

## Chapter 18

Walking into the clubhouse my eyes met my moms. She didn't look happy, didn't look her normal self. She was curled into my dads side as he spoke to other members. What was going on with her? Ignoring everything around me I walked away from Blaze and went straight to my mom.

"You come to apologise" My dad asked turning his head so he could look at me.

Swallowing my pride I nodded my head before answering "Yes". Looking back at my mom I noticed the trace of a smile on her lips but I knew something was wrong. "Good now get over here and give your old man a hug". Walking the small distance that stood between us he pulled me into his arms crashing me into a bear hug "I do care about you darlin'." He whispered kissing the top of my head.

Pulling back I gave him a small smile before turning my attention back to my mom "I'm sorry"ac I croaked hating what I had said to her. I wanted my relationship back that I had with her before we came here. I didn't like that we no longer curled on the sofa drinking wine or how we used to tell each other about our day. I miss my mom.

"I'm sorry to baby. I should have told you" She whispered standing and pulling me into a hug.

"No I shouldn't have said the things I did. I miss you mom and I hate fighting with you. I love you, I always will" Holding her hands in mine I watched the smile shine through her tears.

"I love you too sweetie. Now how about you tell me whats been happening with that hunk of man standing over there that hasn't taken his eyes off you since you both walked in".

Frowning at her I turned and locked eyes with Blaze. Feeling my cheeks heat up I quickly faced back to my mom. He was standing with Jared and Tommy but his eyes had never left me. "Nothings happening" I said watching as her eyes squinted. "Some how I don't believe you" She winked. Was the chemistry between us that obvious?

"All I'm going to say is he's a good man and if I were you I'd snatch him up before someone else does" She said nodding her head in his direction. Turning round my eyes fell into slits when I saw a girl curled in his lap like

a fucking cat. Clenching my fists I grit my teeth. He promised he wouldn't.

"The only way to stop that is to stake your claim because darlin' he's already staked his. You are beautiful Ava but have you noticed for the first time no ones looking at you? Stake your claim baby I'll handle your dad" Squeezing my shoulder she walked towards the bar.

Stake my claim. How the hell do I do that?

"Stare any harder darlin' you'll burn a hole in him".

"I'm not staring" I snapped my fists still clenched. Hearing Tommy laugh made me want to punch him. "Wouldn't worry about him darlin' he knows how to handle them" He said squeezing my shoulder before walking away. What did he mean he knows how to handle them? Was he doing this on purpose? Letting that girl paw all over him. Was he trying to get a reaction out of me? Glancing back over to where he was standing I took in the girl wrapped around him. She was beautiful, long brown hair and a body to die for. No wonder he wasn't pushing her off. Why was I acting like a jealous girlfriend? I wasn't his girlfriend I didn't know what I was to him.

Heading towards the bar I took a seat on one of the stools. Why did it bother me that he was over there with her and not over here with me. Why say he wasn't going to let them paw him and thennd let them do it? Stop being a jealous bitch and get a grip. "When do you start at the hospital honey?" My mom asked interrupting my thoughts, thank god.

"Going in tomorrow so I'll be heading home soon. Is it still okay for me to stay at dads? its just until I get back on my feet and find a apartment".

"Breath Ava, sweetheart you stay there as long as you need. Theres no rush and your dad and I prefer you staying there, at least we'll know you're safe. I see you still haven't staked your claim" She said changing the subject. I'm not staking my claim. What was the point when he could have that beautiful girl.

"Not going too" I said signalling for Tim to come over. Placing a beer infront of me he smiled before moving onto another customer. "I'm going to finish this and then I'm going to go home. Early rise and all that" I said a yawn escaping my mouth. "He's a good man Ava y-"

"Mom drop it" I said slamming my bottle onto the bar. "If I wanted advice on Blaze I'd have asked for it now will you ask dad if he can get someone to take me home. I'm not in the mood and I don't want to be here". Why did

he have to act like this? How did he think it was going to make me feel? Placing her hand on my shoulder she kissed the side of my head "I'm not going to get involved but that girl ain't got nothing on you baby". Of course she would say that she's my mom.

Leaning back against the bar I noticed Cage watching me from the corner of the room. Giving him a little wave I blushed as he winked at me and held up his drink. Shaking my head I smiled to myself, Cage was gorgeous. Tall and lean and he had the brightest eyes I've ever seen. Turning my attention to my phone I frowned when I noticed a texted from Blaze.

'I'm watching you sweetheart'

'Fuck off sweetheart'

Hitting send I walked through the clubhouse and made my way outside. Taking a seat on the step I looked up into the dark sky. It sure was a beautiful night, another thing I missed was how my mom and I used to take walks when the weather was like this. Pulling my knees up to my chin I watches the stars twinkle in the sky, what a beautiful view.

