran toward Torak's car. Yet, before she could reach it, Raine could feel someone grabbed her shoulder and made her stop.

Raine shrieked in panic, but stop struggling when she felt the familiar spark from the touch and his rough voice caressed her ears.

"What happened? Why are you running like that?" Torak looked around and tried to find if there was a threat, but he could find nothing and also there wasn't peculiar scent in the air. But, why Raine was so terrified?

Seeing Torak Raine could feel the relief that ran through her veins as if the burden was lifted from her shoulder.

"The dragon shifter..." Raine whispered and pointed her hands toward Stephan, whose smirking face suddenly froze as he stopped abruptly while holding his hand in front of him as if he wanted to say he was innocent.

"Alpha Torak..." Stephan said in low voice from a great distance, yet Torak could hear him nonetheless.

Stephan didn't mean to catch her, he just enjoyed chasing after her. If he really wanted to catch Raine, he would do so in only a matter of second.

Yet, seemingly Raine didn't think the same as him, and now the dragon shifter had to face the wrath of the Alpha because of his foolish action to chase after his mate.

"This is not what you think..." Stephan was fidgeting under Torak's angry gaze, in spite of the distance between them.

"Didn't Calleb already tell you that you are not allowed to come near her?!" Torak said in low voice, but the tone that he used was so scary nonetheless the aura around him also turned cold and dangerous.

People were looking at Raine and Torak. Some of them were whispering to their friends and made speculation from their own perception.

Most of student didn't follow the business news, but there were a few young heirs and heiress that took the same entrance exam today, they recognized Torak Donovan because he was on people lips in the business circle not long time ago.

They took a picture or two of him, who was hugging a girl's waist closed to him protectively, yet unfortunately they couldn't see Raine's face because she used her backpack as a cover.

And the question remained. What a young multibillionaire like Torak was doing in this university? Was the girl his girlfriend? But, from her figure, she was too young to be his lover.

In the other hand, Stephan gulped hard and walked slowly toward Torak and Raine. "Alpha, I just tried to help her, because she was looking for her test room."

Torak grabbed Raine's shoulder and turned around toward their car because the crowd was starting to get big as many curious eyes tailed behind them, disappointed because they didn't see anything excited.

When Torak had brought Raine inside the car, it was Calleb, who came out from the driver seat and walked to approach the dragon shifter.

Calleb's appearance incited waves of whispered among the crowd, because he looked so young, handsome and careless. The type that would make young girls melted.

"Let's talk." Calleb said

Once he was close enough with Stephan, he flung his arms around his shoulder and brought him away toward the parking lot.

"I have told you to follow her secretly!" Calleb hit Stephan's head hardly when they were inside Stephan's car. "Why did you appear in front of her without scrupulous?! And what did you do?" The Gamma pretended to recall his memory. "Ah, yes! You chased after her! Are you planning to die?!"

He was so fortunate because of the situation, Torak could still hang on his last strand of sanity before his beast instinct took over and tore this Dragon shifter apart.

"She was at lost, I just helped her!" Stephan roared as he rubbed his aching head. "I didn't do anything! She just freaked out!" He tried to defend himself for the accusation.

He didn't do something immoral neither he tried to scare or harm her. Well, he just teased her a little bit... he couldn't help when he looked at Raine was easily scared.

Something about her was very attractive.

"I didn't see how you can help her by chasing after her!" Stephan yelled and hit the dragon shifter's head again. "Why didn't you just leave her alone!?"

"That was misunderstanding! She misunderstood me!" Stephan shrieked. "Stop hitting my head!"

"I have told you crystal clear that you have to stay away from her! Look after her in secret! Which part of my words that you don't get it?" Calleb scratched his head in frustration.

The dragon shifter was too haughty to admit his mistake, but Stephan wasn't at the position to be more annoying than this.

"I am sorry, I am sorry!" Stephan finally said it out loud when he looked at Calleb was about to hit him again, as a dragon shifter he wasn't as persistent as his older brother, apparently.

"You do really need to be beaten first before you could understand, don't you?" Calleb slumped his body. "If you already get it, now drive this car to the company."

"Why should I?" Stephan asked agitatedly, he didn't want to spend even a second longer with him.

"Because you have made me to get out from the car and now they left me." Remembering how angry Torak was when he growled through the mind link, Calleb knew that another punishment for him and this dragon shifter was still on the way.

"So annoying!" Stephan mumbled, he was still young and immature, so his action was only based on his impulsiveness, moreover, he didn't have a malice intention. That was why Torak chose him and told him to come.

As long as his brother didn't give a bad influence on him, he would be fine within Torak's pack, because of Raine's issue that she couldn't be close to Lycan, Torak couldn't ask one of his pack member to do this job.

Regardless, he was still a strong shifter and would be able to protect Raine if it's needed.

"I hear that." Calleb said as he closed his eyes. "Now drive fast, I have a meeting to attend to."

"Why don't you take a taxi?" Stephan said ruefully, but he still started the engine and drove away from the parking lot.

"Why I have to take a taxi when I can use you? Even though I don't like your smell." Calleb said irritably.

"You can shift into your wolf form, you can just run." Stephan drove to the main road.

"I am too tired to run."

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"We don't wait for Calleb?" Raine asked when Raphael sat behind the wheel. "He is still talking to the dragon shifter." She added and when the Raphael started the engine.

"He could find his way back, don't worry." Raphael said.

"But, what if..." Raine looked at the entrance gates once again, but Calleb and Stephan were no longer there.

"Stephan will not possible to harm Calleb." Torak caressed Raine's back. "Are you hurt somewhere? Did he hurt you?" He tried to smell the blood from her, but there was none and that relieved him.

"Actually, he didn't do anything..." Raine said, contemplating for a while. "I think I overreacted..." She said sheepishly. "Because the last time..."

"It's all right." Torak patted her head. "I am the one who didn't tell you about this." And he didn't think the stupid Stephan would walk straight to her right in the first day.

"Did you really ask him to look after me..." Raine asked, she put away her backpack and zeroed her attention on Torak. Wasn't the last meeting with Stephan didn't end well?

"Yes, because I can't ask someone from my pack to do so." Torak pulled out a sandwich that he had brought before he picked her up and handed it to her. "Eat first, you must be hungry."

Raine beamed and accepted it. "But, why? I think I am fine now to be near another Lycan..."

Torak frowned with the words 'another Lycan' it sounded like she was surrounding by many men. "You have been surrounded enough, if I have to add one more, I don't want to take a risk." He said.

He remembered when Raine was admitted to the hospital and her condition. Not to mentioned he wasn't in good terms with Serefina now, what if

something bad happened to her and Serefina was nowhere to be found? Torak wouldn't take that risk.

Raine couldn't argue with him about that.

"What you will do to him? You will not do 'something' to him, right?" Raine was worried and felt a little bit guilty if Stephan was punished because of her. Actually he indeed had helped her. Maybe next time, she would try to talk to him.

"Just a bit chat, I guess." Torak said in deep meaningful tone.

After that, there was silence inside the car, while Raphael was driving, Torak was looking at document that he had brought with him that needed to be signed. Since he had many line of businesses, so he had many things to look after, especially when one of his business continuously making losses.

"Raphael where we will go? We are not heading to the company or home..." Raine looked at the unfamiliar road around her and realized this wasn't the way to either the company or home.

"We will meet a business partner. I hope you don't mind to come with me." Torak put down the document on his hand.

"Of course I don't." Raine grinned and snuggled into Torak's embrace while the Alpha continued to do his work.

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The car stopped at the lobby of a hotel, and from the looked of it, this must be a very expensive hotel that would cost good fortune only to be able to book one of the rooms.

Raine felt a little bit self- awareness when she stepped inside the fancy lobby. Most of the people there would dress in formal attire or beautiful dress for women when she was only wearing sweater and jeans with sneaker, completely out of the place.

The way she dressed, it really gave away her age. She was a timid little girl who had just finished her entrance exam.

However, when those hotel staffs looked at her, they treated her very well because of the man beside her.

Torak, Raine and Raphael entered the elevator that brought them to the eleventh floor where the meeting between Torak and the representative from de Medici family would be held.

But, at the same floor also, Torak had book a room for Raine so she could take a rest there. This room was only a few meter away from the meeting room.

"Is it okay if I leave you alone here?" Torak opened the door and held it for Raine while Raphael had gone to check on their meeting room.

"Yes. It is fine..." Raine nodded gleefully when she saw the beautiful room inside.

"If you need anything I will be in the meeting room right in front of the elevator." Torak didn't mind if Raine bothered him in the middle of the meeting. "If you hungry, you can call the hotel staff to bring you some food, don't roam around this place alone, understood?"

Raine chuckled when she heard Torak worried? words. She felt like Torak was like a father who nagged their children. "Don't worry. I will just stay inside the room." She tiptoed and pecked his lips.

"Good." Torak slightly relax, because of her words and her kiss. "I will leave you then..." He rubbed her head and left the room.

After Torak left her alone, Raine sauntered this spacious room and opened it huge window, behind it glass was a view of a big pool where not many people were there.

Afterward, Raine put down her backpack on a king size bed and sat on it. Though this bed wasn't as nice as the one at their bedroom, but Raine enjoyed to jump on it like a small child before she felt tired and decided to check on the bathroom.

There must be a bath up, thus she would soak herself while waiting Torak finished his meeting.

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Torak was about to enter the meeting room when Raphael mind-linked him anxiously.

[Alpha, you have to see this.] Raphael said.

Torak who had already in front of the door pushed it open and walked inside. The first person that he saw was Raphael, who was sitting on the right side of his seat and then, the person he thought he wouldn't meet him here.

But, there he was, sitting in the middle of four elder from de Medici family, with his peculiar smirk grazed his lips. Apparently nobody was aware with his golden eyes as if they were enchanted.

"Mr. Donovan." One of the elder stood up and greeted Torak and then followed by the others, including that person.

Torak's eyes glued on him as his expression turned rigid.

"Mr. Donovan, I want to introduce our representative of the family." The Elder man said as he opened his palm to recognize the man beside him. "This is Reiz de Medici, he is the fourth grandson and is..."

Torak cut the explanation about the man's status in the family, as he knew that was a big lie, thus he wouldn't waste his time to hear such a crap. "Let's start the meeting." He said callously as he gestured for them to take their seat.

That was rude, but those elders from de Medici family couldn't complain about it.

Torak's eyes slightly turned a few shades darker during the meeting, even Raphael also felt the tense in the atmosphere.

The meeting was ended in half an hour, much faster than they thought.

After both parties signed the memorandum of understandings and shook hand as a gesture of the beginning of their collaboration, they were ready to leave the room.

"Can I have a moment with Mr. Reiz?" Torak said in cold tone as he sat back on his seat.

Chapter 173 - WILL YOU COME TO THE PARTY?

The four of them looked at each other and Reiz, confused with Torak's request. Would he offer underhanded deal with their new leader of family?

"Of course." The man named Reiz stepped aside. "It will not take long time." He said, looking at Torak's briefly when he said that.

The four elders nodded and walked out of the room.

Reiz closed the door and faced the Alpha and the Beta with playful smirk dancing on his lips. "Surprise to see me as an heir now?" He tilted his head and leaned his tall body against the door behind him.

The professional looked and formal attitude that he showed earlier banished into thin air as he held Torak's gaze defiantly.

"I don't think you are capable of doing such a scheme, since you are the sloth." Torak leaned his body forward his voice was getting cold as he talked. "You must have so much free time to think such a complicated plan."

"Don't flatter me Alpha." Belphegor waved his hand to dismiss Torak's sarcastic words. "I am a busy person also."

"What do you want?" Torak talked straight down to the business. With Belphegor was meddling in this matter and even became his business partner, Torak wouldn't expect something good as a result.

His mind, for a brief moment, flew on certain someone who he had left alone inside the room.

"The guardian angel of course." Belphegor admitted it openly as he shrugged his shoulder nonchalantly. "I heard she was taking an exam today."

"What are trying to imply?" There was a warning with the way Torak was speaking.

"Nothing. I am just thinking, why she tries to live a normal life when her life is not normal since the beginning?" Belphegor stroked his chin. "Don't worry, for the meantime I will not disturb her, but I will find a way to get her eventually."

Torak couldn't help but snapped the ballpoint in his hand into two as his temper flared up.

Belphegor looked at the ballpoint on the table as he smiled lazily and said. "If you have nothing else, I will excuse myself. I am looking forward for our collaboration." He waved his hand, turned his back and walk out of the room.

Along with that, Torak also stood up and it with breakneck speed, he had already in front of the room where he left Raine alone.

Torak punched the pass code and the door opened with a faint beep sound.

The moment he stepped inside, he could smell his mate scent filled the room. This was kind of smell that could calm his nerves almost immediately.

The sound of splashing water gave away Raine's position, thus without a second thought Torak strode toward the bathroom and pushed the door opened without even knocking first.

There was a loud gasping sound when he found Raine was soaking inside the bath up that filled with bubbles to the rim.

It was only her head that poked out from the surface of the water while her n.a.k.e.d body was unable to be seen behind the soft bubble and foam.

"Torak..." Her voice was so small as she looked at Torak anxiously. "What happened...?" She asked unsure.

Torak's eyes glued on the bath up as the rim of his blue eyes started to turn a bit darker. "I... I couldn't find you inside the room." He stumbled with his own words as he couldn't find a reasonable reason for this moment.

"I am... taking a bath..." Raine said the obvious. She thought Torak would be back much later, she didn't think that he would return so soon.

Torak didn't say anything after that, but he didn't avert his eyes from her and this made Raine became nervous and embarrassed.

"Should I... dress now...?" Raine asked, she bit her lips and looked around the bathroom because she couldn't look at Torak in the eyes.

"Sure, if you have finished." Torak said in strange tone of voice.

Suddenly the atmosphere inside the bathroom turned awkward and the air felt so heavy.

"I will get dress then..." Raine said, but because Torak didn't take that as a cue for him to leave the bathroom and was still standing there, Raine also didn't come out from the bath up.

"Don't you say that you want to get dress?" Torak asked when a minute had passed and Raine was still soaking inside the bath up.

"Yes, but..." Raine looked at Torak timidly. "Can you leave for a while... please?" She could feel heat crept on her face.

"What if I say I don't want?" Torak pulled a chair and sat down.

Raine never expected Torak would say something like that, because he was always be a gentleman to her.

Though sometime he would act mischievous and like to tease her, but he wouldn't be so bold like this.

"Torak!" Raine shrieked. She looked at Torak in horror, but that man sat four steps away from him while crossing his legs leisurely. "I am serious..." She said helplessly.

"So do I." Torak shrugged his shoulder innocently. "How many times we sleep together? Why are you still so shy in front of me, my love?" His voice was like a beautiful caressing Raine's ears.

However, Raine wasn't in a condition that would appreciate Torak's generosity for reminding her about something like that in situation like this.

"Then... then I will stay here until you leave." Raine said sullenly.

"Let's see how long the bubble will last." Torak grinned, he was really in a good mood to tease Raine to this extent.

Only then, Raine realized that the bubbles around her started to fade and the water was getting cold. "Torak! Don't do this!" Raine was so annoyed when Torak laughed out loud. He rarely laughed so carefree like this.

"Alright, I will go." Torak abruptly stood up when Raine tried to splash water on him.

"Go, now!" Raine screamed when Torak stood beside the door and didn't move while looking at her.

"I feel so grateful for having you my love." Torak said before he walked out of the bathroom and closed the door behind him, leaving Raine became more bashful than she already had.

=====

Raine walked out of the bathroom five minutes later while drying her hair. She walked straight to the side of the bed, looking for hairdryer. Deliberately avoided Torak, who was standing in front of dressing table

"Come here." Torak said, patted the dressing chair. "I will dry your hair." His other hand was holding the hairdryer that Raine was looking for.

"I can do it myself." Raine still felt embarrassed because of Torak's words in the bathroom.

"And I can do it for you." Torak insisted. He looked at his mate with amusement. It felt like his anger when he encountered the Sloth earlier had been subsided by only looking at his mate. He would deal with Belphegor later.

Raine walked toward Torak while keeping her head down. She didn't meet him in the eyes when she sat down on the dressing chair and Torak started to dry her hair.

When her hair was already dry, Torak leaned on the dressing table, standing right in front of Raine while taking pleasure to see her beautiful face.

"How was your exam?" Torak moved a strand of her hair from her face. He treated her very carefully, because she was the most precious thing for him.

"I was doing good. I think I will pass." Raine's eyes shone brilliantly when she was talking about her exam test that she took this morning.

There were two numbers that she wasn't sure with the answer, but for the rest she was confident that she would get it right.

"Mrs. Martha is a really good teacher. I don't have a problem with the test. She taught me well." Raine said cheerfully.

"I will ask Calleb to give her a gift." Torak said as he patted her head. "You were doing great."

"But..." Suddenly Raine's expression turned worry. "What if I got it wrong? What if I misunderstood the question and my answers are wrong?" She started to get anxious. She was happy too fast, the exam had just done and she was already overjoyed.

"Don't think too much. You were doing great, the result will be great as well." Torak knocked her head softly. She started to develop this kind of habit whenever she felt overwhelmed.

"What if..." Raine was still trying to prepare herself for the worse result.

"There is no 'what if'." Torak said sternly. "Even if you don't enter the university this year, you can always try it again next year."

Torak had another plan in his mind, but unsure how to say it to Raine. With Belphegor was inside the company and meddled with his business, he had a second thought to call off Raine's plan to enter the university.

Probably next year her ability had improved and she was able to return to his territory and took education there instead.

It would be a great plan and Torak could be less worry about her safety. Nobody knew what would happen within one year, there was still high possibility for that.

The only problem was, Raine's face turned gloomy when she heard Torak said about taking exam next year.

"I really want to enter university this year..." She muttered as he rested her head on Torak's stomach. "I like the atmosphere there, the student, the building, the trees and all. When I entered the gates, I thought; it would be nice if I can study here. I can't wait to make a new friend or two." Raine said in soft voice as if she was imagining that while she was talking.

Torak caressed her long hair subconsciously while listening to her.

"All of this is like a dream for me." Raine continued, feeling comfortable. "Enter university, make some friend. I think this time there is nothing I have to be ashamed of. Recently, all those creatures have not bothered me, Calleb said it's because your smell is all over me, so they are afraid to appear in front of me, so I can be just a normal student and study like the other."

Raine tightened her arms around Torak's waist.

"Thank you."

And with that, Torak's second plan was out of the picture, he couldn't be possible to break Raine's heart by saying she couldn't enter the university that she wanted and lived the life she wished because of he was worried about her safety.

Torak was sure, on the surface Raine would say that she understood, but Torak knew better that it would hurt her, having the life that she wanted slipped away just like that.

[Raph.] Torak mind- linked his Beta. [Ask someone to look for Serefina.]

As hard as it was to admit that he needed the witch, he couldn't let his ego endanger his mate's life.

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The result of the exam would be out in one month and during that time, Raine didn't have much thing to do, thus she asked Torak to buy a canvas for her to kill the time, because recently Torak didn't let her to come to his company very often, but he made sure to return early.

However, instead of only a canvas, Torak turned one of empty room inside the house into a mini studio where Raine could put all of her painting inside.

Raine couldn't be more elated than this for having her own mini studio where she would have all the painting tools that she wanted.

Torak even offer to call a teacher if she wanted to learn more about art, but Raine turned down the offer. Because she was just doing this as a hobby and didn't think she would take this seriously.

Torak was fine with whatever Raine's decision and the mini studio was done within a week, since then whenever Torak wasn't at home, Raine would spend her time inside.

Until one night after dinner, Torak was watching a movie with Raine before they went to bed, he asked her. "Will you come to the mask party with me tomorrow night?"

Chapter 174 - PARTY (1)

Raine had never attended such a party before. No, she had never attended any party in her life. Thus, when Torak asked her to come, she tensed up.

A party?

"If you don't want to come, you don't need to." Torak chuckled when he watched Raine's shock expression. He had imagined this would be her reaction.

Torak only offered it because he thought, Raine would like to try it since her progress had been good all this time. She had talked again and started to interact with other people with less fear and even talked about making friends in the university.

Raine frowned, she was behaving spoiled right now as she snuggled and put Torak's arms around her body.

"Don't get depress like that..." Torak tousled her hair. "I will not force you to come if you don't like it."

But, Raine asked him faintly as she watched the movie again. "Is that the party where you will wear a mask?"

"Yes." Torak replied as he rested his hand on Raine's head, caressing her hair.

"Can I choose my mask?" Raine asked again.

This time Torak's eyebrows creased as he stared at Raine, who was resting her head on his chest. "Do you want to come?"

"Only if I can choose my mask..." Raine said timidly, she didn't even raise her head to see a wide smile on Torak's face when she agreed to come.

"Sure, you can choose your own gown..." Torak tousled her head. He knew it was hard for her to come into this decision, but she chose to do it anyway.

She was trying hard.

=====

The next following day, Torak has some meeting to attend and promised he would come back to pick her up for the mask party.

In the afternoon Calleb came to bring a dress for Raine. Even though Torak said she could pick her own dress, but the fact that she had never attended something like this made her gave up the option and let Torak to pick something for her instead.

"Try it, I want to see!" Calleb urged her, when Raine had accepted the enormous box. He looked more eager to see the dress than Raine herself. This was the first time for Torak to choose something like this, so it was understandable that if people that close to him became curious.

Well, it was only Calleb because Raphael didn't show any expression for this fact. He was too busy with his work.

"Did Torak ask me to try it right away?" Raine hugged the package box and looked at Calleb innocently.

Calleb frowned upon hearing her question. "No... he didn't say something like that. But, you need to try it anyway." He replied. "Try it, let me see." His eyes glimmered with excitement.

"If Torak didn't ask you, then I will try it later when he is here." Raine said it lightly and walked toward the stairs.

"Why don't you let me see it?" Calleb was annoyed, he really wanted to see, but for the party tonight he wasn't invited, hence his only chance to see Raine in the dress that Torak had chosen for her was only now.

"Of course because I want Torak sees me in this dress first." Raine shouted from the second floor, afterward, there was a sound of the door closing.

"Sometime I missed her timid self..." Calleb clicked his tongue.

=====

Inside the bedroom, Raine put the box on the bed and stroke the edges of it gently. She took a deep breath, even the box smelled so nice.

