

## Chapter 649 Is That Pathetic Fool Truly Worth Your...

At Milton's revelation that the Campbell family had officially thrown down the gauntlet against Blaze Wildfire, Elliana's gaze drifted to Cole behind the wheel, her mind reeling at the sheer absurdity of this mess.

Cole noticed her stare and started to turn, curiosity flickering in his eyes, when his phone shattered the silence with Paulina's ringtone.

Since Myles had been banished to Sundara, Paulina had emerged as Cole's indispensable right hand, delivering critical intelligence with unwavering precision.

Cole snatched up the phone. Without hesitation, he activated the speaker—no secrets between him and Lilah, he decided. Though their romance had ignited only recently, leaving them virtual strangers, something deep within him rebelled against hiding anything from her. Even if Paulina bore news that could destroy him, his instincts demanded complete transparency with the woman beside him.

The connection crackled to life, and Paulina's voice cut through the air with her report about the Campbell family's war declaration against Blaze Wildfire.

Elliana absorbed every word, her shock growing with each passing second. The declaration itself didn't shock her—but Cole's still remembering his organization Blaze Wildfire left her stunned. Last night, she had fumbled and dropped the ring that commanded Blaze Wildfire's loyalty in his very car. He had discovered it, returned it to her, and even demanded jealously whether some ex-lover had bestowed it upon her.

At that time, she had been baffled by his reaction. As Blaze Wildfire's supreme leader, shouldn't Cole have seized the ring the moment he found it in her possession? Why had he handed it back like some meaningless trinket? Wasn't he terrified that such a powerful artifact in a stranger's hands could spell his destruction?

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And this mysterious ex he'd mentioned—who did he imagine was her ex, and what brutal fate had Cole already sealed for this phantom rival?

While these thoughts churned through Elliana's mind, Cole finished absorbing Paulina's intelligence and responded with deadly calm, "I'll eliminate this threat personally. Stand down."

"Understood," Paulina replied.

Cole severed the connection and fixed Lilah with an intense stare. "You heard everything. I command Blaze Wildfire, and your father has suddenly declared me his enemy. Do you know why?"

Elliana knew exactly why. Her father had learned her identity as Death Thorn, recognizing Blaze Wildfire as her sworn nemesis. He was protecting his daughter the only way he knew how. But revealing this truth was impossible. Cole remained oblivious to her role as Thorn Rose's leader, and she couldn't simply confess to being his former adversary—any explanation would inevitably expose the name Elliana and unravel everything.

She shook her head with practiced innocence. "I have no idea."

Cole accepted her words without question and even offered comfort. "Don't torment yourself over this. I won't force you to choose sides. I'll talk to your father."

Elliana bit back laughter, maintaining her facade of ignorance as she nodded. "All right."

She expected Cole to mention the ring next, but he remained silent on the subject. After reassuring her, he concentrated on the road ahead, leaving the ring completely unaddressed.

Elliana studied his profile, confusion mounting. Why this deliberate silence about something so crucial? Did he assume she was oblivious to

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its devastating power? That seemed likely—otherwise, why leave such  
a weapon in her hands?

Just as this thought crystallized, Cole struck without warning. "Do you  
understand what that ring in your possession truly represents?"

Elliana's composure wavered, but she maintained the lie. "Not at all."

Cole's eyes found hers, a predatory smile ghosting across his lips. "That  
belongs to me. With that ring, you could bring Blaze Wildfire to its knees.  
Didn't Harry, that scoundrel, explain its significance when he gave it to  
you?"

Harry? Elliana's brow furrowed as she searched her memory, finding no  
trace of anyone by that name. One truth emerged clearly—Cole had  
convinced himself that Harry was her former lover and the ring's original  
bearer.

Still, she deduced that anyone possessing such an artifact would  
undoubtedly rank among Blaze Wildfire's inner circle, likely one of Cole's  
most trusted lieutenants. Cole had branded Harry as her ex-lover, and  
knowing Cole's possessive nature, what vengeance had he already  
unleashed? Had Harry joined Myles and Aron in exile to Sundara?

If so, unease crashed over Elliana like a crushing wave, stealing her voice  
entirely.

Her silence, however, triggered Cole's worst assumptions—he imagined  
her lost in romantic memories of Harry, and his expression transformed  
into something dark and dangerous. "What's this? Pining for your  
precious ex-lover?"

Before Elliana could formulate a response, he delivered his verdict with  
cold malice. "Harry has been cast into Sundara's wasteland. He will  
never return, never reclaim his throne as Blaze Wildfire's vice president. Is  
that pathetic fool truly worth your melancholy?"

The revelation hit her like a physical blow. She finally grasped Harry's  
true identity—Blaze Wildfire's vice president, now condemned to exile  
because Cole had mistaken him for her ex. Words abandoned her  
completely. She had unwittingly become the cause of Harry's downfall  
without even knowing his name.

Though she had never known the vice president of Blaze Wildfire was  
named Harry, she knew his reputation—unwavering loyalty and  
exceptional brilliance, a man who had elevated Blaze Wildfire to  
unprecedented heights. Because of one careless lie from her, this pillar  
of the organization had been torn down by Cole's jealous rage and



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banished to oblivion. What a catastrophic mess she had created!

Drowning in self-reproach, Elliana touched her nose nervously and  
manufactured a weak smile.

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