

## Chapter 201 - Divorced Heiress

"Sarah! Please, don't do this to me, wake up."

I heard Abby's distant and desperate voice speaking near me, while she shook me by the shoulder. "I swear I won't make reservations without consulting you again, but open your eyes, I beg you, Sari. Julian, don't just stand there, help me, I don't know what to do!"

"But, what happened to her?" Julian sounded worried and no matter how much I tried to open my eyes to let them know I was fine, it was almost impossible, my eyelids felt heavy as well as my body, I couldn't move a single muscle no matter how much I wanted to.

"She was very sleepy and fell asleep at her desk. Please, Julian! Can't you see she fainted?" Abby was so upset that she couldn't moderate her voice tone, which suddenly started to overwhelm me.

It took me longer than it should have to open my eyes, finding Abby's tear-soaked face and a Julian who approached with a bottle of alcohol in his hand, which I suppose he must have taken from the first aid kit hanging on the office wall.

"Yes, Sarah, it's me, your best friend. Do you remember me?" Abby brought her face close to mine to talk to me as if I couldn't hear her, and I furrowed my brow as I touched my head, which hadn't stopped hurting, but at least the pain wasn't as intense as it was before everything turned dark.

"She's waking up, Julian. Give me the alcohol to smell."

Before Julian even handed the jar to Abby, I slowly lifted my head from the desk and rubbed my forehead with closed eyes, as if that way I could make the pain disappear.

"Sarah, are you feeling okay?"

Julian's question made me open my eyes and look at the concern that didn't fade from their faces, even though I had already regained my composure.

Apart from the headache, I felt fine, it was nothing out of the ordinary.

"Are you seriously asking that? Of course she's not feeling well, in fact, we should take her to the clinic. Get your car ready, we're leaving right away." Abby replied without giving me time to even open my mouth to let them know that it was just a simple pain that they didn't need to worry about.

Julian, on the other hand, didn't know whether to listen to Abby or come closer to me, but with a warning look from me, he stayed still in his place.

"Abby!" I shouted her name to shut her up once and for all, and I succeeded, her head remained motionless as her eyes looked at me wider than usual. I definitely didn't expect at all to address her in that way, but there was no other way for her to stop worrying about something insignificant.

"I'm fine, don't worry."

Abby looked at me as if she didn't believe a single word and crossed her arms with a mix of disgust and concern on her face.

"Sarah, what happened to you? Do you need something? Do you feel better?"

Julian approached me concernedly after a few seconds in which he decided to ignore my friend, passing by Abby's side, he offered me a water bottle, which I drank until leaving it half full.

I cleared my throat once I felt hydrated enough and thanked him for the nice gesture with a slight smile before speaking, anticipating another interruption from Abby.

"I'm fine, I just got dizzy, maybe my blood pressure dropped, it was just a fainting spell..." I left the word hanging in the air when I realized that I had already experienced that before. I looked at Abby unable to hide my impression for the slight suspicion that crossed my mind and she looked at me in the same way as if she had thought the same thing as me, as if we were connected.

"Well, if you say you're fine, I believe you." Julian spoke without realizing the mental mess that my friend and I were having, I was so absorbed in my thoughts while holding Abby's surprised gaze that I didn't even make the slightest movement when he took the brochure that was on my desk.

"A cruise for two, interesting. A girls' trip is what you need to clear your mind from so much stress."

Abby was the first to break eye contact and shook her head as if she were coming to her senses, her gaze stopped at Julian's hand that still held the brochure and she approached him to give him a tap on the back of his hand, only with the sound of the impact was I able to react realizing the seriousness of the matter, I couldn't stay with that uncertainty all day.

"Don't touch, it's not a girls' trip, it's a trip for Sarah and Alexander, but I'm afraid it will have to be postponed, right Sari?"

Abby took the brochure out of his hand and left it where it was, before giving me a complicit look, she knew exactly what she was referring to and it wasn't exactly the request I made before losing consciousness. Julian, upon hearing my friend's explanation, looked at me with slightly

open lips in surprise, as if he was waiting for me to say something about it, but I had nothing to say, nor did I feel capable of uttering a word.

"Sarah, dear friend, I still insist that we should visit the clinic, do you agree?" Abby spoke to me in a soft voice and I knew she used that tone of voice to make me understand that we weren't going to the clinic exactly because of the fainting spell.

Unable to fully process what was happening, I slowly stood up from my chair while nodding my head in response, unable to speak, because apparently, all the words had gotten stuck in my throat.

"I'll start my car, I'll take you there." Julian offered after clearing his throat and erasing the surprised expression from his face with a serious demeanor, as he turned around to leave the office.

"No!" Exclaimed Abby and I simultaneously, causing Julian to stop in his tracks and look at us with a puzzled frown. Clearly, he was confused.

Of course, I wasn't going to let him accompany us.

"Julian, you don't have to worry. Look, Sarah is in perfect condition, we're just going for a check-up. I'll take her in my car, it's not necessary for you to come. You can stay." Abby made her best effort to sound nonchalant, and it seemed to work, although Julian appeared even more confused by Abby's sudden change of opinion. Just moments ago, she was desperate, asking him to prepare the car, and now she was telling him not to worry.

"Julian, my parents are at the workshop with Zafiro, could you take care of them while I'm gone? I promise we won't be gone for long."

I had no choice but to intervene so that Julian would stop looking at Abby strangely, and only then did he agree without further insisting or getting involved in the matter that was starting to scare me.

"Alright, if you need any help, don't hesitate to call me. Be careful." I nodded with a forced friendly smile and approached him, placing my hand on his shoulder as a gesture of gratitude for his understanding. Then I continued on my way to the exit, holding onto Abby's arm.