The box was wrapped in blue with white ribbon atop of it, even the package alone looked so expensive Raine was afraid to ruin it as she opened gingerly.

She untied the ribbon of the box and opened it to reveal a pure white dress. She picked it up and her eyes brightened. The dress was so beautiful. Raine had never seen such a beautiful dress.

The streamline dress was figure- hugging with laces around its neck and sleeves, it didn't reveal too much skin neither too translucent. There were not much intricate embroidery, but it didn't cease its beauty nonetheless.

The fabric was so soft to the touch and when Raine rubbed on it.

She couldn't wait to try it, but before she did that, Raine pulled out her phone from her pants pocket and made a phone call to certain someone.

It only took two seconds before the line was connected.

"Thank you for the dress!" Raine was too excited until she forgot to say 'hallo'.
"The dress is so beautiful and soft!"

"I am glad that you like it." Torak's soft voice could be heard from the other line and also a man's voice, from the sound of it, seemingly he was talking about something when suddenly he stopped because of Torak's words.

Actually, Torak was in the middle of meeting, but when he saw it was Raine who called him, he picked up his phone in the middle of the chief direction's presentation. This acted alone was surprised them, because Torak was extremely strict when it came to work.

However, who the person that called him in the middle of the meeting? Their cold- blood's boss even smiled when he listened to the other person speaking.

And when Torak talked in soft tone that they had never heard, all of them whipped their head Towar Torak, curios if they actually heard it wrong. But, nothing wrong with that, because Torak was still talking onto his phone while gesturing to them to continue the meeting.

"Are you busy?" Raine asked when she heard there was slightly noise at Torak's side. "Did I bother you?"

"No, you will never bother me." Torak said sweetly.

Once again, the chief production stopped his presentation because of shock, the rest of the people, who attend the meeting, also couldn't believe with what they heard.

It must be a woman, who their boss was talking to. Who was she? Their future lady boss? That more likely.

All of them listened to the conversation silently as the meeting suddenly halted.

"What are you doing?" Raine asked curiously, usually Torak would be busy at this hour, she just too excited and forgot as she called him directly.

"Meeting." Torak replied curtly.

"Oh." Just as Raine had thought. "I will hang up then." She said hurriedly and then added shyly. "Don't forget your lunch."

Torak smiled brightly upon hearing a concern in Raine's voice. "I love you." He said heartily.

"I love you too..." Raine replied and giggled, her heart felt unbelievably warm, though he had said that countless time, but the feeling still the same. "Bye."

"Bye..." Torak kept smiling even when the line had cut off.

I love you?

Bye?

What was this? The sky would fall? Or Torak Donovan suddenly became more human than usual? Little they knew, their boss even not a human.

"Proceed with the meeting." Raphael finally broke the silence and strange gazes that all the head sections threw on him.

The chief direction continued with his presentation as the other people in the meeting room tried hard to keep track with the matter at hand instead of wander their curiosity about the lucky woman, who managed to capture their boss's heart. That wasn't an easy feat.

Torak had been like this ever since Raine started to talk normally that was a good sign, but his Alpha always put her first in everything without exception.

Well, as long as he could afford that, Raphael thought that would be fine, after all that was a privilege to be a filthy rich and an Alpha atop of it.

=====

When the night had finally fallen, even the moon was exceptionally bright and beautiful.

Gregory stopped the car in front of the entrance door as Torak emerged from the car and walked straight to their bedroom in the second floor.

The scent of Raine filled the entire house like a natural fragrance of the house itself, that reminded Torak about something that called home.

He opened the door and found Raine was staring at herself in front of body-length mirror, her reflection on its surface was so exuberant, especially when Torak's figure reflected beside her in the mirror.

She turned around like an angel she was, pure and pristine, Torak was in a daze as if his world was spinning and brightened up only by her smile.

"You are here..." She sauntered across the room in her white dress that hugging her body perfectly, her long, black hair flowed casually over her shoulder, she had applied a simple pink lipstick and nothing else, but that was enough to make Torak was at lost.

Torak watched in silence when his little mate walked toward him, as if the life itself was approaching him with every step that she takes.

The life that he would cherish.

"How is it?" Raine opened her arms to show herself in her white dress in front of Torak.

"What should I do?" Torak said in low voice as he pulled her into a hug. "I am starting to regret my decision to invite you to the party. I don't want you to come to the party." He sighed helplessly as he rested his chin on Raine's shoulder.

"Why?" There was a smile behind Raine's question.

"Because I want to keep you for myself." Torak admitted. "I don't want other people to look at you now..."

Raine laughed upon hearing Torak's cheesy words, though it sounded so shabby, but it made Raine happy to hear that.

"Would you change into your sweater?" Torak asked ridiculously.

"I will draw more attention that way." Raine hit Torak's back playfully before she pried herself out of his arms. "Should we go now?"

"Hold on." Torak said and pulled out something from his pocket, it was a velvet box.

Torak gave the box to Raine for her to open. Raine opened the box curiously and found a pearl necklace inside, she touched the necklace, astonished.

"This is beautiful." Raine said breathlessly.

"Not as beautiful as you." Torak said lightly, but he meant his words as he took the necklace and put it on Raine's neck, he kissed her shoulder that made Raine shudder. "Beautiful indeed."

The l.u.s.ter from the pearl and her white dress complimented each other perfectly. Under the light of the room, both accentuated her flawless skin, which looked as if she was basking under the moonlight.

Raine could feel her face turning red by Torak's words.

=====

Inside the car, Raine was starting to get nervous once they were getting closer to their destination. Beside her, Torak kept caressing her hands and stopped her from biting her lips.

He assured her if everything would be all right, he would be by her side for entire time all she could do was to stay beside him. Raine even didn't need to talk if she didn't want to.

Torak's words calmed Raine a bit, before she got another panic attack.

"What if I ruin your image?" Raine looked at Torak in depress. Probably it was too quick for her to be in a public? She needed more time for this, this was too fast, wasn't it?

"You will never do that my love." Torak chuckled, amused with Raine's nervous state. She looked like a little kitten that being cornered, though this was something that she decided herself. "Or, if you feel really uncomfortable, should we go back?" He offered.

There was a complicated feeling that reflected on her beautiful obsidian eyes.

Going back? And waste the dress and the necklace that Torak had bought for her? Not to mention they would arrive in a matter of minutes now. It was a waste of time and money. Should she ask for going back now?

Raine shook her head stubbornly. "I am fine." She said, more to herself rather than to Torak.

"I know you will be fine, my love." Torak kissed her forehead gently. "I will be with you."

Raine took a deep breath to calm herself. She knew Torak wouldn't leave her alone, if worst come to the worst, she would simply never ever attend this kind of party anymore in the future.

This was a mask party after all, she would never take off her mask, so no one would see her face.

In the end of the road, a bright and magnificent building could be seen, once their car entered the main gates, it took a while before they could reach the main building. Along the way, the trees on their right and left were adorned with small colorful lamps that flickered against the dark night.

It was such a splendid view to behold.

"You need this." Torak said before they needed to get off the car. He pulled out another box from the seat and opened it to reveal a white mask with intricate design and black fur on it right side. "Because the time is tight, you can't choose your own mask, I hope you like this one."

Raine didn't say if she liked it or not, but she leaned over to peck his lips and smiled brightly. Turning around, Raine let Torak to tie the mask.

The white mask with black fur covered half of Raine's face and only revealed her kissable pink lips for everyone to see.

When the car came to stop, Torak get off from the car and opened the car door for Raine.

The moment she emerged from the car, a bright light surrounded her and intimidated her eyes, once again she felt self-conscious, but when Torak grabbed her hand and the spark that erupted from the skin contact, reminded her that she wasn't alone.

Torak put her hands on the crook of his elbow as he led the way to the party room.

Raine was to focus to keep her step steady, so she wouldn't fall in her three inches heels, she didn't dare to go with higher than three inches, though it didn't help much with the height difference between her and Torak.

Because of that, Raine didn't realize many pair of eyes were looking toward her direction in questioning gazes.

Women would look at her in jealousy and started to compare themselves with Raine, while men looked at her with interest. This was the first time for Torak Donovan to attend a party with a woman as his partner.

Who is the woman with Torak Donovan?

Chapter 175 - PARTY (2)

Anyone can catch your eyes, but it takes someone special to catch your heart.

Once Torak entered the party room with Raine in his arm, the whole room fell into silence. All the people's attention was on the couple.

"Are you all right?" Torak took a small bottle of water from the waiter, opened it for Raine and let her drink.

"Yes." Raine took a gulp of the water to moisten her throat. This place was so bright and impressive with splendid decoration and dazzling ornament.

It didn't take a long time for other people to approach Torak for having a simple chat with him, most of them would use Raine as an opening of the conversation.

They would flatter Raine to no end.

They were speaking the truth when they said Raine was gorgeous and elegant, but, behind that flattery words, they were dying to know who was she?

Was she a daughter of another CEO? Because she looked so young to be a leader of a company or was she someone famous from entertainment industry? It was well known that most of people like Torak would entangle with one or two famous artist.

Or, which family this woman belonged?

However Torak didn't answer all of the questions, he simply said she was his woman.

The words 'his woman' from his mouth sending waves of jealousy on women's hearts that heard that. What kind of deed that this woman had done to be able to capture Torak Donovan's heart?

All along, Raine would just smile and sipped her drink or answer a simple question, while the rest was handled by Torak swiftly.

After entertained some of the people who approached him, Torak brought Raine to get some food.

At this point, Raine began to realize the eyes of the women around her that looked toward her direction with jealousy and malice as if they would eat her alive for being so close to Torak. Especially those young women who came to flaunt their wealth because of their famous family name, despite they had zero contribution to their family company.

Some of the women were only a few years older than Raine, because their family wanted them to have a good relationship with young heirs from another companies, it would be best if they could solidify it with a marriage to strengthen both family business.

No matter what the reason behind this party, Raine was totally unaware about that and didn't seem to care, because she didn't have the same reason like them and as long as Torak beside her, there was nothing was really matter.

Torak put a few cakes in a small plate that he thought Raine would like it and brought her to a corner of the room, where there was an empty seat.

"How is the party? Do you still want to be here?" Torak's main concern was still Raine's comfort. This was her first time to be surrounded by many people that she had never met before, hence it was understandable if she wanted to call it off early.

"I think I am fine." Raine nibbled on her cheese cake while wandering her eyes around the room. "Don't worry, this is not as scary as I thought." She reassured Torak. "I will stay here for awhile and finish these cakes, you don't have to accompany me..."

Raine's cheerful voice was more interesting for Torak to hear than the slow music that playing inside the room.

The chattering voices and bright light inside the party room also faded away at the background when Torak looked his mate now.

"No, I like to be here." Torak caressed her forehead and bit a cake in Raine's hand.

Without them knowing, someone had captured this moment of their intimate interaction with their phone.

They had just arrived and the party was still far to end, while Raine enjoyed her cakes at the corner, Torak was having a conversation with two people only two steps away from her.

His peculiar behavior near Raine once again piqued curiosity of people around them, but they were too afraid to ask Torak openly about the woman who had come along with him.

Just as valuable to be acquaintance with Torak, it would be better if they knew the lady as well. A woman's words sometime more precious than any form of persuasion. In another hand, if Torak was too hard to reach they could try with his woman instead.

Though half of her face was covered, but from her gestures alone, Torak's woman was someone quiet and demure. It would be easier to deal with her.

After all the cakes on the plate had finished, Raine stood up and was about to get something to drink when Torak approached her.

"Do you need something?" In spite of he was in the middle of conversation, Torak still approached her.

"I will just get something from there..." Raine pointed a row of juice that only a few meters away. "No need to come with me... I will be fine." She glanced at the other two men, who was left by Torak just like that.

Torak glanced at the spot that Raine had pointed, it was indeed not too far. "Alright." He agreed to let her go alone.

Raine walked slowly to avoid the crowd, she thought she would just get the drink and come back to her corner, nice and simple.

However, there weren't anything simple under women's jealousy and human's curiosity.

When Raine had had her drink and was about to returned, someone bumped her and splashed some juice on her dress.

The yellow color of it tainted the front of her white dress and if not quickly cleaned it would leave a stain.

"I am sorry, I am sorry." A woman in blue gown with blue shawl around her shoulder apologized to her profusely.

Raine waved her hand and smiled a little to her, but didn't say anything. If it's not necessary, she didn't like to talk to stranger.

"I will help you to clean your dress, come with me to the restroom?" Said that women apologetically.

Yet, before Raine could answer her, someone had pulled her from that woman tight grip as his rough voice sounded. "What happened here?"

Torak glanced at the stain of the juice in front of Raine's dress and frowned.

"Mr. Donovan, I am sorry, this is my fault to be so reckless and ruin her dress." Though she liked to see Torak in person, but to be stared down by him in this proximity, was something that made her nervous. "I will help her to clean her dress." She offered and looked at Raine pitifully.

"There is no need for that." Torak rejected her directly. "We will just go home."

Upon hearing that, somehow the girl in blue gown, became panic as she grabbed Raine's hand. "No, don't. I will feel bad if both of you have to go home because of me." She said guiltily as she looked at Raine with pleading eyes. "Please, let me try to fix it."

Seeing that woman was feeling so guilty about this, Raine became uncomfortable to turn down her offer, after all she wouldn't do anything bad, right? She would just help her to clean up the juice stain on her dress.

"The party just started, even the dancing part is not yet started." That woman tried to persuade Raine to stay.

Little she knew, dancing was the last thing that made Raine interested to stay, but she didn't have a heart to reject her generous offer, at least, her acting looked convincing for Raine, but not for Torak.

Torak pried the woman's hands from Raine's wrist and without saying anything he pulled Raine toward different direction.

"Ah! Wait..." The woman was so persistent to be with Raine as she followed them. "My name is Sunny. I think I have met her in a cake store the other days." She stopped right in front of Torak and Raine.

At this point, people began to notice their small squabble and looked at toward their direction.

"I was there, when someone..." She lowered her voice. "Accused her for stealing cakes." Sunny ended it with a whispered.

She was indeed there. Sunny was a girl, who had a quarrel with Lana, she recognized Torak because her father had been trying to make a contact with Torak, and wanted to invest in the company that Torak had just established in this city, but it was so hard for him to reach him because he just a middle businessman.

Raine didn't really remember her, but she didn't like people's reaction around them. They had drawn enough attention.

"Torak... just let me go with her..." Raine looked worried at Sunny, this woman looked like the one who wouldn't back away before her wish was fulfilled. Moreover, there was no harm to go with her to the restroom and cleaned up her dress. "I will be quick..." She whispered at him and tugged his sleeves. "Please..." She added to make sure Torak would allow her.

"Five minutes." Torak said sternly. "If you don't come back in five minutes I will go to fetch you inside."

Even when her face was covered with mask, Torak knew that she frowned. "You will not enter a woman restroom, right?" Raine asked, unsure.

"You will see." Torak let go of her hand as he put on his black mask to hide his expression.

"Seriously..." Raine pouted and then nodded at Sunny, who clasped her hand with Raine and led the way to the restroom.

"I think we need to be hurry, I heard Mr. Donovan said it is only three minutes." Sunny pushed opened the restroom door and brought Raine inside.

The restroom were eight cabin inside and there were two that occupied, while a woman in black dress touched up her make up in front of the mirror.

"Come." Sunny put her hand under the faucet and splashed the water to clean the stain in Raine's dress. She did that a couple of time until it slightly faded. "I think this is the best that I can do..." She said regretfully.

Afterward Sunny used tissue to dry the damp part of the dress so Raine wouldn't catch a cold, wearing a wet dress.

"It is such a fate that we meet again here." Sunny said cheerfully. "May I know your name?"

Only then Raine realized that she had not yet mentioned her name. "I am Raine..." She smiled shyly behind her mask, maybe Sunny could be her first friend.

"Nice to see you again, Raine." Sunny kept trying to dry her dress. "I think you are so young. Are you... together with Mr. Donovan?" The question was in a whisper that only Raine could hear, while the woman in black dress tried to listen to their conversation, if she had been long in this party, she must have known that Raine was with Torak Donova.

Raine was taken aback by Sunny's direct question. "I think so..." She mumbled her answer.

"But, you are so young." Sunny protested. "What are you? High school student? College Student?"

"I just took entrance exam a month ago." Raine replied, hoping the dress could dry faster.

"Wow, that's great! What University? I am a college student too. This year will be my second years." Sunny brightened up.

"Royal University..." Raine said.

There was a shrieked from Sunny when she heard Raine's answer before she jumped like five years old little girl. "I am also in Royal University!" Her eyes widened in surprise as she elated. "But, wait... what your second option?"

"No." Raine shook her head.

"Wow..." Sunny's mouth form a letter 'o' as she nodded her head. "You must be so brilliant to have that much confidence, because the entrance exam of Royal University is always so difficult, I am lucky enough to get there."

"No, I am not..." Raine waved her hands in denial. "I didn't take another exam, because the other University didn't have a subject that I want."

Royal University was an old University in this city and the subject that Raine interested in, was only available there.

Sunny shrugged her shoulder and lightly said. "That means, if you passed the exam, you will be my junior then!"

"I think so..." Raine agreed.

Chapter 176 - PARTY (3)

"Oh, right!" Sunny put down Raine's dress, though it slightly wrinkle, but at least it was dry already, the stain also barely could be seen. "You have to stay until the party ends!"

"What time it will be?" Raine wondered if Torak would let her stay until late, sometime he was too strict with her sleeping time.

"Midnight." Sunny threw the tissue that she used to dry Raine's dress to a dustbin. "There will be a beautiful firework later."

"Midnight..." Raine reiterated with a voice of regret. Usually Torak would only allow her to stay until eleven o'clock for the very late hour. "I don't think Torak will let me stay until that late..."

Sunny looked a little bit disappointed. "Or at least you have to stay until the dance! You have to share a dance with him!" She leaned over and whispered to Raine's ears while staring at the two women who had come out from the cabin and the other woman in black dress, who seemingly had not yet done with her makeup. "Those women out there will die by jealousy!" She giggled.

"I don't think I want to make other women jealous of me..." Raine didn't think that was a good idea to incite women's fury. They could be scarier than a beast itself. "Moreover, I don't dance..."

"You have to try it at least once!" Sunny insisted. "I heard Mr. Donovan never had a dance before."

"It's a good thing... because I don't like to dance too." Raine said hurriedly, she wanted get out from this restroom.

This almost five minutes since she left Torak, whether it was only a joke or not, she didn't want to make him worry.

"You are wrong." Suddenly the woman in black dress chimed in. "Mr. Donovan had a dance before." She said.

Not only her statement made Raine to halt her step, but Sunny also turned around to face her. "With who?" She frowned.

"There are not many people know about this. But, Mr. Donovan had a girlfriend before." She said loud and clear.

"Who is it? I have never heard something like that." Sunny retorted. "You want to make a rumor?"

"Why should I?" The woman in black dress shrugged her shoulder in coquettish way. "You had never heard about this because you didn't live in the same city as him."

Somehow, Raine didn't like with what she heard or what she was going to hear.

Sunny, being the busy body girl she was, asked about that. "What do you mean? Did you live in Oriole city before?"

The two women also listened to this small interesting conversation as their gazes shifted from Raine to the woman in dress.

"Yes, I was. I lived there for ten years." She stated proudly.

Raine didn't know why this woman so haughty only to be able to live in the same city as Torak, didn't she know that she shared the same bed with him?

"Oh, first let me introduce myself." She flicked her maroon curly hair from her shoulder elegantly. "My father is Ethan Harper and I, Alice Harper."

"Harper... Ethan Harper..." One of the women whispered to the other.

Apparently Harper family was quite famous among the businessmen, even Sunny was also slightly taken aback by this fact.

But, all Raine wanted to do now was to get out from this restroom and ran toward Toward to ask him to bring her out of this party, she would have done so if it wasn't for Sunny grabbed her wrist tightly. The situation was getting uncomfortable now.

"Harper family is the main competitor of Donovan's company..." The other girl said in low voice to her friend.

"No wonder they lived in the same city." The other replied.

"Right." Alice clapped her hands and nodded toward Raine. "Are you her woman now?" She asked directly without scruple.

Raine heard Alice's question, but she didn't want to answer it, she felt Alice didn't have good attention by mentioning something like that, thus she kept silence and stared at Alice from behind her white mask.

"This is only a gentle reminder." Alice walked toward Raine. "Don't get your hope too high, but you are not the first woman that Mr. Donovan had, moreover, you looked so young and immature."

Alice scrutinized Raine's body from head to toe along with her mocking smile.

"Who was the woman with Mr. Donovan?" Sunny asked, though Raine was there, but she couldn't resist her curiosity.

"Do you really not know?" Alice raised her eyebrows. "It was Jenedieth. His right hand woman, of course." She said excitedly.

"Ah! I know Ms. Jenedieth!" Sunny clapped her hands in recognition. "There were a rumor or two about them before this, but Mr. Donovan denied it all."

"Are you sure Mr. Donovan denied it all?" Alice looked at Raine provocatively. "Mr. Donovan didn't deny it, he used his PR to suppress the rumor and let it passed, thus only the higher up in the oriole city who know that."

"But, why they didn't go to public?" Sunny asked, puzzled.

"It must be because both of them were too busy and had something more important to do rather than flaunted their relationship to public." The woman who said that looked at Raine meaningfully, she even snickered.

"Actually they looked good together." One of the women gave her opinion. "I remember Ms. Jenedieth is a woman that many men will dream of."

"Yes, beautiful, s.e.xy and smart!" The other woman chimed in. "They suited each other."

Raine's expression turned rigid when she heard the way they praised Jenedieth. Thanked to her mask that could hide it, yet even so, her gestures still gave a way how much she was trying to hold back her emotion.

"Wait, where are you going?" Alice stopped Raine when she, without words, trying to go out from that restroom and from their aggravating words. "Did our words offend you?"

"You will not possibly ran to Mr. Donovan and tell about us, right?" The first woman said it with nervous expression, but the glimmer in her eyes gave away her true intention.

"Of course, she will not." The second woman folded her arms in front of her chest and looked at Raine sullenly. "That act is so childish. I don't know why Mr. Donovan changed his type. But, she is very different from Ms. Jenedieth."

With those words, Alice and Sunny looked at Raine from head to toe.

