

The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 3: Chapter 76 -

4 minutes read

~WILLOW~

“Who is Cassius?” I demand. “What does he want with me? Why does he want me dead?”

Daisy looks at Dana and they’re both not making this easier for me. My head feels like it’s spinning.

“Because you and your sisters are the only ones in this world with the power to defeat him and his sisters,” Dana answers me.

The silence that follows makes both girls look at me for confirmation that I’d heard them.

This had to be a joke. I didn’t have any power. Why were these people messing with me?

If they were trying to make fun of me, they could stop, I wasn’t falling for this. Maybe these were two girls crazy about Dante and they were finding ways to drive me insane. He had plenty of stalkers, I wouldn’t be surprised if they belonged to that group.

“I only had one sister. Her name was Anya, and she’s dead.” I inform them. “I think you have the wrong girl. Maybe there’s another Willow out there that you should be searching for. I would really love it if you’d both let me go. I have to be somewhere soon.”

That was a lie. I didn’t have a place I stay but these women didn’t need to know that.

Daisy sighs, “I know this isn’t easy for you to accept. Anya’s real father kidnapped you and gave you to Anya’s mother to hide. He had an argument with your father; they were friends once, that’s until your father found out that he was stealing from him. When he asked him to leave, he did but he took you with him. They couldn’t find you because Anya’s mother kept moving, and we couldn’t search for you when we didn’t know where to look. The only possible way to locate you was if your power started to activate. And it did.” She says

looking at me. “We know you’ve been fainting; your body sometimes gets as cold as ice. It’s your power surfacing. You’re not sick, Willow.”

“My father?” I ask with wide eyes. They knew about my sickness? This kept on getting creepier by the second.

Dana nods, “When your father found Anya’s father, he fought with him. He wanted information on your whereabouts. He didn’t want to stop fighting until he’d found you. Unfortunately, they both died that day and still, there was no news of where you were.”

My heart aches at this, even though I’d never met him.

“How am I supposed to believe any of this?” I demand. “The only sign that any of this is true happens to be the one thing that points to me being sick.”

“You’re not sick,” Dana assured me. “Your sisters all share a close resemblance to you. You’re triplets. I’m sure you’ve noticed that you never looked like Anya or her mother. It’s because you were never related to them.”

This was all so much for me to take in. How am I supposed to believe any of this without any solid proof? Did I really have two sisters that looked like me?

The only way for me to find out the truth was to stay in this vehicle with these strangers.

“You said that Cassius has sisters. Are they all evil?” I ask. “Who are they? What do they want?”

Daisy takes a deep breath, “You know his sisters, but before we can tell you about them. You should know the story of their father. His name was Azai Reign, and he was the most powerful sorcerer alive. He wanted to use his power for evil. He wanted to rule the world. Luckily, the mother of his children realized the monster he truly was and killed him. He also had triplets. They were all separated at one point. No one knew who they were until now. The girls seem innocent so far, but eventually, the evil inside of them will take over. Cassius, their brother, he’s the opposite. He already has evil running through his veins. He’s just like his father, and he wants revenge for his death. He wants to finish what his father started. His first step is to get rid of you and your sisters. He knows the three of you could kill him. You’re his only weakness.”

The more I heard about this story, the more frightened I became.

I've been so lost and in love with Dante that I had no idea what was happening around me.

"Cassius isn't stupid," Dana informs me. "He doesn't want to reveal himself yet. And he knows it wouldn't have been easy to get to you without revealing himself since you are married to Dante. That's why this was the perfect opportunity for him to get you. Luckily, we were also keeping an eye on you and were able to get to you first."

I couldn't believe this. If they hadn't found me, Cassius would have killed me. And that's not even the craziest part.

My mother and sister weren't actually related to me all this time. Was this why I was so different from them?

"Your fate was to marry into that family, the Fawns." Dana informs me. "It was meant to happen. It allowed you to get closer to the enemy. This will give you an advantage. Your job is to kill Cassius and his sisters."

"Get closer to the enemy?" I ask, clueless. "What are you talking about? Which one of the Fawns is my enemy?"

"We mentioned before that you know both of Cassius's sisters. He needs both of them to finish what his father started. Once he awakens the evil inside of them, he will get his wish. This is where you and your sisters will have to step in. Before this happens, you must kill all three of them." Daisy informs me.

"Who are his sisters?" It felt like they were intentionally not telling me who they were.

