

The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 3: Chapter 36 - Tips

~WILLOW~

I'm in shock.

Why did he do this to himself right before our trip to the island?

This was supposed to be our night. It was supposed to bring us closer. Yet, he'd found some way to spoil it even before it got a chance to begin.

I can only stare at him as he walks over to me. The whispers are getting louder, and I can almost hear each of them.

Dante surprises all of us when he picks me up into his arms bridal style. I wrap my arms around his neck to steady myself as he walks. What was he doing?

It looks like he's taking me down from the yacht. Did he no longer plan on going? Shouldn't he have discussed this with me first?

Everyone expects us to complete the ritual tonight. I don't even look back at them. I don't want to see the look on their faces.

"Dante," I say his name. "What are you doing? You're already late. We are supposed to complete the ritual tonight. Why are you moving me from the yacht?"

He didn't answer me; a few seconds later and we were already out of the yacht. I could see the flashes of light all around us, and I knew it meant that the guests were taking hundreds of pictures of us.

This entire incident reminded me of our wedding. Except we were both covered in blood on that day.

I expected Dante to take me back to his vehicle, but instead, he turned around and headed for the yacht again.

I'm confused. What was happening? Why would he take me down only to put me back on there?

“It’s tradition to carry you onto the yacht for the ceremony.” He finally answers me. “I’m sorry I’m late.”

My eyes widen at his words. Not once did I think this was how my night would begin. I thought I would end up alone on that island with strangers gossiping and laughing behind my back and even in front of my face.

Instead, Dante came for me even though he was covered in bruises. He came, and for now, that was all that mattered to me.

I’m surprised when everyone starts clapping when he puts me back on the yacht. These were the same people gossiping about me just a few minutes ago.

“Give me a second. I need to get cleaned up.” Dante tells me before disappearing again. I watch as his parents run after him. I’m sure that he would be hearing plenty from them. He had us convinced that he wouldn’t be here tonight.

“I told you he would be here.” Clarissa winks at me. “I just didn’t think he would show up in blood and bruises, with a torn shirt and a busted lip. Leave it to Dante to make an entrance that no one could forget.”

He was good at those, very good at it. I couldn’t get it out of my head. I had tingles all over my body.

“Scarlett!” Autumn gasps suddenly.

“Where?” Clarissa demands as she looks for her. “Where is Scarlett?”

“She’s coming our way!” Autumn answers her.

I follow their gazes to see a very beautiful girl heading our way. She looked like she was drunk. She could barely walk properly.

Autumn helped bring her to us before she fell.

“Autumn!” Scarlett smiles as she hugs her tightly. “It’s so good to see you.”

“I missed you,” Autumn tells her. “Is everything okay? It looks like you’ve had plenty to drink.”

She giggles and hugs Clarissa next. “Everything is not okay. But I’m happy that the two of you have found love.”

Autumn looks at Clarissa, and the both of them look worried.

“Is Clara not with you?” Autumn asks her hesitantly.

She shook her head and pressed her finger against Autumn’s mouth, “Don’t say her name. She might show up and say mean things to me again. I can’t look her in her face after what I’ve done.”

Clarissa rubs her back gently, “It’s okay. We don’t have to talk about your sister if you don’t want to.”

My eyes widen when she begins to cry in front of us. “I miss her. I miss Clara. I can’t forgive myself for betraying her. I can’t.”

Autumn looks brokenhearted to see her friend in such distress. I’m not sure what was happening, but it was even hard for me to see her like this. Whatever happened between them must have been horrible.

“I’m sure that whatever you did, you can make up for it,” Autumn tells her.

She shook her head, “I can’t make up for it. I did the unforgivable. Clara loved Carter. It was only supposed to be a game, something to teach Carter a lesson. But instead—”

“You don’t need to talk about it.” Clarissa tries to tell her soothingly.

“I love him.” She yells out suddenly. “I shouldn’t, but I do. I love him so much.”

My heart drops at her words. Her pain, all of it, I felt the same way. I had strong feelings for Dante, but I felt guilty because my sister was once with him.

“I think you should get her into one of the rooms,” Clarissa whispers to Autumn. “People are beginning to stare, and I don’t want videos of this being posted.”

Autumn nods and takes Scarlett away with her. I watch them leave with a heavy heart. Seeing her like this just reminded me of my pain.

“Are you okay?” Clarissa asks me. “You look a little pale.”

I nod even though I feel the opposite of okay.

“Is it because of my brother?” She asks me. “I know Dante can be a little too much at times, but I want you to know that I think he made the right decision when he married you. I know all of this was only made possible because Anya asked him to do this, but I can see him in the future being happily married to you.”

I was surprised to hear Clarissa say this to me.

Was it truly possible to be in a happy marriage with Dante?