"Right, she is the opposite of Ms. Jenedieth." Alice agreed.

"Probably because Mr. Donovan wants to forget about Ms. Jenedieth that's why she dated someone with totally different personality." The first woman made her own assumption.

"That must be the reason." Her friend chimed in as well.

"No, that makes senses, maybe Mr. Donovan moves to this city and opened another business here because he wants to avoid Ms. Jenedieth. After all this is the first time Ms. Jenedieth is not tag along, right?" Alice turned around and washed her hands under the faucet while looking at the reflection of Raine from the mirror.

In the other hand, Sunny didn't do anything, she just stared at Raine and to the other three people there.

"Why don't you take off your mask? You have been wearing that since the first time you enter this party room." The woman suggested. "What happened with your face? Why don't you show your face to us?"

While her friend was saying that the other woman had moved forward to snatch the white mask from Raine.

However, before she could do so, suddenly the restroom door was thrown open with so much force as the handle left a dent on the wall behind it.

"It has been five minutes." Torak said sternly. His eyes scoured the entire Restroom before they landed on the only woman who was able to catch his attention.

Seeing the awkward expression from the other three women inside the room, including the woman who had brought Raine here, Torak knew there was something wrong with this situation.

Torak strode across the distance between them and grabbed Raine's hand, when he did so, he could feel the tension from her. His guess was right.

"Mr. Donovan..." The two women and Sunny stuttered when they saw Torak entered female restroom without qualm to look for Raine.

Sunny, who thought Torak's warning was only words, lowered her head in fear and ashamed when those blue, rigid glared at her.

"Mr. Donovan, I don't think this is a good manner of you to enter a female restroom as you wish." Alice leaned her body against the hand washing and folded her arms provocatively. "If words come out, your reputation will ruin."

Torak didn't even glance at Alice when he said. "Let's see who will ruin first." There was a warning laced in his words.

"Are you threatening me?" Alice frowned. She dared to do so because her family was on par with Donovan's company.

"Yes." Torak replied curtly, didn't want to waste another words on her. "Come." He grabbed Raine's hand and took her away from the restroom without saying anything.

Torak and Raine walked in the corridor in silence before he stopped and looked at Raine. "What happened? Something bothering you?"

Raine lowered her head. "Nothing." She said sullenly. She was annoyed by herself because she couldn't talk back to them.

What should she say if she didn't know anything? Raine remembered something when she encountered Jenedieth for the first time.

Her words implied that she had something special with Torak. Raine also heard about something like; if Torak didn't find her, then it was Jenedieth who would be the Luna of the pack. The equal status as the Alpha of the pack.

Many people would agree that she suited perfectly with the status as Luna or Torak's woman.

Beautiful, s.e.xy and smart...

Raine clenched Torak's hand when she remembered those words. Something that she is lacking. The more she remembered that, the more angry Raine became and the more regret that she felt because she couldn't talk back to them.

But, what she could do when she knew nothing about that?

"I am fine." Raine said when Torak kept staring at her.

"What do you mean with 'nothing', my love?" Torak removed the mask from her face and revealed Raine's sullen expression. Even when she was agitated like this, she looked so stunning. "You are anything but fine."

"It's okay." Raine turned her face sideways so she could avoid Torak's eyes.

"Tell me what they say?" The tone that Torak used was akin to persuade a small child. "What is so bothering you?"

The Alpha couldn't think of anything that they might say to her until she had a bad mood like this.

"They..." Raine's words stumbled in her throat. She remembered the other woman's words that said; it was a childish act if she complained to Torak about what they had said.

"Yes?" Torak prodded, but Raine didn't continue her words, she chewed her lower lips anxiously. "Tell me, my love." He trapped Raine's face in his warm palms and urged his upset little mate to see him in the eyes.

"They said you have a special relationship with Jen." Raine mumbled. Torak wouldn't stop until he got the answer and Raine wasn't good at lie, thus there was only one way to end this uncomfortable feeling. "They also said that you hide your relationship with Jen because both of you too mature to be bothered to explain it in public."

Torak raised his eyebrows; women were sure had their way to upset other people.

"They also said that you moved here because you are heartbroken and want to forget your past relationship with Jen." Raine raised her head and looked at

Torak in the eyes, she frowned slightly. "I objected this one because I know why you moved here."

Torak chuckled lightly and rubbed Raine's head, he was speechless with her logic, if she objected the last one why didn't she object the other two as well?

Chapter 177 - PARTY (4)

"Are you angry?" Torak tucked a strand of her hair behind her ear with amus.e.m.e.nt to see Raine's expression right now.

"No." She gazed at Torak stubbornly. "I am upset."

With that Torak laughed out loud. This was a rare occasion for someone like Torak to laugh that way. Fortunately there was no one in this corridor, or else it would be a sight to behold, to witness the cold- blood CEO of Donovan's Company was laughing like that.

"Why are you laughing?" Raine hit Torak's upper arms.

"Alright, I got it. You are not angry, just upset." Torak put back her mask and kissed her forehead. "Wanted to stay for a while longer?"

"No." Raine didn't want to stay there even for a second longer. She really pissed with the those women and herself.

"Don't you want to dance with me?" Torak offered.

"Dance?" Raine frowned. "But, they said you don't do dance..." She contemplated.

"Why do you believe them? Is it me that they are talking about." Torak took Raine's hand and led them back to the party room.

"But, I can't dance..." Raine suddenly shrieked and tried to pull back her hand, but Torak's grip was too firm and apparently he was in good mood.

"Don't worry, I am good enough for both of us." Torak said reassuringly.

Raine was a bit nervous and hesitated. "Have you danced before?" She didn't try to doubt Torak's ability, she just didn't think that someone like Torak would dance in public.

"Not in public." Just like what Raine had thought.

"Why?" She asked curiously, did he danced with Jenedieth in private? That thought alone turned her mood became sour.

"I just danced with someone that I like." Torak said.

"Like Jen?" Raine was too upset to mention her name, so her words sounded harsher than it supposed too and this made her embarrassed.

"Of course not." Torak rubbed Raine's head when they arrived at the door, two people pushed it opened and revealed where the crowd of the people gathered in the middle of party room to start their first dance tonight.

The light of the room was dim and the music began in slow and enchanted melody, suddenly the atmosphere became warm and lovely and as if to lit up the romantic emotion the various fragrance of flower could be lightly smelled.

Torak led Raine to the middle of the room and stop amidst many pairs of couple around them, he put Raine's hands gently on his shoulder as he rested his hand on her waist.

"I don't know how..." Raine whispered nervously, but couldn't take her eyes from Torak. He was so dashing under the faint yellow light while his blue eyes stared back at her with so much love.

Torak took a slow step that was easy enough for Raine to follow. He moved side to side with a simple movement, this dance wasn't exactly a dance, but she still felt her heart skipped a beat, knowing this was their first dance.

Torak's first dance in public.

These simple steps still felt lovely for Raine nonetheless.

Until a moment later, a bright light was shined on them, following their every move as if they were the main character for tonight party.

The music was like a spell and Raine even didn't realize when the couples around them started to leave the dance floor to give some room for her and Torak.

Time passed without them knowing and when the music came to stop, as the final move, Torak bend his knee in proposing stance and kissed Raine's hand heartily.

This action incited waves of shock among the guesses, there was a loud gasping sound and mumbles among the women, as they couldn't believe with what they witnessed.

The haughty Torak Donovan actually lowered himself in front of many people for a young woman? Was that even possible? The ruthless man who would never take a second glance toward his opponent or when he executed a cruel plan, bend down to a woman?

Who exactly this woman was?

She didn't remove her mask since the beginning, so no one could see her face, but one thing for sure, this woman must be an extraordinary to be able to be Torak Donovan's woman.

Not only those people, even Raine also gasped in shock when Torak did that. She could feel warm crept from her face to her neck.

Though many people's eyes were on her, this was the first time Raine could be careless about them as her focus was solely on the man in front of her.

Torak's black mask covered his expression well, but Raine knew behind it, Torak was teasing her again and like usual, it left her speechless by his every action.

Slowly, Torak stood up and kissed her forehead, he didn't even care when someone or two took a picture of him did that.

Afterward, gently he put Raine's hand on the crook of his elbow and led her away from the spotlight with a round of applause from the other guess.

Raine was at daze when she received a bottle of water from Torak and drank half of it in one gulp.

"How is your feeling? Still upset?" Torak asked, while resting his chin on Raine's shoulder and wrapped his arms around his waist as if no one was around, ignoring the fact there were dozens pair of eyes staring at them with curiosity that almost killed them.

"I... I am fine now." Raine stammered. She knew Torak did this to revenge her, there was no way those women in the restroom missed that moment when Torak danced with her.

That dance also like an announcement that Torak was taken now and she was the lucky girl. Regardless nobody saw her face, but Raine felt satisfy and happy nevertheless.

"It's good to hear that." Torak said.

"Can we stay until the firework?" Raine asked, she remembered what Sunny informed her, there would be a firework at midnight and since the time was already late, they only need to wait a bit longer for that?

"Sure, if you like it." Torak agreed. His anger had subsided and just wanted to hold his mate like this.

Seeing the intimate interaction between Torak and Raine at the moment, people who wanted to come close to him were a bit reluctance, it felt like they were bothering the couple.

However, not everyone felt the same, at least this person wasn't a human to begin with.

"What a nice view to see." A gruff and rough voice sounded from behind them as this man took a glass of wine from the waiter. "But, I prefer for you to stop flaunting your love everywhere."

Torak turned around and hide Raine behind his back as his aura turned gloomy when he met the devil's golden eyes.

"Belphegor." Torak mentioned his name with derision.

"This is Reiz for you Mr. Donovan." Belphegor said, he gave Raine a lazy smile as he waved his bonny fingers. "We are a partner now."

Raine remembered him, he was the devil that she had met in the hotel when the first time she met Torak.

The devil who wanted to take her life, he hurt her before this.

"What are you doing here?" The calm tone that Torak used was scarier than when he growled at his opponent.

"This is an open party and I am invited." Belphegor said lightly as he sniffed the wine. "It has been a long time since the last time I saw you, I heard you were missing a few months ago. This Alpha was looking for you like crazy. By any chance, have you known your power already?" This time the question was for Raine to answer.

Torak closed his eyes as he clenched his jaw to keep his anger at bay. It was so easy to mess with the Alpha, especially if it related to his mate.

"Or, should I help you to find it out?" Belphegor took a gulp of his wine. "If your man don't mind, of course." He nodded toward Torak's direction.

Without wasting another words on the devil, the Alpha took his mate away. This wasn't the right place and the right timing to be out of control by his provocative words.

"Well, she will know sooner or later." Belphegor stated and talked to a man who approached him, having a little conversation as if he was a real human.

"Why many people make a fuss about my power?" Raine tugged Torak's sleeves. "What I supposed to do with my power?"

"To protect yourself." Torak answered her curtly and dismissed the topic immediately. "Let's go outside, the firework would start soon." He glanced at his watch, it was almost the time.

For some reason, Torak's answer didn't convince Raine, but she nodded anyway when Torak took her to the balcony.

There were many people already there, but two men, who had gotten a nice view, generously gave up their spot and gave it to Torak to impress him.

Sometime Raine wondered, how far they would go to impress someone else, in order to get what they wanted? It was strange, but this world worked that way...

Torak took off his coat and draped it on Raine's shoulder to keep her warm.

Raine smiled ever softly, basking under the moonlight, she looked like a deity and Torak lost for words how to describe her. He loved her painfully, the kind of love that he had been waiting for centuries.

"You looked so beautiful, my love." Torak whispered to her ear.

Raine lowered her head and grinned upon hearing his words. "Thank you." She said timidly. "I am sorry for doubting you earlier... I just a little bit upset because of their words."

"You don't have to apologize." Torak stared at his mate with adoration. "I will convince you again and again every time you doubt me."

"I will not doubt you again..." Raine said sheepishly. "I will ask you directly if something bothering me..."

"You can always do that." Torak traced his finger along Raine's jaw lines.

Raine relished this moment when she felt like someone was watching her, she looked around and found, the woman named Alice Harper was looking at her with the same two women from the restroom earlier. They scoffed at her.

Just like Raine had thought, they must have seen her with Torak on the dance floor earlier. Torak's way got back at them, apparently, got on their nerves.

"Can I go for a while?" Raine asked and Torak frowned.

"Where you will go? Restroom again?" Belphegor was here and Torak didn't want Raine was out of his sight while the devil nearby.

Raine nodded to the direction at the three women, who looked at her scornfully. When Torak stared back at them, they didn't quick enough to manage the derision on their expression.

"What do you want to do with them?" Torak was curious, what his little mate would do to them.

"Having a chat, woman to woman." She said, attempting to sound arrogant, but failed miserably.

Torak looked at Belphegor, who was still having a chat with the man, who had approached him. "Don't be too long." Torak said.

Raine nodded and walked toward the three women with new confidence. The dance not only affected them, but also Raine. She could feel the love that Torak had for her.

About his past with Jenedieth, whether there were a special relationship between them or not, she would ask him by herself later, but the important thing Torak was with her now.

Not Jenedieth or any other woman.

Raine would make sure they got this point too, if not, it was their problem... like what hideous thing that Torak had done in the past, Raine didn't want to be bothered with his relationship with any other women before her.

As long as Torak was with her, she wanted to cherish that moment.

Raine walked straight to them and stopped two steps away.

"Do you need something?" Alice asked while the two women slightly moved behind her, afraid because they were caught red-handed staring at Raine viciously by Torak.

"Yes." Raine followed Alice's arrogant gesture as she folded her arms in front of her as well.

"Why? Do you want to complain because of our words before?" Alice smirked. As she already removed her mask, Raine could see that she was quite beautiful with a lot of make up on her face. "Or, do you want to flaunt that Mr. Donovan asked you for dance?"

"Both." Raine said coldly, though the affect didn't come close with the way Torak talked in the same manner, but she already good enough to act this way. "Don't spread a nasty rumor about my man, if you know nothing about it."

Thanked to his remarkable hearing ability, Torak could hear Raine's voice clearly. A satisfied smile grazed his lips when he heard Raine said 'my man',

that simple words made him unimaginably happy. The fact that Belphegor had bothered him, was even forgotten.

"Me? Knows nothing about him?" Alice pointed herself.

How long they had been together? Two years? Three years? Alice stared at Raine again, despite her face was covered with mask, but she was too young for having five years relationship with Torak.

She was growing up with Torak's name almost in every conversation in the family because their company was competitor to each other.

So, technically speaking, Alice knew more information about Torak Donovan than Raine had.

"I know everything about him!" Alice hissed in irritation. "You are nothing compare to Ms. Jenedieth."

"Why I have to compare myself with her?" Raine raised her eyebrows despite Alice couldn't see it. "I am way better than her." She said confidently.

"Don't cry when Mr. Donovan and Ms. Jenedieth get back together again you will..." Alice didn't have a chance to finish her words when Raine cut her off.

"Don't worry, Torak had kicked her off for good. She will never comeback." After saying that, Raine turned around and was about to leave when suddenly she remembered something. "Don't talk about my man, you don't even deserve to mention it."

Afterward, she walked back straight to Torak's embrace, leaving Alice fumed mad because Raine didn't give her a chance to retort.

"Where you get those words?" Torak whispered while hugging her soft body, he knew regardless her progress, she wouldn't come up with that harsh and sarcastic words just yet.

"I don't have anything to do after the entrance exam, thus while waiting for the result, recently, I have been watching many dramas. When the main character used those words, she looked so cool." Raine giggled.

"You look cool as well." Torak complimented her.

Chapter 178 - PARTY (5)

The tiger and the lion maybe powerful, but the wolf doesn't perform in the circus.

"I heard you look for me."

Someone suddenly talked from behind Torak's back, one of the voice that he dislike, but couldn't help when it has to come to the safety of his mate.

Torak didn't need to turn around and guess whose voice that belonged to when her citrus scent filled his nose.

"Serefina..." Raine's elated expression slightly changed when she saw the witch in her sparkling purple dress.

Raine wondered, why she always tried to get as much attention as she could get. Purple dress and red hair was a strange combination, yet it looked good on her.

There were waves of whispered among the crowd when they watched Serefina walked toward the couple.

because they were afraid to anger Torak's moment with his woman, thus nobody dare to approach him, but this woman, who came from nowhere, they didn't even realize there she was there along the party, dared enough to walk toward the couple without fear.

"I like the way you handled them." Serefina glanced at Alice and her two friends through her shoulder.

Like always, Serefina had never had regret about anything that she had done or she said 'sorry'. The last time their encounter wasn't something that could be easily forgotten, yet Serefina treated that as nothing. There was no remorse just like how she had burnt Raine's mother diary.

"I don't ask you to come to this party." Torak glared at her.

He had indeed asked Raphael to order someone to look for her, but it didn't mean she could appear anywhere that she liked.

This party wasn't the right place for them to have a conversation about the things that Torak wanted to discuss with her. Not to mention Belphegor was around.

"I come because of this party." Serefina frowned as she walked and stood beside Raine. "Do you think I come because you managed to find me?"

Her words were quite right, all this time when she disappeared from existence for more than decades, nobody was able to find her, not even Torak's strongest hunter had a clue about her whereabouts, as if she was vanished and cease to exist.

She appeared when she wanted to and when she decided to hide and nobody would know, she was that kind of witch.

Torak wonder what had happened between Serefina and his brother, they were used to get along well when they were together, but after that 'thing' happened, Serefina changed totally.

Because Torak was in need party, he tried to calm the beast within him that very itchy to tear Serefina for her comment.

But, it still couldn't dismiss the rumbling growl within that could be heard from Torak's chest. This witch really got on other people nerves. What a talent...

With her arrogant manner, Serefina took a glass of wine for herself from the waiter and took another glass for Raine.

However, before Raine could react and received the glass, Torak had taken it away and put it back to the tray that the waiter carried.

"Let her try." Serefina complained, but didn't pursue the matter because Torak was glaring at her. The witch shouldn't push her luck any further than this. She put back her fur purple mask and looked at the night sky. "So, why are you looking for me?" She raised her eyebrows provocatively while looking at Raine, not Torak.

"I didn't..." Raine raised her hand and denied. "I didn't look for you..." She wondered if the witch had ever said 'sorry' sincerely as long as she lived. How could she act as if nothing had happened between them on their last encounter?

"I don't think this is the right place to discuss this." Torak uttered in rough voice, he even didn't try to hide his loathing of her. He couldn't let his anger loose now, not in front of many people.

"Worry not." Serefina waved her hands casually. "They wouldn't be able to hear our conversation." Because she had put spell around her, so people out of the small magic circle that she had created, wouldn't be able to hear a single word from them, all they could hear was only a sound like buzzing bees.

Torak knew she was capable to do that, thus he continued his question that he was very eager to know the answer. "What did you mean with 'she who guard the time'?" He asked the crucial part.

Beside him, Raine also wanted to know what the meaning of it.

At this moment, Torak realized the important thing for Raine, which was to be able to protect herself well, another layer of protection wouldn't do any harm.

At some point, Serefina was right, that was why Torak willing to yield to her, though there was still a bit reluctant and mystery that veiled the witch true intention. He would find out about that later.

Meanwhile, Serefina leaned her body against the steel railings of the balcony and folded her arms while holding her glass wine.

Her gesture was so elegant and mature, like a young noble lady, kind of woman who wouldn't underestimate by other easily, Raine wondered if she could act that way.

"There are many kind of Guardian angel and some of them will profound in one element while some of them wouldn't realize what element that dominated their nature. The element could be anything, even something that you couldn't see and touch, like time." Serefina glanced at Raine, made sure she could catch up with this logic.

Beside Torak, Raine frowned, this would be a long explanation and she would have another homework to do and a long list of questions to ask about this. But, she was excited to know, nonetheless.

Yet, Raine's assumption was wrong, because Serefina kept her explanation very short, she just added a few sentences after that.

"In the past, in much more distant time than the great war between the lycans and the devils, there was a guardian angel with the same ability like her." Serefina said, slightly proud with the news that she brought, because it was only she, who knew about this.

"Do you mean the person that you said I need to meet?" Raine asked she moved forward to approach Serefina as her curiosity gnawed her heart.

"Exactly." Serefina nodded.

"So, what should I do to be able to use and control this... power..." There was a strange feeling when she mentioned this power, she knew she have it, in fact she could feel that when the first time she used it, but the moment she mentioned it, she still felt... awkward to say the least.

In spite of that, there was an excitement that pulsing through her veins. With this, she wasn't totally useless person, she could do something...

In the other hand Torak didn't say anything, his face remained expressionless, nobody would be able to know what was inside his mind right now.

However, the fact that Torak didn't object the idea was already a good sign. He was willing to listen.

"I don't know." Serefina shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly, giving an unexpected answer.

"What do you mean you don't know?" Raine was puzzled, her hope had already high to be able to do something for herself, but why Serefina said that she didn't know?

"I don't know, mean; I don't know." Serefina said in matter of fact tone, annoyed both Raine and Torak. "I don't know what you have to do in order to be able to use and control your power. I am not the one who has that kind of power, you know. It's all about you."

Raine was utterly speechless and shock by Serefina's revelation.

"What are you going to do to help her so she will be able to control her power?" As if Torak wasn't affected by Serefina's annoying answer, he asked in different way.

"That's the right question!" Serefina flicked her finger with satisfaction. "You have to pay attention about what you asked."

Despite the fight between the two of them, in the past they had known for decades before everything turned awkward, and once could be called friend, now was nothing, but stranger.

Raine frowned and mumbled, she forgot that the two of them had a remarkable hearing ability. "What the difference."

"Of course it's different." Serefina stated, yet didn't explain about it further. She looked across many people inside the party room toward Belphegor, who was staring back at her, a vicious smirk formed in the corner of her lips. "He hasn't known yet about the fact she is not your mate, has he?" The witch tilted her head on Torak.

"No." Torak answered it curtly. Lucifer and some other creatures have realized about Raine's identity as his mate, but not Belphegor, the sloth still clueless about that. He just thought Torak protected Raine because she was the guardian angel, which was true also. "But, he will know soon."

The news about this would spread among the supernatural creatures and Torak had predicted it, thus he needed more extra careful when Raine was really going to the University, he must take into account all the dangers that might occur.