"Autumn and Clarissa Fawn. They are the daughters of Azai Reign, destined to join forces with their brother and cause destruction to everything around them."

The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 3: Chapter 77 -

5 minutes read

~DANTE~

I rush into my room, hoping to find something, anything that could help me find Willow. Maybe she went somewhere to cool her mind. But that wasn't like her. She never went places by herself. She never left without anyone knowing where she was.

I rush over to the desk, and my eyes fall on a small object that makes my insides churn uncomfortably.

Her ring. She took it off.

I picked it up into my hand and held onto it tightly. This wasn't f*****g happening. She wouldn't leave me. Willow would never leave me. She promised to fight for this marriage. She promised me that she wouldn't give up on me.

Her diary was next to it. I accused her once of writing spells in there. I gently took it into my hands and sat on the edge of the bed. I had to be seated for this. My knees felt weak.

I didn't know where Willow went, but the fact that she left her ring meant that she wasn't planning on coming back.

I take another look at her diary.

If she left it here, she must have wanted me to read it.

Please let there be something inside here to lead me to her.

The first three words hit my heart.

My dearest husband.

Her entire diary, was filled with letters to me. I swallow hard and f****d myself to keep reading even though my heart was begging me to stop.

Today you held me in your arms while I was unconscious. You were the first person I saw after waking up. Your eyes were filled with concern I've never seen before. My heart flutters whenever I'm reminded of how worried you were about me. I wish that one day I could tell you how I truly feel. I wish that one day I would feel your lips on mine...

f**k.

Reading this made me feel a hundred times worse.

I turned the page and held my breath. I couldn't stop reading. Every word of hers felt like a f*****g d**g I couldn't get enough of. I was holding onto each word, hoping it would bring her closer to me.

You k****d me for the first time. You've done the one thing I've been dreaming about since I married you. However, I felt hurt when you said my sister's name. You were thinking of her the entire time. I do not blame you; I know you love her, and our marriage was f*****d onto you. Still, my heart doesn't know how to forget your lips on mine. And I don't think it's possible ever to forget.

I closed my eyes and tried to find the strength to continue. She'd wanted me to k**s her. And the first time that I did, I was thinking of Anya. What the f**k was wrong with me?

Today I'm sorry. I'm sorry for asking for something you weren't ready to give me. I'm sorry for telling you I think I'm in love with you. I'm sorry for making everything so much harder for you. I'm sorry you were f*****d to marry me by my sister. I'm sorry you were f*****d to do a ritual that may or may not guarantee a long marriage to me. I'm not sorry for the feelings in my heart. I'm not sorry for loving someone like you. I'm not sorry that even though my sister didn't love you, I still do. I'm not sorry that I got to experience such pleasures with your tongue. I'm not sorry that my taste is still in your mouth. I'm not sorry that I'll go to sleep smelling like you tonight. I'm not sorry that I'll dream of today for the rest of my life.

I closed the book and moved it to the side of me. I couldn't keep reading. The guilt inside of me was increasing with each page that I turned. I never wanted to hurt Willow. I always wanted to protect her. I married her too quickly. I should have healed from losing Anya before I made her my wife. I married her because of Anya, but I stayed married only because of her.

All of this happened because I couldn't just be a f*****g man. All I had to do was push my past behind me and focus on my present life with Willow.

Unlike Anya, Willow loved me with all her heart. She'd given me a life I couldn't even dream of having with her sister. And now, she'd taken that life with her. Without her, I was left with nothing but f*****g pain.

I had to get her back. I had to find her and apologize. I had to tell her that even though I loved Anya, she was in the past. I had to promise her that I

wouldn't ever put her sister above her ever again. I had to beg her to give me one last chance.

This time I wouldn't f*****g mess it up. I would love her the way she deserved to be loved.

I grabbed the diary once more. If I wanted to find her, I had to keep reading. I had to hope that there was something in here to help me.

I kept reading until I reached the last page. I could feel my heartbeat increase with each new word.

If you ever read this, please know that I love you more than I've ever loved anyone else. The happiest moments of my life were spent with you.

I felt a tear roll down my cheek, it was a reflection of what I felt inside. I was slowly slipping into depression.

I held her diary to my chest; nothing here could lead me to her. She'd left me, and I had no clue where to start searching.

Why did I do this? Why did I ruin the one good thing in my life?

"Did she leave behind anything?" Atticus asks as he rushes in with Autumn behind him.