"You still owe me that dance sweetheart".

Turning my gaze onto Cage I smiled at him "Do I?" I asked watching him pull a cigarette from his cut offering me one at the same time. "Thanks" I said lighting it up and taking a draw. "You do sweetheart" Blowing out his smoke he came and sat beside me "How you adjusting to all of this?" He asked

"I think I'm adjusting just fine although it would be nice to not have people wanting to kill me" I laughed taking another draw of my smoke. "Or to have people following me around all day".

"You wanna get out of here?" He asked "Come take a ride on my bike I'll show you some sites".

Should I? It's not like Blaze is dying to get my attention and it would be good to get out of here for a few hours but then again I am up early tomorrow. "Come on darlin' I promise I'll have you back by midnight" Shoving on my shoulder he stood up and held out his hand for me to take.

Cage has been nothing but nice to me. Yes he is a major flirt but he's never tried anything and for some strange reason I do feel comfortable around him. So why do I have a feeling its a bad idea? Shoving all thoughts

a side I placed my hand in his. Why shouldn't I go and have fun? "Lead the way player" I smirked as he pulled me up.

"How the hell did you find this place it's beautiful" I said admiring the view from where I was sitting. He had brought me to a secluded area where I was now looking over the whole of New York. It sure was a beautiful city especially looking at it from here. "I used to come here when I first patched in" He said taking a seat beside me "I was just riding one night and I came across it. I come here to clear my head and get away from it all, just sit and think what it would be like to have a normal life".

This had me frowning, turning my head I looked at him. Didn't he want to be apart of the MC? "Don't give me that look sweetheart. I would die for my club but it is nice just to come out here and sit in the peace and quiet".

"I get it. My job is completely different from yours but in a way I get what you mean". Feeling the vibrations coming from my pocket I pulled out my phone. Blaze was calling me, do I answer it? Deciding to ignore him I turned off my phone and put it away. "What is it you do sweetheart?".

"I'm a doctor" I replied watching the shock appear on his face "Why does everyone give me that look when I tell them what I do? What did you think I did?" I asked.

"What look darlin'?"

"The look of shock. I am very smart I worked my ass off to be where I am today" I huffed folding my arms over my chest. Shoving my shoulder with his he started laughing "It wasn't a look of shock babe it was a look of surprise. I mean your dad-"

"Yeah I know my dad's a criminal and I'm on the other side of the law. I made myself into something and I'm proud of what I've become. My dad will always be my dad I can't change that" I said cutting him off. I didn't want to talk about my career and I definitely didn't want to talk about my dad. "How old are you Cage?" I asked changing the subject.

As he was about to answer his phone went off "Hold that thought" He mumbled flipping up his phone and answering it. Trying not to listen in I focused on the view in front of me. "You hungry Ava?" Came Cages voice knocking me out of my thoughts. As the words left his mouth my stomach began to rumble. Giving him a sheepish look he held out his hand and pulled me to my feet. "Guess that gave you your answer?" I laughed as we

started walking towards his bike.

"That's the first proper meal I've had since I came here" I said pushing away my plate. "I'm stuffed" Rubbing at my stomach Cage started laughing. "I love a girl that can eat" He smirked pushing his plate to the side. "You're going to have to take me back there" I said

"Anytime you want to go you just give me a shout" He winked as the door chimed signally someone had come in. Watching the color drain from his face I frowned. "Cage whats-.."

"VP's going to kill you" Jared smirked as he slide into the booth beside us. Oh great just what I wanted. "You know why he's going to kill you right? You don't touch someones old lady dumbass". Glaring at Jared I stood from the booth "I was the one that asked Cage to come here. Now if you'll excuse us" I smiled sweetly at him before grabbing Cages hand.

"Ava he's right" Cage said as he walked me to my front door. "I shouldn't be hanging with someone elses old lady, that shit can get me killed".

"I had fun tonight Cage, thank you" I said completely ignoring what he said. What was wrong with two friends hanging out together? We weren't breaking the law and it wasn't a crime to have fun. "I had fun tonight to but unless I want my head on a plate it can't happen again".

"Well thats a shame" I mumbled turning my back on him and going inside. Closing the door behind me I leant against it listening to the roar of his bike as he speed of down the street. I didn't have any feelings for Cage I wasn't interested in him like that. I guess brotherhood was more important than anything else and I wasn't going to stand in the way.