"I guess he will." Said Serefina, for the first time after such a long time, agreed with Torak. "I want her to come with me." Suddenly she changed her focus on Raine.

In an instant, Torak's body tensed up, but he remained calm.

"Where?" Raine asked meekly.

"No need to glare at me. I will not take her soon, but I tell you this in advance." Serefina shot a dagger look on Torak. "This time I will not repeat the same thing, so you don't need to worry much." She said lightly.

In spite that was what Serefina had said, but how Torak could trust her? She had said the same thing when Raine disappeared. Just how serious this witch this time?

"What you will do with my mate?" Torak asked rigidly, the temperature around him dropped dramatically.

"Discover the origin of her power." Serefina shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly. Apparently her spell worked just fine, because when the waiter collected her empty wine glass, there wasn't any puzzled look on her face upon hearing Serefina's odd words. "Only by her understand the past, she will know what to do in the present."

Torak not impressed at all by Serefina's answer, regardless he knew there was the truth behind it. He was still tore apart between; letting Raine became stronger on her own and his inclination to keep his mate safe beside him, his deepest desire to protect her was so strong, it was hard enough to handle.

If he could, he would keep Raine within his arm's reach, but he couldn't do that and Raine eventually would hate it. He wasn't able to decide now whether it was a good decision or not.

"I think you have a guest." Serefina nodded her head toward someone who was approaching them.

Torak's eyebrows creased as he turned around and found Belphegor and the other man, which he has been talking to, were approaching them.

"Mr. Donovan, I would like to introduce you to Mr. Stephan." Belphegor, or Reiz de Medici. Just like how he had introduced himself for people outside.

Raine still couldn't understand, how the devil could manipulate many people to think that he was part of de Medici family, but he was the devil after all, who had a thousand ways to beguile people around him without trouble.

Torak stared at Belphegor icily for his interruption, as he shook hand with Mr. Stephan and politely heard his clueless rumbling about how he adored Torak as a young businessman.

Because Serefina was with Raine, Torak brought them a few meters away. He didn't want Belphegor to be so close with his mate.

When it was only Raine and Serefina alone and Torak was occupied with Belphegor and Mr. Stephan, Raine came close to the witch and asked the question that, she assumed, Torak was reluctant to answer it truthfully.

For some reason, Raine didn't satisfy with Torak's answer at that time, that was why for the first time Raine thought about Serefina's callous nature as a blessing in disguise.

"I want to know what exactly the purpose of the resurrection of guardian angel?" Raine looked at her firmly. "You have been talking about war."

Chapter 179 - PARTY (6)

"I want to know what exactly the purpose of the resurrection of guardian angel?" Raine asked in low voice, she didn't want Torak to hear that she asked the same exact question toward Serefina.

The thing that Raine didn't know was, once Torak stepped aside to walk a little bit further from Serefina and Raine, he was the same like the other people that couldn't hear what the two women were talking about. Serefina's spell was working after all.

Serefina didn't answer Raine immediately, she raised her eyebrows and asked her back. "Why? Torak's answer didn't satisfy you?"

Raine shook her head and replied. "I feel like Torak has been avoiding me to give the real answer." Raine mumbled.

"So, he didn't give you the answer." Serefina concluded. "That is why you ask me and act so calm despite the thing that happened the last time." She recalled, even when she mentioned that again, there was no remorse for what she had done.

However, this time Raine had been tired to feel so sensitive about Serefina's behavior, if the fact that Serefina almost killed Raine didn't even bother the former, then there was nothing she could do. Raine couldn't be possibly forced Serefina to feel sorry for what she did, right?

Any argument about that would be just a waste of time and Raine was in need for explanation.

Though it felt so ironic, but knowing Serefina, the witch wouldn't have telling lie about this matter. She didn't have a complicated feeling toward Raine like

Torak, if anything, Serefina probably would spill every dark secret that she knew with the reason to make her grew stronger.

And that was what Raine needed now.

Somehow, Raine felt like Serefina was obsessed with her own intention, but she couldn't find her true reason why she did this willingly. Serefina wasn't close with Torak, most of the time they were not in good term and if there was a big possibility for them to kill each other. Moreover, from what Raine heard, the relationship between Serefina and Torak's brother had been long ended.

Thus, there was no reason for her to help Torak and Raine now.

"You didn't need to try to kill me. No matter what your reason." Raine said emotionlessly, she stared at Serefina right on her lime green eyes that slightly turned frosty.

"How do you know that I was only trying to kill you and not wanted to kill you for real?" Her question, laced with mocking tone. "Don't be so na?ve."

"You will not look for a tiny bit information about the first guardian angel, who has the same power like me, if in the end you want to kill me." Raine replied swiftly. "Moreover, it was you who had said that."

"Hmm..." Serefina tilted her head as she scrutinized the girl in front of her. "You look smarter now than the first time I met you."

Raine didn't know if Serefina's words were praise or an insult as it sounded the same.

"But, I can say you are wrong." Serefina shrugged her shoulder. "At that time I choked you, I indeed had an intention to kill you." If it wasn't because Raine was surprised her with the fact she was able to break her spell and moved when she supposed to be to stand still.

Surprisingly, Serefina's words didn't hurt Raine like they were used to. The relationship between them was so odd, as if there was an understanding between the two women that they didn't like each other, but still needed one another to reach their goal.

For Raine, it was clear what her aim, but for Serefina, it was still mystery what her real intention for her generous help despite the tension that she had created every time they had to face her.

"No hurt feeling." Serefina raised her eyebrows because Raine didn't give much reaction except staring at her. "You slapped me, it was only right if I got angry at you." She said lightly without regret like always.

"I slapped you because you have badmouthed Torak." Raine raised her voice when she saw Serefina wanted to cut her when she talked. "I will do the same thing if you did that again."

This time, it was Serefina who was caught off guard by Raine's retorted words, but instead of getting irritated, she was bemused by her audacity.

"Great." Serefina clapped her hands. "At least you know what you were doing and what would be the consequences. Keep it that way, you will need that kind of boldness a lot in the near future, especially when you have to face your fellow human." She reminded.

Human was complicated creatures and since the devils involved in this, it was most likely they would take advantages of human's dark side and used it for their own benefit, like what they had always done since centuries ago.

"So, tell me what the purpose of the resurrection of the guardian angel." Raine asked impatiently, she glanced at Torak.

Torak was standing with Belphegor and Mr. Stephan, Three meters away from Raine and Serefina, however it seemed the conversation between Raine and Serefina couldn't be heard by him.

"Don't worry, he will not be able to hear us." The witch confirmed it as she took another glass of wine. "So, do you really want to know about this?" She asked arrogantly, shaking the glass in her hand.

"Yes." Raine didn't want to beat around the bush. She had told Serefina her intention, this also could be interpreted as Raine agreed with Serefina's way to teach her about how to control her power and find out about her true origins.

The road ahead wouldn't be a good one, but Raine had gotten used to that kind of life,

"Then, hear this out carefully." Serefina sipped her wine and made a satisfied expression. "I just want to warn you that this story will be cruel."

"I have seen 'cruel'." Raine stilled her heart, this wasn't the time to back down or started to act spoiled. "I think I can handle this."

Serefina smirked as she tilted her head. "Do you know that the guardian angels were extinct not because they were too weak for war? But, they really must die in order to defeat the devils." She paused and assessed Raine's reaction. "Cruel, isn't it?"

The Love of a Lycan #Chapter 170 - THE PAST - Read The Love of a Lycan Chapter 170 - THE PAST

Chapter 170 - THE PAST

I am standing in the ashes of who I used to be.

-Angel on fire. By: Halsey-

Raine shifted her eyes from Torak and stared at the stone. It still glowed in golden color, but then the rich color lost its glimmer and turned gloomy.

That affected Raine's surrounding, as she found herself no longer looking from behind the soft white mist, but it almost like murky water.

Raine doubted her vision when it suddenly turned dark just like someone was shutting down the lamp inside this spacious room and close all its windows. She was confused whether she was closing her eyes or the darkness engulfed her body.

She stared at Torak and was about to reach him when suddenly the darkness consumed her and she left with nothing.

It happened only less than a second, as if she was just blinking her eyes, because the moment her vision returned, she was outside the building.

She was in a vast land, another deserted place.

Raine gasped because she thought she was traveling back to different era, yet there was something more terrifying than that.

When Raine looked up the sky, it wasn't a bright blue sky that she saw, it was a different sky.

The sky was red. As if someone painted it with the color of blood. Even the sun was glaring with crimson color, as if it was angry.

Raine's heartbeat quickened and her body trembled violently. She averted her gaze and looked down on her shoes to avoid the angry sky.

But, she screamed on the top of her lungs when she watched was what beneath her... this was the most horrible thing that she had ever seen.

This was worse than her worst nightmare.

Raine screamed and screamed until she felt her voice hurt her throat, but she didn't stop. This was too much for her and she couldn't handle this.

She barely notice when someone touched her and rubbed her back anxiously.

"Raine... Raine... what happens? Tell me, this is me..."

That was Torak's voice, but Raine was too afraid to open her eyes and Torak kept repeating the same words again and again.

Beside Torak's voice there was another voice, it was screaming in agony like a wounded animal.

It took Raine some moment to realize that the sound was coming from her. But she couldn't stop. The thing that she had seen was simply too gruesome, and for the worst part, it would engrave in her mind forever, haunting her sleep.

"Raine... please, stop it... you scare me..." Torak pleaded when he wasn't able to make her stop screaming, in Torak's panic state, he called out her name. Raine's voice had started to turn rough, if this continued, she would hurt herself and wouldn't be able to talk for days.

Torak tightened his arms around Raine's body and buried her head on his chest.

Not long after that, Raine's scream ceased down into sobbing mess and she cried heartily. Torak didn't have any idea what the answer that she found or what the question that she had asked.

Because it was barely two seconds since Raine put her palms on the surface of the rough stone before she screamed hysterically.

What terrifying image that she was witnessing? Wasn't she going to ask about the prophecy and herself?

There wouldn't be something that could make her was having a mental breakdown like this, right?

Torak didn't have the answer for that. But, he was sure Raine was seeing something that she shouldn't see. But again, what was that?

When Raine's cry had ceased down a little bit, he carried her to the sofa nearby and poured a glass of water to moisten her dry throat.

"It's over now..." Torak put her in his laps and cradled her in his arms. Though her cry had ceased down, she still looked so distress and was trembling.

She saw something that even scarier than when Torak killed the Lycan by crushing his head right before her eyes, because her reaction at that time wasn't like this.

She was shock, but not to this extent. This time, what she was seeing when she touched the stone? What would be a gruesome scene that possibly happened in less than two seconds?

They stayed in that position for long time as Torak kept the question for himself.

When the bright sunlight turned into a soft golden ray and illuminated the room, only then Raine was able to open her eyes, tears still fell on her cheeks as she wiped them harshly with shaking hands.

Torak caressed her back and brushed strands of hair from her face.

"Are you feeling better now?" Torak looked at her right in the eyes worriedly, Raine's eyes were so red from crying.

"I don't want..." Raine sniffled and wiped the tears from her eyes before it could fall.

"Yes?" Torak prodded softly.

"I don't want... I don't want to see that... stone again..." Raine bit her lips and shut her eyes tightly. "That stone is scary... it showed me..." She stuttered again when she tried to relive the memory.

"What it showed you?" Torak tried to ask, he really wanted to know what she had seen.

"It showed me..." Raine gulped down the fear that crept on her throat as she tried to speak again. "It showed me a red sky... so red that I thought it was blood..." She shivered involuntarily. "And then..."

"And then...?" Torak held her tightly, reassuring her that everything was all right now.

"And when I looked down... when I looked down..." Raine buried her face on Torak's chest as she talked in muffled voice. "I saw thousand of dead body beneath me, dismembered, blood. I was standing on dead bodies." She tried to make her explanation short and said it in one breath.

The images of that were so livid. She wouldn't be a mistake, even though it was only last for a few seconds, but Raine knew what she was seeing.

"What did you ask?" Torak asked again after he had given another cup of water for Raine to drink.

Red sky and dead body? Torak felt he was familiar with that condition, but shouldn't Raine get the answer instead of seeing things from the past? Or could it be the future? And that was the answer?

"The prophecy..." Raine answered between her soft sobs, she grabbed onto Torak's front sweater tightly, out of fear. "What was that mean?"

If it was the prophecy that Raine had asked for an answer, than most likely those scenes were from the future.

"Will that be the war that... Serefina had mentioned...?" Raine remembered Serefina had mentioned something about war in one of her outburst.

Raine hugged Torak, she had an urge to hold him tightly as she was afraid there was unknown power that would force her back to that situation.

The image of the dead people beneath her feet, the eyes that stared right back at her lifelessly and the voice... there was this voice... it called for help... what was that people? Human? Lycan? Witch?

Raine wished none from above, but then, what were they? And the more important question was, what they were fighting against? Devil? Monster?

As if someone reminded her, there was the most important question for her to know... "What this war has to do with me...?" Raine gulped and wiped her eyes to have a better view of Torak's expression. "What should I do with this war? Serefina said..." She stopped and took a deep breath. "... Serefina said, this is my purpose for being resurrected... what is it?"

Torak gritted his teeth as he clenched his jaw, suppressing the emotion that ran through his veins. "You don't have to worry about this. This will not happen soon." He tried to reassure her, but the look in Raine's eyes told him that he failed. "If the war happens..." He corrected himself. "When the war happen, I will make sure your safety."

Torak would do everything in his power to ensure her safety, whatever happened, he would never involve her in any of this.

But, how he could prevent that? When the purpose of the resurrection of the guardian angels were for this?

When the war was happening, the most important thing wouldn't be to ensure her safety...

"Who are we fighting?" Raine asked Torak. She felt every follicle of her skin was tingling with anticipation.

"The devil." Torak replied. "You have one from the seven of them."

Raine's eyebrows creased as she tried to remember. "The man... inside the hotel room?" She remembered his golden eyes and how he hurt himself by touching her blood.

"Yes, he is the Sloth. Belphegor." Torak let her know. "Jenedieth has become part of them now." He added this information for Raine to be more cautious if in the future if she crossed path with her.

"Did you fight against the devil also centuries ago? When you took all the guardian angel from the village?" Raine asked, she didn't mean to remind Torak about that, she just want to know.

Torak grimaced when he heard that topic was brought up, but since he knew Raine didn't mean that way, he focused his concern on her question instead. "Yes, that was a few weeks before the great war happened between the lycantrhopes and the devil."

"All the guardian angel went to the war? That was why they were extinct..." Raine's voice trailed off. "No one from them could survive in the war."

"Yes." Torak admitted curtly. "They don't have the ability to go to the war."

Guardian angel's nature didn't even suit for a small violence, not to mention to go to a battlefield, Raine had seen that first hand when she was in the village of angel. "But, why did you bring them in the first place?"

This question just came out from her mouth without a second thought, but now when she heard her own question, that was make senses.

Violence wasn't running in the blood of the guardian angel, but why the lycanthropes brought them?

Raine could understand if the Moon Goddess wanted the lycanthropes to take the guardian angel away from the shadow warrior because she didn't agree with the rule that was set by the later.

And the fight between the two creatures couldn't be avoided that cost the life of the entire shadow warrior.

But, since the lycanthropes had managed to separate the guardian angel from their so called protector, there was no use to bring them to the battlefield, especially when they didn't have any ability to help.

"Why did you bring them to the battlefield" Raine repeated her question because Torak kept silence.

At this point, Raine felt there was something fishy. Torak wouldn't lie to her, but he didn't want to let her learned about the truth.

Torak sighed deeply before he said. "It was a mistake. We didn't protect them properly..." Because they were not worthy of their protection and they would be die anyway even if that wasn't for the war. But, he didn't say the last sentence out loud.

It was a fact that except from The Shadow Warrior, there was no other creatures were willing to look after them.

The only reason for them to come for the guardian angel was to sap their pure energy and made themselves stronger.

"What was the war about?" Raine rested her head on Torak's shoulder.

"The war was about..." Torak halted, and after giving some thought, he continued. "The reason was so simple, you would have guessed it..."

Raine bit down her lower lips and mumbled her replied. "Power and authority?"

"Yes." Torak nodded to emphasize his answer, yet in actuality, the reason wasn't that simple. There was more to explain.

"Will the world turn like the images that I saw?" Raine gulped hard, she felt her stomach did somersault.

"Maybe." Torak replied. "It can be."

In the ensuing silence, both of them were busy with their own thought until Raine broke it with a question. "You said, you will let me know about you." She reminded Torak about his words this early morning.

Through the window Raine could see the sun had long been set and the lamps from the street had been turned on, but from this position she couldn't see whether the moon was shining or not.

"Do you still have another question?" Torak hinted to the stone. He could feel Raine's body tense when he said that and she shook her head vigorously.

Raine chose to ask Serefina and endure her worst temper rather than to see such images again, while what she had seen might be true, but the vivid

images were not something so please to witness. She didn't know what she would see next, if she was going to post another question.

She knew about it enough and for the rest, Raine would ask Serefina when she had been calm enough and came to look for her.

For some reason that she couldn't explain, Raine knew that the witch would come to look for her again.

"In that case, shall we go now?" Torak asked in understanding tone.

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The trip to the Rieka Country ended up with Torak told her with long story that worth of thousands of years of his life.

What he did, which place that he had visited, a bit story about his older brother and his younger brother and also why Rieka Country, even though the meaning behind the name was; the power of wolf, has not a single shifter there.

That country was the place where the war between the Lycanthropes and devil occurred. Many creatures died and half of them were Lycanthropes and werewolves.

Since the werewolves and lycanthropes have a long span of life and staying there only reminded them about the gruesome battle and the agony that came after that.

Because many of them lost their mate and for them, it was the worst thing compared to the death itself.

Torak and his brothers brought them out from that country and split the Lycanthropes and werewolves to live in different realm. One thing that Torak told her was the fact there was more than one realm in this world.

The world that they lived now was human realm that put Torak as the Alpha, while the Astral realm was led by his older brother and his younger brother, who currently went missing.

Torak said, it had been around five decades since the last times he talked with his other brothers.

And then the story about the Lycanthropes that defeated the devil became a myth, thus in order to respect their spirit, the statue of the wolf was built in the most busy street of that country.

As for the statue in front of their houses, they were belief with that, a bad spirit wouldn't come into their houses.

Of course that was only a hereditary belief.

Last night, because Raine was so tired, the moment the plane landed and she got in the car, she fell asleep directly and didn't even notice when Torak carried her into their bedroom.

She was too tired physically and mentally.

In spite of Torak's story helped her to distract the gruesome images that she saw, but it still engraved deeply in her memories.

The first night, Raine was having a nightmare with those dead bodies beneath her feet, asking for help and accusing her for not capable and strong enough to protect them since she was the guardian angel.

Raine couldn't sleep after that, and only fell asleep when the sun had risen and Torak had told her half of the story of his life to help her to forget.

Probably because this time she was too tired and didn't have enough energy for the nightmare, she slept soundly without the interruption of those dead bodies.

With that, time passed uneventful, exclude to her occasional nightmare, everything seemed all right, though Serefina had not yet appeared ever since.

And today was the day Raine would go to take her exam entrance.

She had woken up early in the morning and reviewed everything that she had learnt with Mrs. Martha. She felt a little bit nervous, but at the same time also excited to enroll in her new environment.

"I am so nervous..." Raine said when she entered the car with Torak. He said he would go with her until the entrance gates.

Inside the car, there was Calleb, who was driving and next to him was Raphael, who was busy with his laptop like usual.

"You don't need to worry, even if you failed the exam, the Alpha will make sure you can enroll in that university if you really want to." Calleb said carelessly like usual.

That comment regarded with a slap from Raphael on the back of his head, Raine hit his shoulder with the book in her hand as well, now she had grown closer to both of them. They were like older brother that she had never had.

"So, what the meaning of my effort to study? And big amount of money that Torak had paid for Mrs. Martha to teach me?" Raine chuckled when Calleb rubbed the place where Raphael had slapped him.

"Don't worry, you can make one of his companies go bankrupt and he still will not angry even a bit to you." Calleb grinned through his rearview mirror to Raine.

The gamma hinted the collaboration with de Medici family. Torak lost a huge amount of money for that project, but still insisted to go just like what they had planned in the beginning. The Alpha didn't come to this city to make money after all, he came because his mate was here.

At that time Torak's name once again made a headline in business news.

While for the de Medici, they had pointed someone as the representative of the family. After a long fight within the family, finally they came up with someone and Torak would meet this person today.

Chapter 171 - WHO IS THIS RICH GIRL?

I truly believe that every single person has to go through something that absolutely destroys them so they can figure out who they really are.

-TheMind&Journal-

They arrived at the entrance gates of the University after twenty minutes driving, they neither early nor late, the time just right.

The black sport car drew people attention and made them glanced for the third time when they saw it. This was the rarest type from the brand, thus the owner shouldn't be someone simple.

Some of girls even flocked together and waited for the person, who would come out from such a car. If it was a boy, he would surely become very popular among the girl and if it was a girl, the same thing would happen to her, with the addition of the jealousy from the girls.

"Don't you want to come out?" Torak looked at Raine and tucked a strand of her hair behind her ear. "Do you want to stop right in front of the lobby?"

"No. No." Raine waved her hands frantically. She was wearing a dark purple sweater, jeans and sneaker. Nothing was special with the way she dressed, but if she came out from this car, she would be the center of unnecessary attention and that wasn't in the list of her first exam day. "Can you drive the car a bit far? Over there?" Raine pointed at the corner of the street.

"That's so far my love..." Torak frowned. "You will be late."

"Of course not." Raine retorted. "There is still twenty minutes left before the exam." She checked on her expensive watch that Torak had bought for her. She didn't want to know how much it cost, because she would end up to not used it.

[Alpha, I think she feels uncomfortable with this attention.] Calleb mind- linked Torak, but the Alpha growled in replied.

"Alright, Calleb will drop you there, but I will walk you here." Torak said calmly, without slightest evidence in his voice that he just scolded the Gamma.

Of course Torak knew that Raine felt uncomfortable with all the attention, but he wanted those people to see that his mate wasn't someone simple that they could mistreat in the future.

Torak's statement surprised Raine even further, not only her, but Calleb also needed to turn his body to see Torak's seriousness. He wouldn't do that, right?