"She's gone," I say with no emotion. I was about to lose my composure.

Everything was taking its slow time to sink in. I knew the second it did; I wouldn't be able to hold back my emotions.

"What do you mean gone?" Autumn demands.

"She left her ring behind," I say. "She heard a stupid conversation I had with Atticus earlier. I said some things that I didn't mean. I was in shock. I was thinking about Anya. . ."

I couldn't finish my sentence.

"She's gone," I whisper in disbelief.

"We will find her," Atticus promises me. "She couldn't have gone far."

She's gone.

Willow's gone.

She left me.

What was this excruciating pain in my heart? I clutched my chest and stayed completely still.

It hurt.

It f*****g hurt so much.

The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 3: Chapter 78 -

4 minutes read

~WILLOW~

“Get me out of this vehicle!” I shout. “Now!”

These people were insane. According to them, my job was to kill Autumn and Clarissa along with their brother. I didn't even know they had a brother. I would never harm anyone related to Dante's family. I was not my sister. I would not hurt them.

“We know you've gotten close to them, but trust us when we say they wouldn't always be how you remember them.” Dante tries to explain to me.

“I don't care what you say. Autumn and Clarissa are two of the nicest girls I've ever met. There isn't a drop of evil inside of them. If you think that there's even the slightest chance that I would harm them, you are dreaming!” I shout.

“If we let you out of this vehicle, Cassius will kill you!” Dana shouts. “We are the ones sacrificing our lives to protect you. If the world didn't depend on you, we would have easily done what you're asking for. Unfortunately, all of our lives depend on you.”

I didn't know how to respond to that. I angrily fold my arms and stare out of the window. They seemed convinced I was this chosen girl destined to save the world.

My life kept spiraling out of control. First, it was losing Anya, falling in love with Dante, and now this. I couldn't catch a break.

"We're already here," Daisy says to me gently. She seemed to be the kinder one. "You'll be safe here. Cassius wouldn't risk coming here when he knows all three of you are together. He will only attack when you're alone."

I slowly got out of the vehicle. I was surprised to see a small cottage. I wasn't sure what I was expecting. It wasn't this.

"It's an illusion," Daisy informs me. "When you walk inside, you'll see what I mean."

I follow them into the house, surprised to see everything empty.

"Keep walking." They tell me. "We have to go underground."

I entered an elevator and then we stepped out

I walk through another door and then another. When I stepped through the last one, I was met with a massive structure. It didn't look like a house; it looked like a training institution.

There were women and men with arrows aimed at targets. Some of them had weapons I'd never seen in my life before.

Were they all preparing to fight against Cassius?

"Everyone has one mission and one mission only. To kill Cassius and his sisters." Dana says as if reading my mind. "If you hadn't been separated from your family, you would have the same goals as everyone else. Once you're reunited with them, it's expected that you comply."

Did these people seriously think that I would kill two of the closest people to me? I loved Autumn and Clarissa like my own sisters. I would never harm them, even if their brother had evil intentions. If any of this was true, then there must be another way to get rid of Cassius. We shouldn't have to kill them all. Shouldn't we be able to kill him only? Shouldn't that be enough?

We walked into an all-white room. Everything was white, including the furniture, and the curtains. Even the woman standing near the window had white clothes on and even the hair on her head was white.

“She’s here, Madam.”

The woman slowly turns to look at me. She doesn’t run to hug me like a mother would who hadn’t seen her missing daughter in years. Instead, she stands there and studies me. She’s taking me in slowly.

Was she trying to confirm if I was indeed her daughter?

“I told them they had the wrong person,” I tell her. “I told them I’m not your daughter. I don’t have any power. I’m not who you’re looking for.”

She looks at Dana and Daisy. Then she bursts into laughter.

Did I say something hilarious?

“I guess you are my daughter.” She says as she continues to laugh. “Your sisters are the same. Always disagreeing with Dana and Daisy.”

“Why am I here?” I demand. “You don’t look like someone who hasn’t seen her daughter in years. I expected a different reaction.”

Her eyes soften, “affection isn’t something I show to my children. It will make them weak. I need all three of my girls to be physically and mentally strong.”

No affection? None at all?

“Still, it’s been years, and I was supposedly kidnapped.” I remind her. “For all you know, I could have been dead.”

She nods, “will a handshake make you feel better?”

I exhale in frustration. This was not what I expected.

“Is she in here?” I hear a feminine voice ask as the door opens once more.