Locking the door I made my way into the kitchen and turned on the kettle. Washing out the cup I used earlier I dumped a teaspoon of coffee and some milk into the cup and waited for it to boil. It had just left half past twelve and I wasn't the least bit tired. It had been one hell of a day and although I was up early I couldnt wait to curl on the sofa with my kindle. Hearing the kettle click I poured the water the cup, grabbed my kindle of the table and my my way to the livingroom. Stopping in the hall I thought of a better idea, it was a lovely night it would be a shame to miss it. Pulling the blanket from the sofa I unlocked the door and stepped out onto the porch.

Getting comfortable I pulled the blanket over my shoulder and set my cup

on the table. Unlocking my kindle I was flicking through some books when I heard the roar of an engine. As it got closer I couldn't help the feeling of dread in the pit of my stomach. Watching the black harley pull into my dads drive I swallowed the lump in my throat. He did not look happy. Picking up my cup I brought it to my lips and took a drink not once taking my eyes of his.

"Been trying to call you all night" He said taking a seat beside me.

"My phone died" I lied turning my attention to my kindle. I knew he knew where I was tonight, why else would he be over here? Not like heen cared he had that girl to entertain him all night. Placing my kindle on the table infront of me I held my cup in both hands and waited because I knew it was coming.

"Wanna go grab something to eat?" He asked

Why wasn't he roaring at me? Why wasn't he getting mad? He knows I've been with Cage most of the night so why wasn't he angry?..and then it hit me. "Yes or no?" I asked trying not to let my emotions get the better of me. Of course that's why he was being nice to me.

"What you talking-".

## Chapter 19

"Yes or fucking no?" I yelled standing so I wasn't anywhere near him. He didn't have to tell me I knew what the answer was I just wanted to hear it come from him. Still he didn't answer. "Ha of course that's why you're being nice to me. Get the fuck out of here and never speak to me again".

Everything he told me was bullshit and I fell for it like a sucker. I couldn't really expect anything else, it's what he did it's what he's always done. "Ava let me explain" He pleaded coming towards me. Holding up my hands I could already feel the tears rolling down my cheeks "You don't have to explain. I get it now please just leave me alone and go back to doing what you do best". Walking by him I walked through the front door and locked it behind me. Sliding down the door I couldn't hold in the sob that fell from my lips. Ignoring the pounding on the door and him calling my name I got to my feet and went straight to my bed.

I tossed and turned most of the night deciding at 4 am to get up and get some coffee. There was no point being in bed if I couldn't sleep. Picking up my phone from the kitchen table I turned it on and made my way into the livingroom. Getting comfortable it started ringing in my hand.

"It's 4 O'clock in the morning why the hell are you calling me?" I asked having no idea why I answered him.

"Why are you up?" He slurred. Great he was drunk just what I needed.

"You need to hang up the phone right now and go to sleep, you're drunk Blaze" Rolling my eyes I sighed wishing I hadn't picked up the phone.

"Let me in Ava".

Getting up from the sofa I went to the window and peeked out the blind. There he was sitting on my porch a bottle of Jack in his hand. Had he been out there all night? "Go home Blaze, you're drunk". I whispered not being able to take my eyes off him. What gives him the right to sit out there and get drunk? Is he expecting me to feel sorry for him? That wasn't happening.

"I'm not leaving until you- until you let me in" He hiccuped. Hanging up the phone I put it in my pyjama pocket and walked towards the door. Would I regret letting him in? I couldn't just leave him out there it was freezing at this time in the morning. Turning the lock I pulled open the door and went

back to the sofa. "You can sleep it off here but do not come near me" I said watching as he staggered through my front door and fell onto the single chair.

I couldn't sit here with him. I couldn't stand to be near him because I knew what ever excuse he'll come up with he'll find some way of making me believe him. He hurt me, he said he wanted to be with me but then he goes and dips it some where else. If he really wanted me he would have waited until I was ready like he said he would.

"You're still mine Ava" he smirked making my head snap up and my eyes to fall on his shut ones. "You'll always be mine darlin'." Laughing to himself he smacked his hand off the arm of the chair and opened his eyes "You'll always belong to me Ava, even you know that. She sucked my dick I did"..

"I slept with Cage" I lied he hurt me and I know it's pathetic but I wanted to hurt him. "He took me out and I gave him my"..

"Shut up" He roared standing from where he was sitting, he didn't look drunk anymore infact he looked completely sober.

"He took my vir"..

"I said shut the fuck up" He roared storming towards me and grabbing my face in his hand. "You fucking bitch, you fucking little bitch. You slept with that asshole Ava?".