It was fine to appear in business news, but if he was about to walk with Raine along this University street, he would become the headline in gossip news in the following days instead.

"Please..." Raine turned her expression into a pitiful one. "You know I don't like this..." She hugged his neck and whined.

[Let's make a bet.] Calleb mind linked Raphael beside him. [I will give up my one month salary for you if Raine succeed to make the Alpha yield.]

Even before Raphael could answer the Gamma ridiculous bet, Torak had opened his mouth said. "Drive somewhere that less people." He said.

"Got it." Calleb said happily. [You owe me your one month salary!] He mind linked Raphael.

However, as an answer, Raphael slapped the back of his head again. "Stop that!" He growled.

People, who were looking at the car and waiting for someone to get out from inside, were slightly disappointed when the car drove away.

"Probably wrong place." A girl said to her friend.

"I think so..." Her friend replied.

"No way someone so wealthy like that stops in the entrance gates instead of going inside to and stop at the lobby." The other girls commented.

=====

Calleb stopped the car at the less crowded corner of the street, under a maple tree.

"I will go now..." Raine took her backpack and gave Torak a brief kiss on his cheek, she waved goodbye to both Raphael and Calleb before she got out from the car.

"I will ask someone to pick you up." Torak reminded her again.

"Alright." Raine replied cheerfully and closed the door.

Inside the car, Calleb was about to drive the car away because they had meeting to attend when Torak stopped him.

"Wait until she enters the gates." Torak rested his back against the backrest and watched Raine was walking slowly toward the entrance.

If he could, he would like keep Raine by his side and would never let her to walk alone like this and disappeared from his sight.

Torak was worried if something unexpected happened to her during that period of time he wasn't nearby. Learning from his experience, Raine would be caught on something whenever he wasn't around.

However, no matter how strong his desire to protect her, Torak couldn't be possibly to force his own will on her. That would hurt her and it would hurt him in the process.

Torak had been treating Raine like a fragile flower petal all this time, which now flutter brightly and gently in his hand. He didn't want to crush her with his worried.

If this what Raine wanted, there was no reason for him to not grant it. He would take another measurement for her safety.

"You have arranged everything?" Torak asked Raphael. This was the fourth same question that he had asked his Beta since this morning.

"Yes, Torak." Raphael said patiently. "Everything is fine." And he reassured him again. He knew his Alpha was getting nervous with the thought he would part with Raine.

After all, Raine had never left his sight these past three months and because now she has to enter the college life, it was inevitably he must accept with the condition.

Torak stared at his little angel that disappeared into the crowd of people after she entered the gates.

"What time the meeting before the representative from the de Medici family come?" Torak glanced at his wristwatch, it was 07.30 a.m.

"Ten o'clock. De Medici family will come after lunch." Raphael replied.

"Re- arranges the morning meeting and makes it earlier." Torak said and closed his eyes. "I will pick her up by myself."

Even thought earlier Torak said he would ask someone to pick Raine up from the university, but in the end he felt restless and decided to come.

[I had expected this to happen] Calleb mind linked Raphael.

[Shut up and drive.] Raphael shut him up and continued with his work.

An almost collapse business has much paper work to do than the others. This business was still running just because the Alpha needed an excuse to stay in this place, no matter how much money they had loss.

=====

Raine looked around her and was enchanted by the university building. The atmosphere was so different here, even the air that she breathed didn't feel the same.

She would have never thought that she would be able to enroll college life. When Raine was in the orphanage, she always had a plan to work right after she came to age and graduated from high school, never a word of college entered her mind.

But, now here she was, taking an entrance exam together with the other people in her proper clothes and new backpack. Raine couldn't form into words how excited she was right now. She felt like she wanted to grin from time to time, but that wouldn't do as people would see her weirdly.

Speaking of weird, this was also kind of weird because since Raine was together with Torak, she saw less supernatural creatures around her, not to mention the hostile one.

She had asked about this to Calleb and he said it was because she was always with Torak, it caused his scent attached on her and the smell was very strong that could manage to ward off the other creatures in lower ranking to not mess with her, that was Calleb's explanation.

Despite she was still confused, but she liked the part that even Torak's scent that attached on her could protect her, but...

Raine sniffed her hands, hair and shoulders, she didn't think she smelled like Torak, because his was the smell of pine wood.

Shrugging her shoulder, Raine walked lightly toward the lobby.

She took out her exam identity and started to look for her class this place was so huge, and there were a few long corridors.

Raine thought to ask someone in case she got lost and couldn't make it to her test room in time, when suddenly someone snatched the paper from her.

"It's over here." He said boringly.

Raine gasped and caught the man's face in time before he turned around and led the way for her. She knew him, no actually they had met once and that wasn't something pleasant to be remembered.

"Why are you still standing there?" The man realized that Raine didn't follow him and turned around to face her. "Don't you want to take the exam?"

Raine looked around and be thankful that there was many people around her, at least he wouldn't do something atrocious in front of so many people like this.

"Ah! I forgot, you are mute." He slapped his forehead regretfully. "Come here, hurry! The exam will start in five minutes." He waved his hand toward Raine, but she still refused to come closer.

This man was the dragon shifter that Raine met when Torak brought her along to their manor, but what he was doing here?

Raine felt uncomfortable with this, she kept the distance between them as she was standing three steps away from him.

"Hey, I don't bite, come here." Stephan said agitatedly and when he looked Raine didn't move an inch, he took the initiative to approach her.

This gesture made Raine startled and backed away. She didn't like being so close to him.

"Oh, please!" He sighed ruefully. "I am here because of the order of your mate!" He hissed so another people that started to glance twice at them couldn't catch his words clearly.

Raine frowned because Torak didn't say anything about this, if Stephan was there because of Torak's order, he would tell her beforehand, right?

"You have a phone, make a call to him!" Stephan almost lost his patience as he told her to make a call to confirm his statement. "I know he said to look after you secretly, but I don't see something will go wrong in approaching you directly." He mumbled to himself as he waited for Raine to make a call.

Actually it was Calleb who had told him about that, because at that time, Torak had something else to do and couldn't meet him, thus Stephan didn't take it as serious as if Torak himself who told him.

That was why, when he found Raine was looking for her room to take the exam, he couldn't help to approach her, ever since the first time he saw her, he had found Raine was attractive with her innocent face and timid nature.

However, the girl in front of him didn't make any movement as she stared at Stephan with creased brows.

Out of frustration, Stephan was about to snap at her when suddenly Raine walked toward him, slowly and warily.

Her eyes were in alert when she took back the identity paper from Stephan's hand and looked at him, waiting.

Frown and more frown appeared on Stephan's expression before the understanding dawned on him that Raine was waiting for him to show her the way. "Over here." He walked ahead and this time Raine followed.

Raine didn't see any reason for Stephan to attack her with dozens of people around, didn't the supernatural creature have their own rule to not reveal their existence in front of humans? Especially after whatever Torak had done to him and his brother. At that time, when they left the manor, Raine could hear an agony roar.

She would ask about this later when she met Torak at home.

While Raine and Stephan were having one-sided argumentation, with Stephan who had done all the monologue because Raine didn't speak at all since the beginning, some girls had noticed her and Stephan.

The two looked outstanding among the crowd, Stephan was a good-looking man who would draw attention from the opposite sex. Meanwhile some girls noticed Raine's backpack, as they didn't have interest with Raine's face, the backpack that she used was limited items from a famous brand.

Who is this girl?

Chapter 172 - THE REPRESENTATIVE OF DE MEDICI FAMILY

Raine was filling the answer of her test diligently and finished it twenty minutes earlier than the due time, she used the ten minutes to double check her answer and another last ten minutes to look around the test room silently.

Some students had done their paper just like her and checked it again and again, afraid there was a missing question or an error from their side, while the other students still had their nose buried behind the question paper. Getting anxious when they forgot the answer.

From today onward, if Raine managed to pass the exam test, she would be able to see this sight every day. She was so thrilled only by the thought of it.

Raine's eyes landed on Stephan, who was sitting at different row from her, she frowned because she caught him was sleeping soundlessly without the care for the world.

How he could fall asleep in the middle of the test?

But then, Raine found that she didn't care about that, she would ask Torak when she met him, and continued her little observation until the bell rung, which indicating the time was done and they needed to submitted their answer.

Raine was waiting for her paper test and answer to be taken while putting all of her belonging inside the backpack.

Only when half of the people had left the room and it was less crowded, Raine stood up and walked toward the door. Torak had said that he had asked someone to pick her up, knowing Torak, Raine was sure that person must have been waiting for her by now.

"Hey! Someone will pick you up?" Stephan ran after Raine and managed to catch with her only two seconds later. "Or do you want me to drop you at Donovan Company?"

When Stephan mentioned Donovan Company, Raine could feel every eyes, in the room, were staring at her questioningly. She was still not used to be the center of attention, even now.

Raine didn't answer Stephan's question, but she quickened her step, almost running.

However, regardless of her effort, the dragon shifter still managed to catch up with her without even breaking sweat.

"I am being polite here, why are you running away?" Stephan asked, but he smirked triumphantly when he witnessed Raine was being uncomfortable. "So, you will come with me? Yes?" He was still trying to get an answer from her, yet since Stephan knew Raine couldn't speak, he said generously. "A nod will do, Just nod your head."

Regardless what he said, Raine shook her head instead.

"Why are you so meant to me?" Stephan complained. "I know our first encounter didn't leave a good impression on you, but I am not that bad." He tried to explain himself.

But, Raine quickened her steps to get away from him.

Stephan looked at her with amus.e.m.e.nt. Why this little girl thought she could outrun him?

"Hey, I am talking to you..." Stephan chased after Raine because she started to run as fast as she could.

This scene was getting more and more people attention as both of them were running inside a long corridor all the way to the lobby.

The thing that Raine wasn't aware was; most of shifter liked to chase after their prey, thus when Raine started to run it only incited Stephan's instinct to catch her.

Raine ran as fast as her feet could take her toward the entrance gates where many students were walking together with their friends.

From the corner of her eyes, Raine caught a sight of familiar car. It was Torak's car. But, didn't he say that someone would pick her up? Did he change his mind and decided to come by himself?

The last option didn't seem impossible, either way, Raine's focus was to run toward the car.

Just like this morning, this flashy car, attracted people attention and made them stopped walking to relish the sight of this rare car.

Covering her face with her backpack so people couldn't catch a sight of her face, Raine ran toward Torak's car. Yet, before she could reach it, Raine could feel someone grabbed her shoulder and made her stop.

Raine shrieked in panic, but stop struggling when she felt the familiar spark from the touch and his rough voice caressed her ears.

"What happened? Why are you running like that?" Torak looked around and tried to find if there was a threat, but he could find nothing and also there wasn't peculiar scent in the air. But, why Raine was so terrified?

Seeing Torak Raine could feel the relief that ran through her veins as if the burden was lifted from her shoulder.

"The dragon shifter..." Raine whispered and pointed her hands toward Stephan, whose smirking face suddenly froze as he stopped abruptly while holding his hand in front of him as if he wanted to say he was innocent.

"Alpha Torak..." Stephan said in low voice from a great distance, yet Torak could hear him nonetheless.

Stephan didn't mean to catch her, he just enjoyed chasing after her. If he really wanted to catch Raine, he would do so in only a matter of second.

Yet, seemingly Raine didn't think the same as him, and now the dragon shifter had to face the wrath of the Alpha because of his foolish action to chase after his mate.

"This is not what you think..." Stephan was fidgeting under Torak's angry gaze, in spite of the distance between them.

"Didn't Calleb already tell you that you are not allowed to come near her?!" Torak said in low voice, but the tone that he used was so scary nonetheless the aura around him also turned cold and dangerous.

People were looking at Raine and Torak. Some of them were whispering to their friends and made speculation from their own perception.

Most of student didn't follow the business news, but there were a few young heirs and heiress that took the same entrance exam today, they recognized Torak Donovan because he was on people lips in the business circle not long time ago.

They took a picture or two of him, who was hugging a girl's waist closed to him protectively, yet unfortunately they couldn't see Raine's face because she used her backpack as a cover.

And the question remained. What a young multibillionaire like Torak was doing in this university? Was the girl his girlfriend? But, from her figure, she was too young to be his lover.

In the other hand, Stephan gulped hard and walked slowly toward Torak and Raine. "Alpha, I just tried to help her, because she was looking for her test room."

Torak grabbed Raine's shoulder and turned around toward their car because the crowd was starting to get big as many curious eyes tailed behind them, disappointed because they didn't see anything excited.

When Torak had brought Raine inside the car, it was Calleb, who came out from the driver seat and walked to approach the dragon shifter.

Calleb's appearance incited waves of whispered among the crowd, because he looked so young, handsome and careless. The type that would make young girls melted.

"Let's talk." Calleb said

Once he was close enough with Stephan, he flung his arms around his shoulder and brought him away toward the parking lot.

"I have told you to follow her secretly!" Calleb hit Stephan's head hardly when they were inside Stephan's car. "Why did you appear in front of her without

scrupulous?! And what did you do?" The Gamma pretended to recall his memory. "Ah, yes! You chased after her! Are you planning to die?!"

He was so fortunate because of the situation, Torak could still hang on his last strand of sanity before his beast instinct took over and tore this Dragon shifter apart.

"She was at lost, I just helped her!" Stephan roared as he rubbed his aching head. "I didn't do anything! She just freaked out!" He tried to defend himself for the accusation.

He didn't do something immoral neither he tried to scare or harm her. Well, he just teased her a little bit... he couldn't help when he looked at Raine was easily scared.

Something about her was very attractive.

"I didn't see how you can help her by chasing after her!" Stephan yelled and hit the dragon shifter's head again. "Why didn't you just leave her alone!?"

"That was misunderstanding! She misunderstood me!" Stephan shrieked. "Stop hitting my head!"

"I have told you crystal clear that you have to stay away from her! Look after her in secret! Which part of my words that you don't get it?" Calleb scratched his head in frustration.

The dragon shifter was too haughty to admit his mistake, but Stephan wasn't at the position to be more annoying than this.

"I am sorry, I am sorry!" Stephan finally said it out loud when he looked at Calleb was about to hit him again, as a dragon shifter he wasn't as persistent as his older brother, apparently.

"You do really need to be beaten first before you could understand, don't you?" Calleb slumped his body. "If you already get it, now drive this car to the company."

"Why should I?" Stephan asked agitatedly, he didn't want to spend even a second longer with him.

"Because you have made me to get out from the car and now they left me." Remembering how angry Torak was when he growled through the mind link, Calleb knew that another punishment for him and this dragon shifter was still on the way.

"So annoying!" Stephan mumbled, he was still young and immature, so his action was only based on his impulsiveness, moreover, he didn't have a malice intention. That was why Torak chose him and told him to come.

As long as his brother didn't give a bad influence on him, he would be fine within Torak's pack, because of Raine's issue that she couldn't be close to Lycan, Torak couldn't ask one of his pack member to do this job.

Regardless, he was still a strong shifter and would be able to protect Raine if it's needed.

"I hear that." Calleb said as he closed his eyes. "Now drive fast, I have a meeting to attend to."

"Why don't you take a taxi?" Stephan said ruefully, but he still started the engine and drove away from the parking lot.

"Why I have to take a taxi when I can use you? Even though I don't like your smell." Calleb said irritably.

"You can shift into your wolf form, you can just run." Stephan drove to the main road.

"I am too tired to run."

=====

"We don't wait for Calleb?" Raine asked when Raphael sat behind the wheel. "He is still talking to the dragon shifter." She added and when the Raphael started the engine.

"He could find his way back, don't worry." Raphael said.

"But, what if..." Raine looked at the entrance gates once again, but Calleb and Stephan were no longer there.

"Stephan will not possible to harm Calleb." Torak caressed Raine's back. "Are you hurt somewhere? Did he hurt you?" He tried to smell the blood from her, but there was none and that relieved him.

"Actually, he didn't do anything..." Raine said, contemplating for a while. "I think I overreacted..." She said sheepishly. "Because the last time..."

"It's all right." Torak patted her head. "I am the one who didn't tell you about this." And he didn't think the stupid Stephan would walk straight to her right in the first day.

"Did you really ask him to look after me..." Raine asked, she put away her backpack and zeroed her attention on Torak. Wasn't the last meeting with Stephan didn't end well?

"Yes, because I can't ask someone from my pack to do so." Torak pulled out a sandwich that he had brought before he picked her up and handed it to her. "Eat first, you must be hungry."

Raine beamed and accepted it. "But, why? I think I am fine now to be near another Lycan..."

Torak frowned with the words 'another Lycan' it sounded like she was surrounded by many men. "You have been surrounded enough, if I have to add one more, I don't want to take a risk." He said.

He remembered when Raine was admitted to the hospital and her condition. Not to mentioned he wasn't in good terms with Serefina now, what if something bad happened to her and Serefina was nowhere to be found? Torak wouldn't take that risk.

Raine couldn't argue with him about that.

"What you will do to him? You will not do 'something' to him, right?" Raine was worried and felt a little bit guilty if Stephan was punished because of her. Actually he indeed had helped her. Maybe next time, she would try to talk to him.

"Just a bit chat, I guess." Torak said in deep meaningful tone.

After that, there was silence inside the car, while Raphael was driving, Torak was looking at document that he had brought with him that needed to be

signed. Since he had many line of businesses, so he had many things to look after, especially when one of his business continuously making losses.

"Raphael where we will go? We are not heading to the company or home..." Raine looked at the unfamiliar road around her and realized this wasn't the way to either the company or home.

"We will meet a business partner. I hope you don't mind to come with me." Torak put down the doc.u.ment on his hand.

"Of course I don't." Raine grinned and snuggled into Torak's embrace while the Alpha continued to do his work.

=====

The car stopped at the lobby of a hotel, and from the looked of it, this must be a very expensive hotel that would cost good fortune only to be able to book one of the rooms.

Raine felt a little bit self- awareness when she stepped inside the fancy lobby. Most of the people there would dress in formal attire or beautiful dress for women when she was only wearing sweater and jeans with sneaker, completely out of the place.

The way she dressed, it really gave away her age. She was a timid little girl who had just finished her entrance exam.

However, when those hotel staffs looked at her, they treated her very well because of the man beside her.

Torak, Raine and Raphael entered the elevator that brought them to the eleventh floor where the meeting between Torak and the representative from de Medici family would be held.

But, at the same floor also, Torak had book a room for Raine so she could take a rest there. This room was only a few meter away from the meeting room.

"Is it okay if I leave you alone here?" Torak opened the door and held it for Raine while Raphael had gone to check on their meeting room.

"Yes. It is fine..." Raine nodded gleefully when she saw the beautiful room inside.

"If you need anything I will be in the meeting room right in front of the elevator." Torak didn't mind if Raine bothered him in the middle of the meeting. "If you hungry, you can call the hotel staff to bring you some food, don't roam around this place alone, understood?"

Raine chuckled when she heard Torak worried? words. She felt like Torak was like a father who nagged their children. "Don't worry. I will just stay inside the room." She tiptoed and pecked his lips.

"Good." Torak slightly relax, because of her words and her kiss. "I will leave you then..." He rubbed her head and left the room.

After Torak left her alone, Raine sauntered this spacious room and opened it huge window, behind it glass was a view of a big pool where not many people were there.

Afterward, Raine put down her backpack on a king size bed and sat on it. Though this bed wasn't as nice as the one at their bedroom, but Raine enjoyed to jump on it like a small child before she felt tired and decided to check on the bathroom.

There must be a bath up, thus she would soak herself while waiting Torak finished his meeting.

=====

Torak was about to enter the meeting room when Raphael mind- linked him anxiously.

[Alpha, you have to see this.] Raphael said.

Torak who had already in front of the door pushed it open and walked inside. The first person that he saw was Raphael, who was sitting on the right side of his seat and then, the person he thought he wouldn't meet him here.

But, there he was, sitting in the middle of four elder from de Medici family, with his peculiar smirk grazed his lips. Apparently nobody was aware with his golden eyes as if they were enchanted.

"Mr. Donovan." One of the elder stood up and greeted Torak and then followed by the others, including that person.

Torak's eyes glued on him as his expression turned rigid.

"Mr. Donovan, I want to introduce our representative of the family." The Elder man said as he opened his palm to recognize the man beside him. "This is Reiz de Medici, he is the fourth grandson and is..."

Torak cut the explanation about the man's status in the family, as he knew that was a big lie, thus he wouldn't waste his time to hear such a crap. "Let's start the meeting." He said callously as he gestured for them to take their seat.

That was rude, but those elders from de Medici family couldn't complain about it.

Torak's eyes slightly turned a few shades darker during the meeting, even Raphael also felt the tense in the atmosphere.

The meeting was ended in half an hour, much faster than they thought.

After both parties signed the memorandum of understandings and shook hand as a gesture of the beginning of their collaboration, they were ready to leave the room.

"Can I have a moment with Mr. Reiz?" Torak said in cold tone as he sat back on his seat.

Chapter 173 - WILL YOU COME TO THE PARTY?

The four of them looked at each other and Reiz, confused with Torak's request. Would he offer underhanded deal with their new leader of family?

"Of course." The man named Reiz stepped aside. "It will not take long time." He said, looking at Torak's briefly when he said that.

The four elders nodded and walked out of the room.

Reiz closed the door and faced the Alpha and the Beta with playful smirk dancing on his lips. "Surprise to see me as an heir now?" He tilted his head and leaned his tall body against the door behind him.

The professional looked and formal attitude that he showed earlier banished into thin air as he held Torak's gaze defiantly.

"I don't think you are capable of doing such a scheme, since you are the sloth." Torak leaned his body forward his voice was getting cold as he talked. "You must have so much free time to think such a complicated plan."

"Don't flatter me Alpha." Belphegor waved his hand to dismiss Torak's sarcastic words. "I am a busy person also."

"What do you want?" Torak talked straight down to the business. With Belphegor was meddling in this matter and even became his business partner, Torak wouldn't expect something good as a result.

His mind, for a brief moment, flew on certain someone who he had left alone inside the room.

"The guardian angel of course." Belphegor admitted it openly as he shrugged his shoulder nonchalantly. "I heard she was taking an exam today."

"What are trying to imply?" There was a warning with the way Torak was speaking.