I turn toward the sound, and I’m surprised to see two beautiful women walking toward me. I immediately know who they are without having to ask.

They weren’t lying. I shared a striking resemblance to both of them. It was all the proof I needed.

These people were my real family.

This was my home?

“Sister!”

Before she can approach me, her mother stops her. Should I also call her my mother? She was my birth mother after all but I didn’t feel the connection.

“We don’t show emotions, Caroline.” She reminds her. “No hugging. Just greet her.”

“I’m sorry, mother.” Caroline apologizes. “It won’t happen again.”

She turns to me and gives me a tiny smile. “It’s nice to meet you finally, Willow. We’ve been waiting a long time to be reunited with you, my sister.”

“Your turn, Winter. Introduce yourself to your sister.” Mother says.

“It’s a pleasure to meet you, Willow. I hope you’ve been well.” She greets me.

Well?

My life kept moving from bad to worse.

How on earth did I get out of this situation?

The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 3: Chapter 79 -

3 minutes read

~DANTE~

“What do you mean she just disappeared?” I roar.

I’d gathered as many of our men as I could. I had people searching every f*****g area close to home, and somehow no one knew anything about Willow or where she could be.

“She’s my wife!” I shout. “My wife! I want her back home with me! Do whatever you must to find her. I don’t care what it’s going to cost me. I’ll give everything to have her home back with me. Do you f*****g understand?”

“Yes, sir.” They all say before dispatching.

I was trying hard not to crumble in front of everyone, but Willow's last words kept repeating in my head. She thought I would be happier without her. She left because she felt like that's what I would want.

She was wrong, so terribly wrong.

She doesn't understand how much worse losing her made everything else. I was trying my f*****g best to get Anya out of my heart and mind for her. I was doing everything, but f**k, I'd still managed to mess everything up. I'd still managed to f*****g hurt her.

How could I even be considered a man after what I did to her? She's my wife. I'm supposed to love, cherish and protect her heart. I did the exact opposite of that. I put someone who'd hurt me multiple times above someone who's done nothing but wish me the best.

I was a f*****g fool. A big one.

"You need to calm down." Atticus tries to keep me relaxed. "If you want to find her, you must think clearly. We need to start with places she's used to being. Places where Anya used to stay. She would most likely go anywhere that she once called home."

I take a deep breath. "Are you sure? Wouldn't she want to stay away from places she knows we will look for her?"

He shrugs his shoulder. "We don't know anything right now. It's best that we search everywhere we think she can be."

I angrily punch my hands down on the desk in front of me. The fragile thing breaks in half.

"Hey!" Atticus stops me before I can do more damage. "Stop this, if you injure yourself, you're not going to be able to find her. We don't know where she is. She needs you to be on your best behavior. She doesn't know anyone out there, Dante. We need to find her quickly. If you care about her, you won't hurt yourself or even blame yourself for her disappearance."

"How can I not blame myself?" I demand. "I'm the reason she left. She stayed with me despite every single thing I'd done. I put Anya above her every f*****g chance that I got. Anya has done nothing for me, and Willow is the opposite of

her. She loved me, Atticus. She loved me with her whole heart since the moment she met me. I feel like my chest is about to explode with pain.”

I can't remember the last time I openly told my brother how I felt. I usually held back. But today, I couldn't. I needed someone to talk to. I needed someone to keep me sane. Willow was the only one who could do that for me, and she wasn't here.

She wasn't here.

She'd left because of me. She'd left because I'd hurt her. She'd left because I made her believe I would be happier without her.

“She loves you. You said so yourself.” He reminds me of my own words. “If she truly does, she wouldn't be able to stay without you for long. She will return to you. But first, we will search; we will search every damn inch of this world if we have to.”

I knew he was trying to cheer me up, but nothing could make me feel better until I saw Willow again.

I wanted to hold her in my arms and beg for her forgiveness over and over again. I wanted to tell her that she was wrong; I wanted to tell her that she was the one I needed to be happy.

I thought I was happy with Anya, but all she brought to me was pain. Willow was the one that brought me happiness.

I couldn't stay in my room anymore. Every single damn thing reminded me about her in there. Even the bedsheets still smelled like her. I refused to have them changed. They would stay the same until I found her back.

Nothing in that room would change until I'd brought Willow back home with me.

“I asked Austin and his family to help us,” Atticus informs me. “They've helped us so much in the past, and they're good regarding things like this. We will find her, Dante. I promise you; we will find Willow.”