Feeling the tears fall from my eyes I pushed his hand off me "Its not nice is it?" I cried standing from where I was sitting. "Huh" I snapped pushing on his chest "You fucking hurt me Blaze" Hitting his chest again I started pacing the room. How does he get to get mad at me but he expects me to be all smiles after finding out about him and that girl. I was done this time. I couldn't take it anymore, I was tired and fed up. I didn't want to argue or fight with him anymore. "I gave us a chance and you went behind my back. Even if you didn't sleep with her you still did something. You can sleep here tonight but I want you gone before I have to go to work" Not giving him another look I headed for the stairs. "I'm done" I whispered to myself not realising Blaze had heard.

"You must be Dr Mendez?" A guy around my age smiled standing with his hand out waiting for me to shake. His smile was contagious. Taking his hand in mine I shook it gently before letting it go "Yes and am I right to call you Dr Amaro?" I asked the smile not leaving my face.



Dr Amaro was hot.

"You are correct. Now I have all your paper work in my office, I was hoping today we could maybe just go over everything and then I'll give you a tour. Introduce you to some of the staff you'll be working with and then you can jump right in tomorrow. How does that sound?".

Anything for you Mr sexy eyes.

"Sounds perfect" I said

"Dr Bradley gave you some recommendation" He smiled sitting behind his desk "I understand you graduated at a young age?" He asked looking over what I presumed to be my file in front of him.

"I did but it was hard getting to where I am now. I worked my butt off but I wouldn't have it any other way. What can I say I love my job" I smiled not being able to take my eyes off his. Such beautiful eyes.

"Glad to hear it. Now I'm sure you are fantastic at what you do so I'm not going to sit here and bore you by going over things you'll know off by heart. I only have one rule here and every new start has to obey by it" He said giving me a serious look making the smile drop from my face. "You have to let me take you out tonight for a drink and no I'm not just asking because you're a very beautiful girl". He smirked putting my file into his drawers.

I could do that. What harm will it cause? I'm only have a drink with another member of staff.

"It's just a welcome to the crazy kind of drink" He said knocking me out of my thoughts "A few other members of staff will be there and it'll give you a chance to meet some of them".

"Sounds great. Where will I meet you guys?" I asked just as the door was pushed open "Sorry to interrupt Doctor but we have an emergency" A young stoot girl said giving me a wide grin "I'll meet you properly tonight Dr Mendez, Josh we have to go".

"See you tonight Ava. 7.30pm the black widow. I am really sorry about this but you know what it's like" He grinned standing up and shaking my hand "We'll have a better chat tonight" Letting go of my hand he sped out the door and down the hall way.

I think I was going to like it here and I hadn't even started yet, well not

properly. Grabbing my bag I pulled out my phone and car keys and headed throughout the hospital to the main door. Checking my phone I frowned when I saw a text from Blaze.

'Thanks for last night sweets. We need to talk'

'We don't' Hitting send I put my phone away and made my way to my car. We didn't need to talk about anything, we were done. There was nothing for us to talk about. We had decided to give us a chance and he ruined it before we even started. We could have had something good but I guess I'll never know now.

Hitting the unlock button I jumped in my car and made my way to the clubhouse. I was hoping and praying Blaze wasn't there. I didn't want to face him at the moment. Signalling right at the traffic I noticed the black harley 2 cars behind me. Ignoring it I put my foot on the gas and didn't stop until I was turning into the clubhouse. Why couldn't he take the hint and leave me alone? I didn't want to talk.

'We need to talk' He muttered parking his bike and taking his helmet off.

'We don't' I replied smoothing out my skirt and shutting the door behind me. "I said we need to talk" He growled grabbing onto my arm as I tried to walk past him. Pulling my arm out of his grip I glared at him "There's nothing to talk about" I snapped catching the attention of Jared and Hawk who were out front working on there bikes.

'You're hot as fuck when your angry' He smirked

'Well I must be smokin' because I'm fucking furious" I growled walking away from him and into the clubhouse. Why did I have to say that? I should have just ignored him thats one thing I know he hates. Now he'll know I'm bothered by what he did. "Tim wheres my dad?" I called noticing for once there was only a few strays hanging around the bar, then again it was only noon. "You're mom dragged him baby shopping" He laughed placing the clean glass back on the rack.

Baby shopping? God she sure has changed him

'Everyone out'

Rolling my eyes I felt my shoulders sag. Why wouldn't he give up? Watching them all finish there drinks they walked out one by one. Coping everyone else his voice stopped me "Not you darlin".

"You did say everyone" I smiled sweetly at him. "I told you there was nothing to talk about. Why can't you just leave me alone?" I asked gritting my teeth together. I really wanted to slap him, hard.