"Nothing. I am just thinking, why she tries to live a normal life when her life is not normal since the beginning?" Belphegor stroked his chin. "Don't worry, for the meantime I will not disturb her, but I will find a way to get her eventually."

Torak couldn't help but snapped the ballpoint in his hand into two as his temper flared up.

Belphegor looked at the ballpoint on the table as he smiled lazily and said. "If you have nothing else, I will excuse myself. I am looking forward for our collaboration." He waved his hand, turned his back and walk out of the room.

Along with that, Torak also stood up and it with breakneck speed, he had already in front of the room where he left Raine alone.

Torak punched the pass code and the door opened with a faint beep sound.

The moment he stepped inside, he could smell his mate scent filled the room. This was kind of smell that could calm his nerves almost immediately.

The sound of splashing water gave away Raine's position, thus without a second thought Torak strode toward the bathroom and pushed the door opened without even knocking first.

There was a loud gasping sound when he found Raine was soaking inside the bath up that filled with bubbles to the rim.

It was only her head that poked out from the surface of the water while her n.a.k.e.d body was unable to be seen behind the soft bubble and foam.

"Torak..." Her voice was so small as she looked at Torak anxiously. "What happened...?" She asked unsure.

Torak's eyes glued on the bath up as the rim of his blue eyes started to turn a bit darker. "I... I couldn't find you inside the room." He stumbled with his own words as he couldn't find a reasonable reason for this moment.

"I am... taking a bath..." Raine said the obvious. She thought Torak would be back much later, she didn't think that he would return so soon.

Torak didn't say anything after that, but he didn't avert his eyes from her and this made Raine became nervous and embarrassed.

"Should I... dress now...?" Raine asked, she bit her lips and looked around the bathroom because she couldn't look at Torak in the eyes.

"Sure, if you have finished." Torak said in strange tone of voice.

Suddenly the atmosphere inside the bathroom turned awkward and the air felt so heavy.

"I will get dress then..." Raine said, but because Torak didn't take that as a cue for him to leave the bathroom and was still standing there, Raine also didn't come out from the bath up.

"Don't you say that you want to get dress?" Torak asked when a minute had passed and Raine was still soaking inside the bath up.

"Yes, but..." Raine looked at Torak timidly. "Can you leave for a while... please?" She could feel heat crept on her face.

"What if I say I don't want?" Torak pulled a chair and sat down.

Raine never expected Torak would say something like that, because he was always be a gentleman to her.

Though sometime he would act mischievous and like to tease her, but he wouldn't be so bold like this.

"Torak!" Raine shrieked. She looked at Torak in horror, but that man sat four steps away from him while crossing his legs leisurely. "I am serious..." She said helplessly.

"So do I." Torak shrugged his shoulder innocently. "How many times we sleep together? Why are you still so shy in front of me, my love?" His voice was like a beautiful caressing Raine's ears.

However, Raine wasn't in a condition that would appreciate Torak's generosity for reminding her about something like that in situation like this.

"Then... then I will stay here until you leave." Raine said sullenly.

"Let's see how long the bubble will last." Torak grinned, he was really in a good mood to tease Raine to this extent.

Only then, Raine realized that the bubbles around her started to fade and the water was getting cold. "Torak! Don't do this!" Raine was so annoyed when Torak laughed out loud. He rarely laughed so carefree like this.

"Alright, I will go." Torak abruptly stood up when Raine tried to splash water on him.

"Go, now!" Raine screamed when Torak stood beside the door and didn't move while looking at her.

"I feel so grateful for having you my love." Torak said before he walked out of the bathroom and closed the door behind him, leaving Raine became more bashful than she already had.

=====

Raine walked out of the bathroom five minutes later while drying her hair. She walked straight to the side of the bed, looking for hairdryer. Deliberately avoided Torak, who was standing in front of dressing table

"Come here." Torak said, patted the dressing chair. "I will dry your hair." His other hand was holding the hairdryer that Raine was looking for.

"I can do it myself." Raine still felt embarrassed because of Torak's words in the bathroom.

"And I can do it for you." Torak insisted. He looked at his mate with amusement. It felt like his anger when he encountered the Sloth earlier had been subsided by only looking at his mate. He would deal with Belphegor later.

Raine walked toward Torak while keeping her head down. She didn't meet him in the eyes when she sat down on the dressing chair and Torak started to dry her hair.

When her hair was already dry, Torak leaned on the dressing table, standing right in front of Raine while taking pleasure to see her beautiful face.

"How was your exam?" Torak moved a strand of her hair from her face. He treated her very carefully, because she was the most precious thing for him.

"I was doing good. I think I will pass." Raine's eyes shone brilliantly when she was talking about her exam test that she took this morning.

There were two numbers that she wasn't sure with the answer, but for the rest she was confident that she would get it right.

"Mrs. Martha is a really good teacher. I don't have a problem with the test. She taught me well." Raine said cheerfully.

"I will ask Calleb to give her a gift." Torak said as he patted her head. "You were doing great."

"But..." Suddenly Raine's expression turned worry. "What if I got it wrong? What if I misunderstood the question and my answers are wrong?" She started to get anxious. She was happy too fast, the exam had just done and she was already overjoyed.

"Don't think too much. You were doing great, the result will be great as well." Torak knocked her head softly. She started to develop this kind of habit whenever she felt overwhelmed.

"What if..." Raine was still trying to prepare herself for the worse result.

"There is no 'what if'." Torak said sternly. "Even if you don't enter the university this year, you can always try it again next year."

Torak had another plan in his mind, but unsure how to say it to Raine. With Belphegor was inside the company and meddled with his business, he had a second thought to call off Raine's plan to enter the university.

Probably next year her ability had improved and she was able to return to his territory and took education there instead.

It would be a great plan and Torak could be less worry about her safety. Nobody knew what would happen within one year, there was still high possibility for that.

The only problem was, Raine's face turned gloomy when she heard Torak said about taking exam next year.

"I really want to enter university this year..." She muttered as he rested her head on Torak's stomach. "I like the atmosphere there, the student, the building, the trees and all. When I entered the gates, I thought; it would be nice if I can study here. I can't wait to make a new friend or two." Raine said in soft voice as if she was imagining that while she was talking.

Torak caressed her long hair subconsciously while listening to her.

"All of this is like a dream for me." Raine continued, feeling comfortable. "Enter university, make some friend. I think this time there is nothing I have to be ashamed of. Recently, all those creatures have not bothered me, Calleb said it's because your smell is all over me, so they are afraid to appear in front of me, so I can be just a normal student and study like the other."

Raine tightened her arms around Torak's waist.

"Thank you."

And with that, Torak's second plan was out of the picture, he couldn't be possible to break Raine's heart by saying she couldn't enter the university that she wanted and lived the life she wished because of he was worried about her safety.

Torak was sure, on the surface Raine would say that she understood, but Torak knew better that it would hurt her, having the life that she wanted slipped away just like that.

[Raph.] Torak mind- linked his Beta. [Ask someone to look for Serefina.]

As hard as it was to admit that he needed the witch, he couldn't let his ego endanger his mate's life.

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The result of the exam would be out in one month and during that time, Raine didn't have much thing to do, thus she asked Torak to buy a canvas for her to kill the time, because recently Torak didn't let her to come to his company very often, but he made sure to return early.

However, instead of only a canvas, Torak turned one of empty room inside the house into a mini studio where Raine could put all of her painting inside.

Raine couldn't be more elated than this for having her own mini studio where she would have all the painting tools that she wanted.

Torak even offer to call a teacher if she wanted to learn more about art, but Raine turned down the offer. Because she was just doing this as a hobby and didn't think she would take this seriously.

Torak was fine with whatever Raine's decision and the mini studio was done within a week, since then whenever Torak wasn't at home, Raine would spend her time inside.

Until one night after dinner, Torak was watching a movie with Raine before they went to bed, he asked her. "Will you come to the mask party with me tomorrow night?"

Chapter 174 - PARTY (1)

Raine had never attended such a party before. No. she had never attended any party in her life. Thus, when Torak asked her to come, she tensed up.

A party?

"If you don't want to come, you don't need to." Torak chuckled when he watched Raine's shock expression. He had imagined this would be her reaction.

Torak only offered it because he thought, Raine would like to try it since her progress had been good all this time. She had talked again and started to interact with other people with less fear and even talked about making friends in the university.

Raine frowned, she was behaving spoiled right now as she snuggled and put Torak's arms around her body.

"Don't get depress like that..." Torak tousled her hair. "I will not force you to come if you don't like it."

But, Raine asked him faintly as she watched the movie again. "Is that the party where you will wear a mask?"

"Yes." Torak replied as he rested his hand on Raine's head, caressing her hair.

"Can I choose my mask?" Raine asked again.

This time Torak's eyebrows creased as he stared at Raine, who was resting her head on his chest. "Do you want to come?"

"Only if I can choose my mask..." Raine said timidly, she didn't even raise her head to see a wide smile on Torak's face when she agreed to come.

"Sure, you can choose your own gown..." Torak tousled her head. He knew it was hard for her to come into this decision, but she chose to do it anyway.

She was trying hard.

=====

The next following day, Torak has some meeting to attend and promised he would come back to pick her up for the mask party.

In the afternoon Calleb came to bring a dress for Raine. Even though Torak said she could pick her own dress, but the fact that she had never attended something like this made her gave up the option and let Torak to pick something for her instead.

"Try it, I want to see!" Calleb urged her, when Raine had accepted the enormous box. He looked more eager to see the dress than Raine herself. This was the first time for Torak to choose something like this, so it was understandable that if people that close to him became curious.

Well, it was only Calleb because Raphael didn't show any expression for this fact. He was too busy with his work.

"Did Torak ask me to try it right away?" Raine hugged the package box and looked at Calleb innocently.

Calleb frowned upon hearing her question. "No... he didn't say something like that. But, you need to try it anyway." He replied. "Try it, let me see." His eyes glimmered with excitement.

"If Torak didn't ask you, then I will try it later when he is here." Raine said it lightly and walked toward the stairs.

"Why don't you let me see it?" Calleb was annoyed, he really wanted to see, but for the party tonight he wasn't invited, hence his only chance to see Raine in the dress that Torak had chosen for her was only now.

"Of course because I want Torak sees me in this dress first." Raine shouted from the second floor, afterward, there was a sound of the door closing.

"Sometime I missed her timid self..." Calleb clicked his tongue.

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Inside the bedroom, Raine put the box on the bed and stroke the edges of it gently. She took a deep breath, even the box smelled so nice.

The box was wrapped in blue with white ribbon atop of it, even the package alone looked so expensive Raine was afraid to ruin it as she opened gingerly.

She untied the ribbon of the box and opened it to reveal a pure white dress. She picked it up and her eyes brightened. The dress was so beautiful. Raine had never seen such a beautiful dress.

The streamline dress was figure- hugging with laces around its neck and sleeves, it didn't reveal too much skin neither too translucent. There were not much intricate embroidery, but it didn't cease its beauty nonetheless.

The fabric was so soft to the touch and when Raine rubbed on it.

She couldn't wait to try it, but before she did that, Raine pulled out her phone from her pants pocket and made a phone call to certain someone.

It only took two seconds before the line was connected.

"Thank you for the dress!" Raine was too excited until she forgot to say 'hallo'.
"The dress is so beautiful and soft!"

"I am glad that you like it." Torak's soft voice could be heard from the other line and also a man's voice, from the sound of it, seemingly he was talking about something when suddenly he stopped because of Torak's words.

Actually, Torak was in the middle of meeting, but when he saw it was Raine who called him, he picked up his phone in the middle of the chief direction's presentation. This acted alone was surprised them, because Torak was extremely strict when it came to work.

However, who the person that called him in the middle of the meeting? Their cold-blood's boss even smiled when he listened to the other person speaking.

And when Torak talked in soft tone that they had never heard, all of them whipped their head toward Torak, curious if they actually heard it wrong. But, nothing wrong with that, because Torak was still talking onto his phone while gesturing to them to continue the meeting.

"Are you busy?" Raine asked when she heard there was slightly noise at Torak's side. "Did I bother you?"

"No, you will never bother me." Torak said sweetly.

Once again, the chief production stopped his presentation because of shock, the rest of the people, who attend the meeting, also couldn't believe with what they heard.

It must be a woman, who their boss was talking to. Who was she? Their future lady boss? That more likely.

All of them listened to the conversation silently as the meeting suddenly halted.

"What are you doing?" Raine asked curiously, usually Torak would be busy at this hour, she just too excited and forgot as she called him directly.

"Meeting." Torak replied curtly.

"Oh." Just as Raine had thought. "I will hang up then." She said hurriedly and then added shyly. "Don't forget your lunch."

Torak smiled brightly upon hearing a concern in Raine's voice. "I love you." He said heartily.

"I love you too..." Raine replied and giggled, her heart felt unbelievably warm, though he had said that countless time, but the feeling still the same. "Bye."

"Bye..." Torak kept smiling even when the line had cut off.

I love you?

Bye?

What was this? The sky would fall? Or Torak Donovan suddenly became more human than usual? Little they knew, their boss even not a human.

"Proceed with the meeting." Raphael finally broke the silence and strange gazes that all the head sections threw on him.

The chief direction continued with his presentation as the other people in the meeting room tried hard to keep track with the matter at hand instead of wander their curiosity about the lucky woman, who managed to capture their boss's heart. That wasn't an easy feat.

Torak had been like this ever since Raine started to talk normally that was a good sign, but his Alpha always put her first in everything without exception.

Well, as long as he could afford that, Raphael thought that would be fine, after all that was a privilege to be a filthy rich and an Alpha atop of it.

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When the night had finally fallen, even the moon was exceptionally bright and beautiful.

Gregory stopped the car in front of the entrance door as Torak emerged from the car and walked straight to their bedroom in the second floor.

The scent of Raine filled the entire house like a natural fragrance of the house itself, that reminded Torak about something that called home.

He opened the door and found Raine was staring at herself in front of body-length mirror, her reflection on its surface was so exuberant, especially when Torak's figure reflected beside her in the mirror.

She turned around like an angel she was, pure and pristine, Torak was in a daze as if his world was spinning and brightened up only by her smile.

"You are here..." She sauntered across the room in her white dress that hugging her body perfectly, her long, black hair flowed casually over her shoulder, she had applied a simple pink lipstick and nothing else, but that was enough to make Torak was at lost.

Torak watched in silence when his little mate walked toward him, as if the life itself was approaching him with every step that she takes.

The life that he would cherish.

"How is it?" Raine opened her arms to show herself in her white dress in front of Torak.

"What should I do?" Torak said in low voice as he pulled her into a hug. "I am starting to regret my decision to invite you to the party. I don't want you to come to the party." He sighed helplessly as he rested his chin on Raine's shoulder.

"Why?" There was a smile behind Raine's question.

"Because I want to keep you for myself." Torak admitted. "I don't want other people to look at you now..."

Raine laughed upon hearing Torak's cheesy words, though it sounded so shabby, but it made Raine happy to hear that.

"Would you change into your sweater?" Torak asked ridiculously.

"I will draw more attention that way." Raine hit Torak's back playfully before she pried herself out of his arms. "Should we go now?"

"Hold on." Torak said and pulled out something from his pocket, it was a velvet box.

Torak gave the box to Raine for her to open. Raine opened the box curiously and found a pearl necklace inside, she touched the necklace, astonished.

"This is beautiful." Raine said breathlessly.

"Not as beautiful as you." Torak said lightly, but he meant his words as he took the necklace and put it on Raine's neck, he kissed her shoulder that made Raine shudder. "Beautiful indeed."

The l.u.s.ter from the pearl and her white dress complimented each other perfectly. Under the light of the room, both accentuated her flawless skin, which looked as if she was basking under the moonlight.

Raine could feel her face turning red by Torak's words.

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Inside the car, Raine was starting to get nervous once they were getting closer to their destination. Beside her, Torak kept caressing her hands and stopped her from biting her lips.

He assured her if everything would be all right, he would be by her side for entire time all she could do was to stay beside him. Raine even didn't need to talk if she didn't want to.

Torak's words calmed Raine a bit, before she got another panic attack.

"What if I ruin your image?" Raine looked at Torak in depress. Probably it was too quick for her to be in a public? She needed more time for this, this was too fast, wasn't it?

"You will never do that my love." Torak chuckled, amused with Raine's nervous state. She looked like a little kitten that being cornered, though this was something that she decided herself. "Or, if you feel really uncomfortable, should we go back?" He offered.

There was a complicated feeling that reflected on her beautiful obsidian eyes.

Going back? And waste the dress and the necklace that Torak had bought for her? Not to mention they would arrive in a matter of minutes now. It was a waste of time and money. Should she ask for going back now?

Raine shook her head stubbornly. "I am fine." She said, more to herself rather than to Torak.

"I know you will be fine, my love." Torak kissed her forehead gently. "I will be with you."

Raine took a deep breath to calm herself. She knew Torak wouldn't leave her alone, if worst come to the worst, she would simply never ever attend this kind of party anymore in the future.

This was a mask party after all, she would never take off her mask, so no one would see her face.

In the end of the road, a bright and magnificent building could be seen, once their car entered the main gates, it took a while before they could reach the main building. Along the way, the trees on their right and left were adorned with small colorful lamps that flickered against the dark night.

It was such a splendid view to behold.

"You need this." Torak said before they needed to get off the car. He pulled out another box from the seat and opened it to reveal a white mask with intricate design and black fur on it right side. "Because the time is tight, you can't choose your own mask, I hope you like this one."

Raine didn't say if she liked it or not, but she leaned over to peck his lips and smiled brightly. Turning around, Raine let Torak to tie the mask.

The white mask with black fur covered half of Raine's face and only revealed her kissable pink lips for everyone to see.

When the car came to stop, Torak get off from the car and opened the car door for Raine.

The moment she emerged from the car, a bright light surrounded her and intimidated her eyes, once again she felt self-conscious, but when Torak grabbed her hand and the spark that erupted from the skin contact, reminded her that she wasn't alone.

Torak put her hands on the crook of his elbow as he led the way to the party room.

Raine was too focused to keep her step steady, so she wouldn't fall in her three-inch heels, she didn't dare to go with higher than three inches, though it didn't help much with the height difference between her and Torak.

Because of that, Raine didn't realize many pairs of eyes were looking toward her direction in questioning gazes.

Women would look at her in jealousy and started to compare themselves with Raine, while men looked at her with interest. This was the first time for Torak Donovan to attend a party with a woman as his partner.

Who is the woman with Torak Donovan?

Chapter 175 - PARTY (2)

Anyone can catch your eyes, but it takes someone special to catch your heart.

Once Torak entered the party room with Raine in his arm, the whole room fell into silence. All the people's attention was on the couple.

"Are you all right?" Torak took a small bottle of water from the waiter, opened it for Raine and let her drink.

"Yes." Raine took a gulp of the water to moisten her throat. This place was so bright and impressive with splendid decoration and dazzling ornaments.

It didn't take a long time for other people to approach Torak for having a simple chat with him, most of them would use Raine as an opening of the conversation.

They would flatter Raine to no end.

They were speaking the truth when they said Raine was gorgeous and elegant, but, behind that flattery words, they were dying to know who was she?

Was she a daughter of another CEO? Because she looked so young to be a leader of a company or was she someone famous from entertainment industry? It was well known that most of people like Torak would entangle with one or two famous artist.

Or, which family this woman belonged?

However Torak didn't answer all of the questions, he simply said she was his woman.

The words 'his woman' from his mouth sending waves of jealousy on women's hearts that heard that. What kind of deed that this woman had done to be able to capture Torak Donovan's heart?

All along, Raine would just smile and sipped her drink or answer a simple question, while the rest was handled by Torak swiftly.

After entertained some of the people who approached him, Torak brought Raine to get some food.

At this point, Raine began to realize the eyes of the women around her that looked toward her direction with jealousy and malice as if they would eat her alive for being so close to Torak. Especially those young women who came to flaunt their wealth because of their famous family name, despite they had zero contribution to their family company.

Some of the women were only a few years older than Raine, because their family wanted them to have a good relationship with young heirs from another companies, it would be best if they could solidify it with a marriage to strengthen both family business.

No matter what the reason behind this party, Raine was totally unaware about that and didn't seem to care, because she didn't have the same reason like them and as long as Torak beside her, there was nothing was really matter.

Torak put a few cakes in a small plate that he thought Raine would like it and brought her to a corner of the room, where there was an empty seat.

"How is the party? Do you still want to be here?" Torak's main concern was still Raine's comfort. This was her first time to be surrounded by many people that she had never met before, hence it was understandable if she wanted to call it off early.

"I think I am fine." Raine nibbled on her cheese cake while wandering her eyes around the room. "Don't worry, this is not as scary as I thought." She reassured Torak. "I will stay here for awhile and finish these cakes, you don't have to accompany me..."

Raine's cheerful voice was more interesting for Torak to hear than the slow music that playing inside the room.

The chattering voices and bright light inside the party room also faded away at the background when Torak looked his mate now.

"No, I like to be here." Torak caressed her forehead and bit a cake in Raine's hand.

Without them knowing, someone had captured this moment of their intimate interaction with their phone.

They had just arrived and the party was still far to end, while Raine enjoyed her cakes at the corner, Torak was having a conversation with two people only two steps away from her.

His peculiar behavior near Raine once again piqued curiosity of people around them, but they were too afraid to ask Torak openly about the woman who had come along with him.

Just as valuable to be acquaintance with Torak, it would be better if they knew the lady as well. A woman's words sometime more precious than any form of persuasion. In another hand, if Torak was too hard to reach they could try with his woman instead.

Though half of her face was covered, but from her gestures alone, Torak's woman was someone quiet and demure. It would be easier to deal with her.

After all the cakes on the plate had finished, Raine stood up and was about to get something to drink when Torak approached her.

"Do you need something?" In spite of he was in the middle of conversation, Torak still approached her.

"I will just get something from there..." Raine pointed a row of juice that only a few meters away. "No need to come with me... I will be fine." She glanced at the other two men, who was left by Torak just like that.

Torak glanced at the spot that Raine had pointed, it was indeed not too far. "Alright." He agreed to let her go alone.

Raine walked slowly to avoid the crowd, she thought she would just get the drink and come back to her corner, nice and simple.

However, there weren't anything simple under women's jealousy and human's curiosity.