The Unwanted Bride Of Atticus Fawn Book 3: Chapter 80 -

4 minutes read

~WILLOW~

“Is there any chance that I can leave here?” I asked the woman that was supposed to be my birth mother. “Do I have a choice in this matter?”

Her face gets serious at my question, even worse than before.

“You are not to leave this place without my permission.” She orders me. “Your sisters’ lives were in danger the second you went missing. Cassius is getting stronger each day that goes by. The faith of the world lies in you and your sisters. Do not play with your life Willow.”

I don’t say anything in return.

“I heard that the woman who hid you from us has died.” She tells me. “While her death brought me great joy, I know it must not have been easy for you. How have you been taking the death of that devious woman and her daughter?”

I swallowed, and while they weren’t the best people, I still loved them. It wasn’t easy hearing my birth mother speak about their deaths like it was nothing. However, I had to remind myself that she couldn’t show emotions.

“It wasn’t easy, but Dante and his family were there for me the entire time. Because of them, I was able to recover from the pain.” I answer her.

She nods, “It’s quite unfortunate that you’re going to have to fight all of them in the near future.”

My eyes widen, “all of them?”

She quirks a brow at me and walks over to her chair. “Did you think they would just sit back and let you hurt Autumn and Clarissa? That entire family cares about those girls. You’ll have to kill all of them to get to those two. I’m sorry you had to get close to them. If that horrible man hadn’t taken you from us, you wouldn’t have even met the Fawns until it was the right time.”

She leans back against her chair and sighs, “Because of him, I have to start all over from the beginning. You know nothing of your power. I have to teach you everything that your sisters already know. You’re the weakest one among you three. You’re very emotional, and you’re physically weak. We don’t have

much time, but training must start from today. Some training is still better than none.”

I narrow my eyes, “like I told Dana, I won’t hurt Autumn and Clarissa. They are like family to me.”

She slams her hands down on her desk, “And we are your blood. I made you. I gave birth to you. Do you think it was easy to learn about my children’s future? It was tough, but I had to come to terms with it eventually. This is our life now. You need to understand the gravity of the situation. This isn’t just about you, Willow; this concerns all of us. Autumn and Clarissa are the daughters of a sorcerer that wanted to kill us all. They must be stopped before Cassius gets to them.”

“Why can’t we just kill Cassius?” I demand. “He seems like the main threat. He’s the evil one. Clarissa and Autumn are nice people. They wouldn’t hurt anyone. Not intentionally.”

She sighs, “I can’t have this conversation with you now. I have plenty of work to get to. We can continue this later.”

“But—”

“Leave now, Willow.” She dismisses me.

I angrily stormed out of her office. Caroline was already waiting for me at the door.

“It doesn’t look like that conversation went well between you and our mother.” She notes.

“How is she even a mother?” I demand. “She doesn’t care about me. She hasn’t seen me in years, and she already acts like I’m a disappointment.”

She lightly pats my shoulder, “I promise you that she cares. She has a lot on her shoulders and tries to act emotionless. We’ve been around her long enough to know that she actually does care about us. She just doesn’t know how to show it.”

“I can’t kill Autumn and Clarissa. I can’t hurt two people that I love.” I try to tell her. Maybe she could help me; she showed much more emotion than everyone else.

“I’m sorry, Willow.” She apologizes to me. “You don’t know what they are capable of. Cassius has the power to control them if he gets to them. All he needs is their trust, and it will be over for the rest of us.”

“Then why can’t we warn them instead of trying to hurt them?” I demand.

She’s about to respond when everything begins to spin.

“Willow?”

That’s the last thing I hear before everything goes blank.

The next time I wake up, I’m surrounded by my sisters and someone that looks like a doctor.

“She’s awake!” Caroline shouts with excitement.

“Is my power causing this?” I ask them. “That’s what Dana and Daisy told me in the car. I’ve been fainting a lot more than usual after my mother’s death. I thought I was sick. Now, I know that I’m not.”

The doctor looks concerned as she places her pen on the table beside me. She removes her glasses, and it looks like she’s about to tell me some bad news.

“This fainting had nothing to do with your power surfacing.” She explains. “There’s a completely different reason for it.”

“What do you mean?”

Does it mean that I was truly sick? Did I not have long to live?

She takes a deep breath before she speaks again.

“I’m afraid that you’re pregnant, Willow.”