"There is always something to talk about and you did come here" He smirked leaning his elbows against the bar. Pursing my lips together I turned to face him. "I came here to talk to my mom. I didn't come here for you." Sighing I ran a hand over my face "Stop with the bullshit Blaze and listen. Whatever we had or didn't have I'm done with. You hurt me and I guess deep down I knew you would because lets face its in your nature. You can't keep it in your pants for five minutes. Once a biker always a biker and I don't blame you. It's my own fault for falling for you when I knew what I was getting into. I'm asking for one simple thing and that for you to just stop. Stop with the texts, stop following me around and please stop thinking you own me. Now if you excuse me I have somewhere I need to be".

After saying what I did I felt like a weight had been lifted of my shoulders. I really didn't blame him I just thought he might have been different. He never made me feel like he was just after sex, he never made me feel uncomfortable. He made me feel safe and I was grateful for that.

"I really am sorry sweets"

"Like I said I don't blame you".

Glancing at my reflection I was in two minds whether to change what I was wearing to something else. Soothing my hands over my black dress I bit my bottom lip. Was it to slutty? It did hug my figure but it didn't reveal more than it should but it did make my boobs look amazing. Stepping into my black wedged shoes I looked back into the mirror. My hair was placed over my left shoulder in soft curls and my make-up was light.

"Whatever you're thinking get it out of you're head. You look beautiful sweets".

Looking at him through the mirror I ignored the butterflies that burst in my stomach. How could he look that good in jeans and his cut? "I wasn't thinking anything" I said clearing my throat and picking up my clutch bag of the bed. It was only 7 so I still had plenty of time before I had to go. Well this was awkward, it had never been awkward between us before but he was just standing there not saying a word.

"I- I have to go" I whispered avoiding his eyes. I had never seen him like this before, he never showed emotion or his feelings, to me he looked broken. He was the strongest man I knew apart from my dad. I really didn't blame him for what he did, I couldn't. I didn't want him to be like this because of me but I also wasn't going to set myself up again to be knocked back down.

"Of course you do" He smiled moving slightly so I could get by but not without having to touch him. Being so close to him I took a deep breath inhaling his aftershave. Closing my eyes my teeth sunk into my bottom lip. "Don't" I croaked as his fingers trailed up and down my bare arm causing a shiver to run through my body.

"I really am sorry babe. It wasn't sup-"

"Please don't, I don't want to hear" I said moving away from him "I told you last night you didn't have to explain". Truth was I didn't want to hear it because I was afraid I would burst into tears and I didn't want to cry in front of him. "I have to go" I told him again before I made my way down the stairs. Going straight for the bottle of wine I had in the fridge I filled my glass back to the top. A few more wouldn't hurt before I go and with Blaze here I needed it.

Watching him walk to the fridge he pulled out a beer and leaned against the bunker tops. Why was he still here? "Yes Blaze you can have one" I said watching the smirk make its way onto his face. "Hair of the dog darlin'" he said raising the bottle to his mouth and almost finishing it. Why was I smiling? How did it feel like nothing had happened?

"How was your first day?" He asked not once taking his eyes off me. He was making me feel nervous and when I was nervous I said stupid things.

"I can't wait to start" I smiled "I have a really good feeling about it. I met the head doctor today and he seems lovely, tomorrow I should get my office and meet the rest of my staff. They seem like really nice people and-.. I'm rambling" I laughed forgetting how easy it was to talk to him. Feeling the blush take over my cheeks I buried my face in my glass.

"Ramble away darlin' I could listen to you all day" He said his eyes flicking over my body for the first time tonight.

Clearing my throat I finished of my wine and put my glass in the sink "I really have to go" I said checking the time on the wall clock. I'm sure they

wouldn't mind if I was a little late. "Need a lift?" He asked placing his bottle in the bucket by the backdoor.

I did..

"No it's fine I'll call a cab it-"

"You ain't riding in a cab dressed like that. Now the back of my bike, thats an image I won't ever get out of my head" He smirked wiggling his eyebrows up and down. Such a pervert... Rolling my eyes I looked at how short my dress was. I couldn't get on the back of a bike dressed like this- what the hell am I doing?

"Ava it's just a ride. Nothing else I will honour your word".

That changed everything.

"Unless you don't want your doctor friends seeing you being dropped of by a member of Devils Due?" He sneered his features turning cold.

"Have I ever gave a shit before? Fuck Blaze I'm pretty sure they know who my dad is" I said shaking my head at him. How could he ever think that?

"I'm not ashamed of my family Blaze".

" Well then let me give that fine ass of yours a ride" He grinned