When Raine had had her drink and was about to returned, someone bumped her and splashed some juice on her dress.

The yellow color of it tainted the front of her white dress and if not quickly cleaned it would leave a stain.

"I am sorry, I am sorry." A woman in blue gown with blue shawl around her shoulder apologized to her profusely.

Raine waved her hand and smiled a little to her, but didn't say anything. If it's not necessary, she didn't like to talk to stranger.

"I will help you to clean your dress, come with me to the restroom?" Said that women apologetically.

Yet, before Raine could answer her, someone had pulled her from that woman tight grip as his rough voice sounded. "What happened here?"

Torak glanced at the stain of the juice in front of Raine's dress and frowned.

"Mr. Donovan, I am sorry, this is my fault to be so reckless and ruin her dress." Though she liked to see Torak in person, but to be stared down by him in this proximity, was something that made her nervous. "I will help her to clean her dress." She offered and looked at Raine pitifully.

"There is no need for that." Torak rejected her directly. "We will just go home."

Upon hearing that, somehow he girl in blue gown, became panic as she grabbed Raine's hand. "No, don't. I will feel bad if both of you have to go home because of me." She said guiltily as she looked at Rain with pleading eyes. "Please, let me try to fix it."

Seeing that woman was feeling so guilty about this, Raine became uncomfortable to turn down her offer, after all she wouldn't do anything bad, right? She would just help her to clean up the juice stain on her dress.

"The party just started, even the dancing part is not yet started." That woman tried to persuade Raine to stay.

Little she knew, dancing was the last thing that made Raine interested to stay, but she didn't have a heart to reject her generous offer, at least, her acting looked convincing for Raine, but not for Torak.

Torak pried the woman's hands from Raine's wrist and without saying anything he pulled Raine toward different direction.

"Ah! Wait..." The woman was so persistent to be with Raine as she followed them. "My name is Sunny. I think I have met her in a cake store the other days." She stopped right in front of Torak and Raine.

At this point, people began to notice their small squabble and looked at toward their direction.

"I was there, when someone..." She lowered her voice. "Accused her for stealing cakes." Sunny ended it with a whispered.

She was indeed there. Sunny was a girl, who had a quarrel with Lana, she recognized Torak because her father had been trying to make a contact with Torak, and wanted to invest in the company that Torak had just established in this city, but it was so hard for him to reach him because he just a middle businessman.

Raine didn't really remember her, but she didn't like people's reaction around them. They had drawn enough attention.

"Torak... just let me go with her..." Raine looked worried at Sunny, this woman looked like the one who wouldn't back away before her wish was fulfilled. Moreover, there was no harm to go with her to the restroom and cleaned up her dress. "I will be quick..." She whispered at him and tugged his sleeves. "Please..." She added to make sure Torak would allow her.

"Five minutes." Torak said sternly. "If you don't comeback in five minutes I will go to fetch you inside."

Even when her face was covered with mask, Torak knew that she frowned. "You will not enter a woman restroom, right?" Raine asked, unsure.

"You will see." Torak let go of her hand as he put on his black mask to hide his expression.

"Seriously..." Raine pouted and then nodded at Sunny, who clasped her hand with Raine and led the way to the restroom.

"I think we need to be hurry, I heard Mr. Donovan said it is only three minutes." Sunny pushed opened the restroom door and brought Raine inside.

The restroom were eight cabin inside and there were two that occupied, while a woman in black dress touched up her make up in front of the mirror.

"Come." Sunny put her hand under the faucet and splashed the water to clean the stain in Raine's dress. She did that a couple of time until it slightly faded. "I think this is the best that I can do..." She said regretfully.

Afterward Sunny used tissue to dry the damp part of the dress so Raine wouldn't catch a cold, wearing a wet dress.

"It is such a fate that we meet again here." Sunny said cheerfully. "May I know your name?"

Only then Raine realized that she had not yet mentioned her name. "I am Raine..." She smiled shyly behind her mask, maybe Sunny could be her first friend.

"Nice to see you again, Raine." Sunny kept trying to dry her dress. "I think you are so young. Are you... together with Mr. Donovan?" The question was in a whisper that only Raine could hear, while the woman in black dress tried to listen to their conversation, if she had been long in this party, she must have known that Raine was with Torak Donova.

Raine was taken aback by Sunny's direct question. "I think so..." She mumbled her answer.

"But, you are so young." Sunny protested. "What are you? High school student? College Student?"

"I just took entrance exam a month ago." Raine replied, hoping the dress could dry faster.

"Wow, that's great! What University? I am a college student too. This year will be my second years." Sunny brightened up.

"Royal University..." Raine said.

There was a shrieked from Sunny when she heard Raine's answer before she jumped like five years old little girl. "I am also in Royal University!" Her eyes widened in surprise as she elated. "But, wait... what your second option?"

"No." Raine shook her head.

"Wow..." Sunny's mouth form a letter 'o' as she nodded her head. "You must be so brilliant to have that much confidence, because the entrance exam of Royal University is always so difficult, I am lucky enough to get there."

"No, I am not..." Raine waved her hands in denial. "I didn't take another exam, because the other University didn't have a subject that I want."

Royal University was an old University in this city and the subject that Raine interested in, was only available there.

Sunny shrugged her shoulder and lightly said. "That means, if you passed the exam, you will be my junior then!"

"I think so..." Raine agreed.

Chapter 176 - PARTY (3)

"Oh, right!" Sunny put down Raine's dress, though it slightly wrinkle, but at least it was dry already, the stain also barely could be seen. "You have to stay until the party ends!"

"What time it will be?" Raine wondered if Torak would let her stay until late, sometime he was too strict with her sleeping time.

"Midnight." Sunny threw the tissue that she used to dry Raine's dress to a dustbin. "There will be a beautiful firework later."

"Midnight..." Raine reiterated with a voice of regret. Usually Torak would only allow her to stay until eleven o'clock for the very late hour. "I don't think Torak will let me stay until that late..."

Sunny looked a little bit disappointed. "Or at least you have to stay until the dance! You have to share a dance with him!" She leaned over and whispered to Raine's ears while staring at the two women who had come out from the cabin and the other woman in black dress, who seemingly had not yet done with her makeup. "Those women out there will die by jealousy!" She giggled.

"I don't think I want to make other women jealous of me..." Raine didn't think that was a good idea to incite women's fury. They could be scarier than a beast itself. "Moreover, I don't dance..."

"You have to try it at least once!" Sunny insisted. "I heard Mr. Donovan never had a dance before."

"It's a good thing... because I don't like to dance too." Raine said hurriedly, she wanted get out from this restroom.

This almost five minutes since she left Torak, whether it was only a joke or not, she didn't want to make him worry.

"You are wrong." Suddenly the woman in black dress chimed in. "Mr. Donovan had a dance before." She said.

Not only her statement made Raine to halt her step, but Sunny also turned around to face her. "With who?" She frowned.

"There are not many people know about this. But, Mr. Donovan had a girlfriend before." She said loud and clear.

"Who is it? I have never heard something like that." Sunny retorted. "You want to make a rumor?"

"Why should I?" The woman in black dress shrugged her shoulder in coquettish way. "You had never heard about this because you didn't live in the same city as him."

Somehow, Raine didn't like with what she heard or what she was going to hear.

Sunny, being the busy body girl she was, asked about that. "What do you mean? Did you live in Oriole city before?"

The two women also listened to this small interesting conversation as their gazes shifted from Raine to the woman in dress.

"Yes, I was. I lived there for ten years." She stated proudly.

Raine didn't know why this woman so haughty only to be able to live in the same city as Torak, didn't she know that she shared the same bed with him?

"Oh, first let me introduce myself." She flicked her maroon curly hair from her shoulder elegantly. "My father is Ethan Harper and I, Alice Harper."

"Harper... Ethan Harper..." One of the women whispered to the other.

Apparently Harper family was quite famous among the businessmen, even Sunny was also slightly taken aback by this fact.

But, all Raine wanted to do now was to get out from this restroom and ran toward Toward to ask him to bring her out of this party, she would have done so if it wasn't for Sunny grabbed her wrist tightly. The situation was getting uncomfortable now.

"Harper family is the main competitor of Donovan's company..." The other girl said in low voice to her friend.

"No wonder they lived in the same city." The other replied.

"Right." Alice clapped her hands and nodded toward Raine. "Are you her woman now?" She asked directly without scruple.

Raine heard Alice's question, but she didn't want to answer it, she felt Alice didn't have good attention by mentioning something like that, thus she kept silence and stared at Alice from behind her white mask.

"This is only a gentle reminder." Alice walked toward Raine. "Don't get your hope too high, but you are not the first woman that Mr. Donovan had, moreover, you looked so young and immature."

Alice scrutinized Raine's body from head to toe along with her mocking smile.

"Who was the woman with Mr. Donovan?" Sunny asked, though Raine was there, but she couldn't resist her curiosity.

"Do you really not know?" Alice raised her eyebrows. "It was Jenedieth. His right hand woman, of course." She said excitedly.

"Ah! I know Ms. Jenedieth!" Sunny clapped her hands in recognition. "There were a rumor or two about them before this, but Mr. Donovan denied it all."

"Are you sure Mr. Donovan denied it all?" Alice looked at Raine provocatively. "Mr. Donovan didn't deny it, he used his PR to suppress the rumor and let it passed, thus only the higher up in the oriole city who know that."

"But, why they didn't go to public?" Sunny asked, puzzled.

"It must be because both of them were too busy and had something more important to do rather than flaunted their relationship to public." The woman who said that looked at Raine meaningfully, she even snickered.

"Actually they looked good together." One of the women gave her opinion. "I remember Ms. Jenedieth is a woman that many men will dream of."

"Yes, beautiful, s.e.xy and smart!" The other woman chimed in. "They suited each other."

Raine's expression turned rigid when she heard the way they praised Jenedieth. Thanked to her mask that could hide it, yet even so, her gestures still gave a way how much she was trying to hold back her emotion.

"Wait, where are you going?" Alice stopped Raine when she, without words, trying to go out from that restroom and from their aggravating words. "Did our words offend you?"

"You will not possibly ran to Mr. Donovan and tell about us, right?" The first woman said it with nervous expression, but the glimmer in her eyes gave away her true intention.

"Of course, she will not." The second woman folded her arms in front of her chest and looked at Raine sullenly. "That act is so childish. I don't know why Mr. Donovan changed his type. But, she is very different from Ms. Jenedieth."

With those words, Alice and Sunny looked at Raine from head to toe.

"Right, she is the opposite of Ms. Jenedieth." Alice agreed.

"Probably because Mr. Donovan wants to forget about Ms. Jenedieth that's why she dated someone with totally different personality." The first woman made her own assumption.

"That must be the reason." Her friend chimed in as well.

"No, that makes senses, maybe Mr. Donovan moves to this city and opened another business here because he wants to avoid Ms. Jenedieth. After all this is the first time Ms. Jenedieth is not tag along, right?" Alice turned around and washed her hands under the faucet while looking at the reflection of Raine from the mirror.

In the other hand, Sunny didn't do anything, she just stared at Raine and to the other three people there.

"Why don't you take off your mask? You have been wearing that since the first time you enter this party room." The woman suggested. "What happened with your face? Why don't you show your face to us?"

While her friend was saying that the other woman had moved forward to snatch the white mask from Raine.

However, before she could do so, suddenly the restroom door was thrown open with so much force as the handle left a dent on the wall behind it.

"It has been five minutes." Torak said sternly. His eyes scoured the entire Restroom before they landed on the only woman who was able to catch his attention.

Seeing the awkward expression from the other three women inside the room, including the woman who had brought Raine here, Torak knew there was something wrong with this situation.

Torak strode across the distance between them and grabbed Raine's hand, when he did so, he could feel the tension from her. His guess was right.

"Mr. Donovan..." The two women and Sunny stuttered when they saw Torak entered female restroom without qualm to look for Raine.

Sunny, who thought Torak's warning was only words, lowered her head in fear and ashamed when those blue, rigid glared at her.

"Mr. Donovan, I don't think this is a good manner of you to enter a female restroom as you wish." Alice leaned her body against the hand washing and folded her arms provocatively. "If words come out, your reputation will ruin."

Torak didn't even glance at Alice when he said. "Let's see who will ruin first." There was a warning laced in his words.

"Are you threatening me?" Alice frowned. She dared to do so because her family was on par with Donovan's company.

"Yes." Torak replied curtly, didn't want to waste another words on her. "Come." He grabbed Raine's hand and took her away from the restroom without saying anything.

Torak and Raine walked in the corridor in silence before he stopped and looked at Raine. "What happened? Something bothering you?"

Raine lowered her head. "Nothing." She said sullenly. She was annoyed by herself because she couldn't talk back to them.

What should she say if she didn't know anything? Raine remembered something when she encountered Jenedieth for the first time.

Her words implied that she had something special with Torak. Raine also heard about something like; if Torak didn't find her, then it was Jenedieth who would be the Luna of the pack. The equal status as the Alpha of the pack.

Many people would agree that she suited perfectly with the status as Luna or Torak's woman.

Beautiful, s.e.xy and smart...

Raine clenched Torak's hand when she remembered those words. Something that she is lacking. The more she remembered that, the more angry Raine became and the more regret that she felt because she couldn't talk back to them.

But, what she could do when she knew nothing about that?

"I am fine." Raine said when Torak kept staring at her.

"What do you mean with 'nothing', my love?" Torak removed the mask from her face and revealed Raine's sullen expression. Even when she was agitated like this, she looked so stunning. "You are anything but fine."

"It's okay." Raine turned her face sideways so she could avoid Torak's eyes.

"Tell me what they say?" The tone that Torak used was akin to persuade a small child. "What is so bothering you?"

The Alpha couldn't think of anything that they might say to her until she had a bad mood like this.

"They..." Raine's words stumbled in her throat. She remembered the other woman's words that said; it was a childish act if she complained to Torak about what they had said.

"Yes?" Torak prodded, but Raine didn't continue her words, she chewed her lower lips anxiously. "Tell me, my love." He trapped Raine's face in his warm palms and urged his upset little mate to see him in the eyes.

"They said you have a special relationship with Jen." Raine mumbled. Torak wouldn't stop until he got the answer and Raine wasn't good at lie, thus there was only one way to end this uncomfortable feeling. "They also said that you hide your relationship with Jen because both of you too mature to be bothered to explain it in public."

Torak raised his eyebrows; women were sure had their way to upset other people.

"They also said that you moved here because you are heartbroken and want to forget your past relationship with Jen." Raine raised her head and looked at Torak in the eyes, she frowned slightly. "I objected this one because I know why you moved here."

Torak chuckled lightly and rubbed Raine's head, he was speechless with her logic, if she objected the last one why didn't she object the other two as well?

Chapter 177 - PARTY (4)

"Are you angry?" Torak tucked a strand of her hair behind her ear with amus.e.m.e.nt to see Raine's expression right now.

"No." She gazed at Torak stubbornly. "I am upset."

With that Torak laughed out loud. This was a rare occasion for someone like Torak to laugh that way. Fortunately there was no one in this corridor, or else it would be a sight to behold, to witness the cold-blood CEO of Donovan's Company was laughing like that.

"Why are you laughing?" Raine hit Torak's upper arms.

"Alright, I got it. You are not angry, just upset." Torak put back her mask and kissed her forehead. "Wanted to stay for a while longer?"

"No." Raine didn't want to stay there even for a second longer. She really pissed with the those women and herself.

"Don't you want to dance with me?" Torak offered.

"Dance?" Raine frowned. "But, they said you don't do dance..." She contemplated.

"Why do you believe them? Is it me that they are talking about." Torak took Raine's hand and led them back to the party room.

"But, I can't dance..." Raine suddenly shrieked and tried to pull back her hand, but Torak's grip was too firm and apparently he was in good mood.

"Don't worry, I am good enough for both of us." Torak said reassuringly.

Raine was a bit nervous and hesitated. "Have you danced before?" She didn't try to doubt Torak's ability, she just didn't think that someone like Torak would dance in public.

"Not in public." Just like what Raine had thought.

"Why?" She asked curiously, did he danced with Jenedieth in private? That thought alone turned her mood became sour.

"I just danced with someone that I like." Torak said.

"Like Jen?" Raine was too upset to mention her name, so her words sounded harsher than it supposed too and this made her embarrassed.

"Of course not." Torak rubbed Raine's head when they arrived at the door, two people pushed it opened and revealed where the crowd of the people gathered in the middle of party room to start their first dance tonight.

The light of the room was dim and the music began in slow and enchanted melody, suddenly the atmosphere became warm and lovely and as if to lit up the romantic emotion the various fragrance of flower could be lightly smelled.

Torak led Raine to the middle of the room and stop amidst many pairs of couple around them, he put Raine's hands gently on his shoulder as he rested his hand on her waist.

"I don't know how..." Raine whispered nervously, but couldn't take her eyes from Torak. He was so dashing under the faint yellow light while his blue eyes stared back at her with so much love.

Torak took a slow step that was easy enough for Raine to follow. He moved side to side with a simple movement, this dance wasn't exactly a dance, but she still felt her heart skipped a beat, knowing this was their first dance.

Torak's first dance in public.

These simple steps still felt lovely for Raine nonetheless.

Until a moment later, a bright light was shined on them, following their every move as if they were the main character for tonight party.

The music was like a spell and Raine even didn't realize when the couples around them started to leave the dance floor to give some room for her and Torak.

Time passed without them knowing and when the music came to stop, as the final move, Torak bend his knee in proposing stance and kissed Raine's hand heartily.

This action incited waves of shock among the guesses, there was a loud gasping sound and mumbles among the women, as they couldn't believe with what they witnessed.

The haughty Torak Donovan actually lowered himself in front of many people for a young woman? Was that even possible? The ruthless man who would

never take a second glance toward his opponent or when he executed a cruel plan, bend down to a woman?

Who exactly this woman was?

She didn't remove her mask since the beginning, so no one could see her face, but one thing for sure, this woman must be an extraordinary to be able to be Torak Donovan's woman.

Not only those people, even Raine also gasped in shock when Torak did that. She could feel warm crept from her face to her neck.

Though many people's eyes were on her, this was the first time Raine could be careless about them as her focus was solely on the man in front of her.

Torak's black mask covered his expression well, but Raine knew behind it, Torak was teasing her again and like usual, it left her speechless by his every action.

Slowly, Torak stood up and kissed her forehead, he didn't even care when someone or two took a picture of him did that.

Afterward, gently he put Raine's hand on the crook of his elbow and led her away from the spotlight with a round of applause from the other guess.

Raine was at daze when she received a bottle of water from Torak and drank half of it in one gulp.

"How is your feeling? Still upset?" Torak asked, while resting his chin on Raine's shoulder and wrapped his arms around his waist as if no one was around, ignoring the fact there were dozens pair of eyes staring at them with curiosity that almost killed them.

"I... I am fine now." Raine stammered. She knew Torak did this to revenge her, there was no way those women in the restroom missed that moment when Torak danced with her.

That dance also like an announcement that Torak was taken now and she was the lucky girl. Regardless nobody saw her face, but Raine felt satisfy and happy nevertheless.

"It's good to hear that." Torak said.

"Can we stay until the firework?" Raine asked, she remembered what Sunny informed her, there would be a firework at midnight and since the time was already late, they only need to wait a bit longer for that?

"Sure, if you like it." Torak agreed. His anger had subsided and just wanted to hold his mate like this.

Seeing the intimate interaction between Torak and Raine at the moment, people who wanted to come close to him were a bit reluctant, it felt like they were bothering the couple.

However, not everyone felt the same, at least this person wasn't a human to begin with.

"What a nice view to see." A gruff and rough voice sounded from behind them as this man took a glass of wine from the waiter. "But, I prefer for you to stop flaunting your love everywhere."

Torak turned around and hid Raine behind his back as his aura turned gloomy when he met the devil's golden eyes.

"Belphegor." Torak mentioned his name with derision.

"This is Reiz for you Mr. Donovan." Belphegor said, he gave Raine a lazy smile as he waved his bonny fingers. "We are a partner now."

Raine remembered him, he was the devil that she had met in the hotel when the first time she met Torak.

The devil who wanted to take her life, he hurt her before this.

"What are you doing here?" The calm tone that Torak used was scarier than when he growled at his opponent.

"This is an open party and I am invited." Belphegor said lightly as he sniffed the wine. "It has been a long time since the last time I saw you, I heard you were missing a few months ago. This Alpha was looking for you like crazy. By any chance, have you known your power already?" This time the question was for Raine to answer.

Torak closed his eyes as he clenched his jaw to keep his anger at bay. It was so easy to mess with the Alpha, especially if it related to his mate.

"Or, should I help you to find it out?" Belphegor took a gulp of his wine. "If your man don't mind, of course." He nodded toward Torak's direction.

Without wasting another words on the devil, the Alpha took his mate away. This wasn't the right place and the right timing to be out of control by his provocative words.

"Well, she will know sooner or later." Belphegor stated and talked to a man who approached him, having a little conversation as if he was a real human.

"Why many people make a fuss about my power?" Raine tugged Torak's sleeves. "What I supposed to do with my power?"

"To protect yourself." Torak answered her curtly and dismissed the topic immediately. "Let's go outside, the firework would start soon." He glanced at his watch, it was almost the time.

For some reason, Torak's answer didn't convince Raine, but she nodded anyway when Torak took her to the balcony.

There were many people already there, but two men, who had gotten a nice view, generously gave up their spot and gave it to Torak to impress him.

Sometime Raine wondered, how far they would go to impress someone else, in order to get what they wanted? It was strange, but this world worked that way...

Torak took off his coat and dr.a.p.ed it on Raine's shoulder to keep her warm.

Raine smiled ever softly, basking under the moonlight, she looked like a deity and Torak lost for words how to describe her. He loved her painfully, the kind of love that he had been waiting for centuries.

"You looked so beautiful, my love." Torak whispered to her ear.

Raine lowered her head and grinned upon hearing his words. "Thank you." She said timidly. "I am sorry for doubting you earlier... I just a little bit upset because of their words."

"You don't have to apologize." Torak stared at his mate with adoration. "I will convince you again and again every time you doubt me."

"I will not doubt you again..." Raine said sheepishly. "I will ask you directly if something bothering me..."

"You can always do that." Torak traced his finger along Raine's jaw lines.

Raine relished this moment when she felt like someone was watching her, she looked around and found, the woman named Alice Harper was looking at her with the same two women from the restroom earlier. They scoffed at her.

Just like Raine had thought, they must have seen her with Torak on the dance floor earlier. Torak's way got back at them, apparently, got on their nerves.

"Can I go for a while?" Raine asked and Torak frowned.

"Where you will go? Restroom again?" Belphegor was here and Torak didn't want Raine was out of his sight while the devil nearby.

Raine nodded to the direction at the three women, who looked at her scornfully. When Torak stared back at them, they didn't quick enough to manage the derision on their expression.

"What do you want to do with them?" Torak was curios, what his little mate would do to them.

"Having a chat, woman to woman." She said, attempting to sound arrogant, but failed miserably.

Torak looked at Belphegor, who was still having a chat with the man, who had approached him. "Don't be too long." Torak said.

Rine nodded and walked toward the three women with new confidence. The dance not only affected them, but also Raine. She could feel the love that Torak had for her.

About his past with Jenedieth, whether there were a special relationship between them or not, she would ask him by herself later, but the important thing Torak was with her now.

Not Jenedieth or any other woman.

Raine would make sure they got this point too, if not, it was their problem... like what hideous thing that Torak had done in the past, Raine didn't want to be bothered with his relationship with any other women before her.

As long as Torak was with her, she wanted to cherish that moment.

Raine walked straight to them and stopped two steps away.

"Do you need something?" Alice asked while the two women slightly moved behind her, afraid because they were caught red-handed staring at Raine viciously by Torak.

"Yes." Raine followed Alice's arrogant gesture as she folded her arms in front of her as well.

"Why? Do you want to complain because of our words before?" Alice smirked. As she already removed her mask, Raine could see that she was quite beautiful with a lot of make up on her face. "Or, do you want to flaunt that Mr. Donovan asked you for dance?"

"Both." Raine said coldly, though the affect didn't come close with the way Torak talked in the same manner, but she already good enough to act this way. "Don't spread a nasty rumor about my man, if you know nothing about it."

Thanked to his remarkable hearing ability, Torak could hear Raine's voice clearly. A satisfied smile grazed his lips when he heard Raine said 'my man', that simple words made him unimaginably happy. The fact that Belphegor had bothered him, was even forgotten.

"Me? Knows nothing about him?" Alice pointed herself.

How long they had been together? Two years? Three years? Alice stared at Raine again, despite her face was covered with mask, but she was too young for having five years relationship with Torak.

She was growing up with Torak's name almost in every conversation in the family because their company was competitor to each other.

So, technically speaking, Alice knew more information about Torak Donovan than Raine had.

"I know everything about him!" Alice hissed in irritation. "You are nothing compare to Ms. Jenedieth."

"Why I have to compare myself with her?" Raine raised her eyebrows despite Alice couldn't see it. "I am way better than her." She said confidently.

"Don't cry when Mr. Donovan and Ms. Jenedieth get back together again you will..." Alice didn't have a chance to finish her words when Raine cut her off.

"Don't worry, Torak had kicked her off for good. She will never comeback." After saying that, Raine turned around and was about to leave when suddenly she remembered something. "Don't talk about my man, you don't even deserve to mention it."

Afterward, she walked back straight to Torak's embrace, leaving Alice fumed mad because Raine didn't give her a chance to retort.

"Where you get those words?" Torak whispered while hugging her soft body, he knew regardless her progress, she wouldn't come up with that harsh and sarcastic words just yet.

"I don't have anything to do after the entrance exam, thus while waiting for the result, recently, I have been watching many dramas. When the main character used those words, she looked so cool." Raine giggled.

"You look cool as well." Torak complimented her.

Chapter 178 - PARTY (5)

The tiger and the lion maybe powerful, but the wolf doesn't perform in the circus.

"I heard you look for me."

Someone suddenly talked from behind Torak's back, one of the voice that he dislike, but couldn't help when it has to come to the safety of his mate.

Torak didn't need to turn around and guess whose voice that belonged to when her citrus scent filled his nose.

"Serefina..." Raine's elated expression slightly changed when she saw the witch in her sparkling purple dress.

Raine wondered, why she always tried to get as much attention as she could get. Purple dress and red hair was a strange combination, yet it looked good on her.

There were waves of whispered among the crowd when they watched Serefina walked toward the couple.

because they were afraid to anger Torak's moment with his woman, thus nobody dare to approach him, but this woman, who came from nowhere, they didn't even realize there she was there along the party, dared enough to walk toward the couple without fear.

"I like the way you handled them." Serefina glanced at Alice and her two friends through her shoulder.

Like always, Serefina had never had regret about anything that she had done or she said 'sorry'. The last time their encounter wasn't something that could be easily forgotten, yet Serefina treated that as nothing. There was no remorse just like how she had burnt Raine's mother diary.

"I don't ask you to come to this party." Torak glared at her.

He had indeed asked Raphael to order someone to look for her, but it didn't mean she could appear anywhere that she liked.

This party wasn't the right place for them to have a conversation about the things that Torak wanted to discuss with her. Not to mention Belphegor was around.

"I come because of this party." Serefina frowned as she walked and stood beside Raine. "Do you think I come because you managed to find me?"

Her words were quite right, all this time when she disappeared from existence for more than decades, nobody was able to find her, not even Torak's strongest hunter had a clue about her whereabouts, as if she was vanished and cease to exist.

She appeared when she wanted to and when she decided to hide and nobody would know, she was that kind of witch.

Torak wonder what had happened between Serefina and his brother, they were used to get along well when they were together, but after that 'thing' happened, Serefina changed totally.

Because Torak was in need party, he tried to calm the beast within him that very itchy to tear Serefina for her comment.

But, it still couldn't dismiss the rumbling growl within that could be heard from Torak's chest. This witch really got on other people nerves. What a talent...

With her arrogant manner, Serefina took a glass of wine for herself from the waiter and took another glass for Raine.

However, before Raine could react and received the glass, Torak had taken it away and put it back to the tray that the waiter carried.

"Let her try." Serefina complained, but didn't pursue the matter because Torak was glaring at her. The witch shouldn't push her luck any further than this. She put back her fur purple mask and looked at the night sky. "So, why are you looking for me?" She raised her eyebrows provocatively while looking at Raine, not Torak.

"I didn't..." Raine raised her hand and denied. "I didn't look for you..." She wondered if the witch had ever said 'sorry' sincerely as long as she lived. How could she act as if nothing had happened between them on their last encounter?

"I don't think this is the right place to discuss this." Torak uttered in rough voice, he even didn't try to hide his loathing of her. He couldn't let his anger loose now, not in front of many people.

"Worry not." Serefina waved her hands casually. "They wouldn't be able to hear our conversation." Because she had put spell around her, so people out of the small magic circle that she had created, wouldn't be able to hear a single word from them, all they could hear was only a sound like buzzing bees.

Torak knew she was capable to do that, thus he continued his question that he was very eager to know the answer. "What did you mean with 'she who guard the time'?" He asked the crucial part.

Beside him, Raine also wanted to know what the meaning of it.

At this moment, Torak realized the important thing for Raine, which was to be able to protect herself well, another layer of protection wouldn't do any harm.

At some point, Serefina was right, that was why Torak willing to yield to her, though there was still a bit reluctant and mystery that veiled the witch true intention. He would find out about that later.

Meanwhile, Serefina leaned her body against the steel railings of the balcony and folded her arms while holding her glass wine.

Her gesture was so elegant and mature, like a young noble lady, kind of woman who wouldn't underestimate by other easily, Raine wondered if she could act that way.

"There are many kind of Guardian angel and some of them will profound in one element while some of them wouldn't realize what element that dominated their nature. The element could be anything, even something that you couldn't see and touch, like time." Serefina glanced at Raine, made sure she could catch up with this logic.

Beside Torak, Raine frowned, this would be a long explanation and she would have another homework to do and a long list of questions to ask about this. But, she was excited to know, nonetheless.

Yet, Raine's assumption was wrong, because Serefina kept her explanation very short, she just added a few sentences after that.

"In the past, in much more distant time than the great war between the lycans and the devils, there was a guardian angel with the same ability like her." Serefina said, slightly proud with the news that she brought, because it was only she, who knew about this.

"Do you mean the person that you said I need to meet?" Raine asked she moved forward to approach Serefina as her curiosity gnawed her heart.

"Exactly." Serefina nodded.

"So, what should I do to be able to use and control this... power..." There was a strange feeling when she mentioned this power, she knew she have it, in fact she could feel that when the first time she used it, but the moment she mentioned it, she still felt... awkward to say the least.

In spite of that, there was an excitement that pulsing through her veins. With this, she wasn't totally useless person, she could do something...

In the other hand Torak didn't say anything, his face remained expressionless, nobody would be able to know what was inside his mind right now.

However, the fact that Torak didn't object the idea was already a good sign. He was willing to listen.

"I don't know." Serefina shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly, giving an unexpected answer.

"What do you mean you don't know?" Raine was puzzled, her hope had already high to be able to do something for herself, but why Serefina said that she didn't know?

"I don't know, mean; I don't know." Serefina said in matter of fact tone, annoyed both Raine and Torak. "I don't know what you have to do in order to be able to use and control your power. I am not the one who has that kind of power, you know. It's all about you."

Raine was utterly speechless and shock by Serefina's revelation.

"What are you going to do to help her so she will be able to control her power?" As if Torak wasn't affected by Serefina's annoying answer, he asked in different way.

"That's the right question!" Serefina flicked her finger with satisfaction. "You have to pay attention about what you asked."

Despite the fight between the two of them, in the past they had known for decades before everything turned awkward, and once could be called friend, now was nothing, but stranger.

Raine frowned and mumbled, she forgot that the two of them had a remarkable hearing ability. "What the difference."

"Of course it's different." Serefina stated, yet didn't explain about it further. She looked across many people inside the party room toward Belphegor, who was staring back at her, a vicious smirk formed in the corner of her lips. "He hasn't known yet about the fact she is not your mate, has he?" The witch tilted her head on Torak.

"No." Torak answered it curtly. Lucifer and some other creatures have realized about Raine's identity as his mate, but not Belphegor, the sloth still clueless about that. He just thought Torak protected Raine because she was the guardian angel, which was true also. "But, he will know soon."

The news about this would spread among the supernatural creatures and Torak had predicted it, thus he needed more extra careful when Raine was really going to the University, he must take into account all the dangers that might occur.

"I guess he will." Said Serefina, for the first time after such a long time, agreed with Torak. "I want her to come with me." Suddenly she changed her focus on Raine.

In an instant, Torak's body tensed up, but he remained calm.

"Where?" Raine asked meekly.

"No need to glare at me. I will not take her soon, but I tell you this in advance." Serefina shot a dagger look on Torak. "This time I will not repeat the same thing, so you don't need to worry much." She said lightly.

In spite that was what Serefina had said, but how Torak could trust her? She had said the same thing when Raine disappeared. Just how serious this witch this time?

"What you will do with my mate?" Torak asked rigidly, the temperature around him dropped dramatically.

"Discover the origin of her power." Serefina shrugged her shoulder nonchalantly. Apparently her spell worked just fine, because when the waiter collected her empty wine glass, there wasn't any puzzled look on her face upon hearing Serefina's odd words. "Only by her understand the past, she will know what to do in the present."

Torak not impressed at all by Serefina's answer, regardless he knew there was the truth behind it. He was still tore apart between; letting Raine became stronger on her own and his inclination to keep his mate safe beside him, his deepest desire to protect her was so strong, it was hard enough to handle.

If he could, he would keep Raine within his arm's reach, but he couldn't do that and Raine eventually would hate it. He wasn't able to decide now whether it was a good decision or not.

"I think you have a guest." Serefina nodded her head toward someone who was approaching them.

Torak's eyebrows creased as he turned around and found Belphegor and the other man, which he has been talking to, were approaching them.

"Mr. Donovan, I would like to introduce you to Mr. Stephan." Belphegor, or Reiz de Medici. Just like how he had introduced himself for people outside.

Raine still couldn't understand, how the devil could manipulate many people to think that he was part of de Medici family, but he was the devil after all, who had a thousand ways to beguile people around him without trouble.

Torak stared at Belphegor icily for his interruption, as he shook hand with Mr. Stephan and politely heard his clueless rumbling about how he adored Torak as a young businessman.

Because Serefina was with Raine, Torak brought them a few meters away. He didn't want Belphegor to be so close with his mate.

When it was only Raine and Serefina alone and Torak was occupied with Belphegor and Mr. Stephan, Raine came close to the witch and asked the question that, she assumed, Torak was reluctant to answer it truthfully.

For some reason, Raine didn't satisfy with Torak's answer at that time, that was why for the first time Raine thought about Serefina's callous nature as a blessing in disguise.

"I want to know what exactly the purpose of the resurrection of guardian angel?" Raine looked at her firmly. "You have been talking about war."

Chapter 179 - PARTY (6)

"I want to know what exactly the purpose of the resurrection of guardian angel?" Raine asked in low voice, she didn't want Torak to hear that she asked the same exact question toward Serefina.

The thing that Raine didn't know was, once Torak stepped aside to walk a little bit further from Serefina and Raine, he was the same like the other people that couldn't hear what the two women were talking about. Serefina's spell was working after all.

Serefina didn't answer Raine immediately, she raised her eyebrows and asked her back. "Why? Torak's answer didn't satisfy you?"

Raine shook her head and replied. "I feel like Torak has been avoiding me to give the real answer." Raine mumbled.

"So, he didn't give you the answer." Serefina concluded. "That is why you ask me and act so calm despite the thing that happened the last time." She recalled, even when she mentioned that again, there was no remorse for what she had done.

However, this time Raine had been tired to feel so sensitive about Serefina's behavior, if the fact that Serefina almost killed Raine didn't even bother the former, then there was nothing she could do. Raine couldn't be possibly forced Serefina to feel sorry for what she did, right?

Any argument about that would be just a waste of time and Raine was in need for explanation.

Though it felt so ironic, but knowing Serefina, the witch wouldn't have telling lie about this matter. She didn't have a complicated feeling toward Raine like Torak, if anything, Serefina probably would spill every dark secret that she knew with the reason to make her grew stronger.

And that was what Raine needed now.

Somehow, Raine felt like Serefina was obsessed with her own intention, but she couldn't find her true reason why she did this willingly. Serefina wasn't close with Torak, most of the time they were not in good term and if there was a big possibility for them to kill each other. Moreover, from what Raine heard, the relationship between Serefina and Torak's brother had been long ended.

Thus, there was no reason for her to help Torak and Raine now.

"You didn't need to try to kill me. No matter what your reason." Raine said emotionlessly, she stared at Serefina right on her lime green eyes that slightly turned frosty.

"How do you know that I was only trying to kill you and not wanted to kill you for real?" Her question, laced with mocking tone. "Don't be so na?ve."

"You will not look for a tiny bit information about the first guardian angel, who has the same power like me, if in the end you want to kill me." Raine replied swiftly. "Moreover, it was you who had said that."

"Hmm..." Serefina tilted her head as she scrutinized the girl in front of her. "You look smarter now than the first time I met you."

Raine didn't know if Serefina's words were praise or an insult as it sounded the same.

"But, I can say you are wrong." Serefina shrugged her shoulder. "At that time I choked you, I indeed had an intention to kill you." If it wasn't because Raine was surprised her with the fact she was able to break her spell and moved when she supposed to be to stand still.

Surprisingly, Serefina's words didn't hurt Raine like they were used to. The relationship between them was so odd, as if there was an understanding between the two women that they didn't like each other, but still needed one another to reach their goal.

For Raine, it was clear what her aim, but for Serefina, it was still mystery what her real intention for her generous help despite the tension that she had created every time they had to face her.

"No hurt feeling." Serefina raised her eyebrows because Raine didn't give much reaction except staring at her. "You slapped me, it was only right if I got angry at you." She said lightly without regret like always.

"I slapped you because you have badmouthed Torak." Raine raised her voice when she saw Serefina wanted to cut her when she talked. "I will do the same thing if you did that again."

This time, it was Serefina who was caught off guard by Raine's retorted words, but instead of getting irritated, she was bemused by her audacity.

"Great." Serefina clapped her hands. "At least you know what you were doing and what would be the consequences. Keep it that way, you will need that kind of boldness a lot in the near future, especially when you have to face your fellow human." She reminded.

Human was complicated creatures and since the devils involved in this, it was most likely they would take advantages of human's dark side and used it for their own benefit, like what they had always done since centuries ago.

"So, tell me what the purpose of the resurrection of the guardian angel." Raine asked impatiently, she glanced at Torak.

Torak was standing with Belphegor and Mr. Stephan, Three meters away from Raine and Serefina, however it seemed the conversation between Raine and Serefina couldn't be heard by him.

"Don't worry, he will not be able to hear us." The witch confirmed it as she took another glass of wine. "So, do you really want to know about this?" She asked arrogantly, shaking the glass in her hand.

"Yes." Raine didn't want to beat around the bush. She had told Serefina her intention, this also could be interpreted as Raine agreed with Serefina's way to teach her about how to control her power and find out about her true origins.

The road ahead wouldn't be a good one, but Raine had gotten used to that kind of life,

"Then, hear this out carefully." Serefina sipped her wine and made a satisfied expression. "I just want to warn you that this story will be cruel."

"I have seen 'cruel'." Raine stilled her heart, this wasn't the time to back down or started to act spoiled. "I think I can handle this."

Serefina smirked as she tilted her head. "Do you know that the guardian angels were extinct not because they were too weak for war? But, they really must die in order to defeat the devils." She paused and assessed Raine's reaction. "Cruel, isn't it?"

The Love of a Lycan #Chapter 180 - THE PARTY (7) - Read The Love of a Lycan Chapter 180 - THE PARTY (7)

Chapter 180 - THE PARTY (7)

Just because I am strong enough to handle the pain, doesn't mean I deserve it.

Serefina smirked as she tilted her head. "Do you know that the guardian angels were extinct not because they were too weak for war? But, they really must die in order to defeat the devils. Cruel, isn't it?"

"They have to die?" Raine frowned. "What do you mean they have to die?"

"That exactly what I meant." Serefina gulped down the remaining liquid in her wine glass and stared at Raine. "Your death is needed to defeat those devils and something more evil that follows your resurrection. To say it bluntly, that is your true purpose."

Raine felt her throat became dry. "No. You lie to me." She shook her head and clutched the side of her dress.

"I am cruel, but I am not a liar." Serefina said in matter of fact tone. "I always tell you the fact. Recall your memories, and you will see I have never told lies."

It was true, though Serefina was harsh with her words and method she had never told lies, yet the fact from her lips were crueler to hear.

Raine was dumbstruck by Serefina's harsh information, she didn't know what she had to say.

"If..." Raine stuttered when she tried to talk. "If I try my best to become stronger... will I... will I survive?" She could feel the tears were brimming on her eyes.

Why reality was so cruel? When Raine was just about to lead a happy life, after what she had to endure for more than eight years, she had to face something so brutal like this?

"You don't understand." Serefina clicked her tongue, as she got annoyed by Raine's slow understanding. "It doesn't matter how strong you will become, but your death is required to win the war between the devil and Lycanthropes..." The witch then emphasized. "... again."

Raine could feel the chill ran down her spine, her body was trembling. She didn't know if knowing the death of herself would be so horrible.

Raine had been through a lot, but even in her lowest point in her life, she had never had a thought to die. She knew she barely survived from all the predicament, but knowing she would die in the end was totally a different thing.

Yet, deep in her heart, she knew Serefina wouldn't lie about something like this, eventually everything made senses about why Torak wouldn't tell her the truth and his every words about keeping her safe no matter what would happen in the future.

The image that she had seen the moment she touched the stone inside the library, when visited Rieka Country, would it come true?

"Then..." Raine bit her lips, she glanced at Torak, who was talking with the other guest and Belphegor. "Then... what is the point for me to become stronger if in the end I have to die?" Her voice was barely a whisper that easily flew by the wind, yet Serefina heard that perfectly.

At the other side, Torak frowned when he caught Raine was staring at him with scared expression. His purposed to leave Raine and Serefina alone wasn't only to make Belphegor stayed away from his mate, but also for Raine to be more comfortable to ask everything that she wanted to know to Serefina.

He knew, Raine was still holding back a lot of questions that Torak couldn't answer and the stone that tells everything, wasn't much of help.

"The chance for the Lycanthropes to win the war will be bigger if you are stronger than if you are weak and only be a burden." Serefina's words flew like a dagger that stabbed right in Raine's heart.

Weak...

Burden...

Was that how people she her? A weak person and only be a burden?

Without waiting for Raine to recover from the blow, Serefina continued her words. "Whether Lycanthropes or the devil wins the war, you will die." Serefina was squinted her eyes seeing the tears that streaming down on Raine's cheeks. She hated it when someone showed her, their weak side. "The choice is, you will die for the sake of Lycanthropes or you will let the devil

slaughters those wolves right before your eyes before they kill you." Serefina shrugged her shoulder. "The choice is yours."

Serefina's words were so cruel as if she was talking about the ambience of this party, as if she didn't care whether Raine alive or death... oh, wait... she indeed didn't care about that. What Raine expected from this witch?

"So, your true purpose to come is for helping the Lycanthropes to win? That's why you are helping me?" Raine wiped her tears harshly, ruined her simple make up.

"No." Serefina turned around and looked at the sky, made Raine wasn't able to see her face. "I have to hold the end of my deal with someone." She said with sad expression that Raine couldn't see. "A disgusting dealt because it requires me to watch over you."

"Is there no other way for me to stay alive?" I just started to feel alive with Torak by my side... Raine kept the last words for herself, there was no point for Serefina to know about that.

"Tell me if you know the way." Serefina said nonchalantly.

"What if I don't want to be involved?" Raine tried to find a reason for her. She didn't want to die, why she always had to endure something like this? Wouldn't Torak always protect her? He had promised her.

"You don't want to be involved?" Serefina turned around and faced Raine once again, her expression showed how ridiculous Raine's suggestion sounded. "Why do you think Torak is very adamant to protect you? Because those devils..." Serefina glanced at Belphegor that winked at her flirtatiously. "... will always try to kill you no matter where Torak will hide you, there is no way out unless they die and it needs you to die too." She said with finality.