When I left the office, my heart began to beat fast as I became aware of what I was about to do. I looked at Abby, nerves bubbling in my system, as we entered the elevator. She let out a sigh before uttering the words that I couldn't even begin to imagine.

"That pregnancy test will help us put our doubts to rest."

Chapter 123 Pregnancy.

## Chapter 202 - Divorced Heiress

My heel struck incessantly against the shiny floor of the waiting room. It was impossible for me to control the nerves that ran through me from head to toe, and Abby's laughter caused by the messages she was receiving from Vincent didn't help me at all.

At least one of us was having a great time.

The wait for the results seemed eternal. Time seemed to pass slower than ever before. I couldn't stop looking at the time on my wristwatch every minute that went by, and the feeling of desperation started to rise in my chest.

The situation I found myself in was as unexpected as Alexander's call coming in on my phone at this very moment.

My heart skipped a beat, and I couldn't control the trembling in my hand, causing the phone to fall to the ground and catching the attention of the nurse who had been watching me with raised eyebrows since I sat down. Abby next to me picked up the phone while looking at me as if I were the clumsiest person on earth.

"Are you nervous?" She asked with evident irony. And when she saw the name of the person who was calling my phone, she widened her eyes and let go of the phone, letting it hit the immaculate floor of the waiting room for the second time.

The nurse cleared her throat as if her patience had ended, and Abby could only give her a nervous smile while picking up the phone from the floor.

"Sorry, I have butterfingers." Abby apologized before turning her gaze back to my face with eyes wider than usual and swallowing nervously.

"You have to answer."

"Will he have found out?" I asked nervously, taking the still ringing phone, and Abby stood up with her hand on her hip.

"Impossible, no one knows we're here. There's no way he could know. Just answer, woman. Answer, answer."

I nodded my head, agreeing with her, and took a breath before answering the call, with my eyes fixed on Abby's anxious face.

"Alexander..." I could barely say his name when he immediately spoke, interrupting whatever was about to come out of my mouth.

"Are you okay? Why didn't you tell me you fainted? Right now I'm on my way to the clinic with Vincent. I left Tristan with your parents, but tell me, are you okay?"

I opened my eyes in surprise and didn't know what to answer. I didn't want him to find out that I might be expecting our second child. I couldn't even process that information myself.

Of course, I wasn't going to be at the clinic. Abby brought me directly to a private laboratory and bribed the necessary people to deliver the results today. And as if that wasn't enough for her, she also wanted to take a pregnancy test to have a big smile on her face knowing that one test would come out negative and it wouldn't be mine, precisely.

It was a fact. Everything indicated that I was in a sweet waiting period for the second time because I hadn't realized my slight delay until I was asked about the date of my last period. I just needed that piece of paper to confirm it.

"Don't go to the clinic!" was the first thing that came out of my mouth, and Abby put her hands on her head as if on the verge of a breakdown. I quickly took a breath when I realized how desperate I sounded.

"I mean, we're not at the clinic, we don't have a reason to go. I'm fine, you don't have to worry."

I made my biggest effort to sound normal, but I wasn't sure if I had succeeded.

"But, Julian said that you..."

I rolled my eyes upon hearing that name. Now I understood how he found out, so I quickly interrupted him.

"I'm fine, Alexander. Julian was just worried, it's normal," I said calmly, making my last attempt to calm him down, and it seemed like I succeeded because there was no response from him for a few seconds. During that time, I looked serenely at Abby so she knew that everything was under control. She bit her thumbnail as if expecting the worst.

"You have no idea how worried you've had me. I thought..."

Alexander was interrupted for the second time, but this time it wasn't because of me, but because of the nurse's voice that had been nearby the whole time, looking at us with a disapproving face.

"Sarah Doinel, Abby Dubois, your results are ready."

Abby and I immediately looked at the nurse who handed us a pair of paper envelopes, and the nerves returned to my body with greater intensity, both because of the result that was just a few meters away from me, and because of the man who remained silent on the other end of the line.

My body didn't even react, I wasn't sure whether to get up from my seat and receive the envelope in complete silence, without uttering a word and silently praying that Alexander had managed to hear the nurse.

But his silence said it all.

Inopportune nurse.

"Results? What results? Sarah, you said you weren't at the clinic."

Upon hearing Alexander's concerned and somewhat angry voice, I could only think of ending the call, leaving him with the words on his lips.

I ran my hand through the lock of hair falling over my forehead in a failed attempt to calm my nerves, while still observing the unfriendly face of the nurse who continued to extend her hand.

"She couldn't have found a better time, fantastic."

I could barely hear my friend's frustrated mumble before she approached the nurse with a fake smile on her face, and I immediately got up from my seat, but I couldn't even take a single step.

"Thank you very much, you're very kind, they were ready in record time, at the exact moment."

Abby's sarcasm was more than evident as she took the envelopes between her fingers, not hiding her annoyance. The woman seemed indifferent to Abby's attitude, as she simply turned around and went back to her desk in complete silence to continue her work.

"I can't believe it, aside from her intrusion, she ignores me. What kind of rude people work in this place? Did you notice? She did it on purpose. You know what, I won't waste my precious time talking about that rude woman, it's time to see what's written on that paper. Open it, open it."

My friend returned to my side, still expressing her displeasure about that woman, while looking at me with a mix of anguish and fear. She had a slight suspicion that Alexander had heard everything, but that wasn't the most important thing now, it was the envelope with the results of my pregnancy test.

Suddenly, I felt overwhelmed by the fact that I just had to open the envelope to confirm my suspicions, so I sat back down when Abby handed me the envelope with my name on it and gave me a reassuring half-smile. It was her way of letting me know that she was there supporting me.

I was mentally prepared to see Abby's huge smile when she saw her results and compare them to mine.

"Well, I waited a long time for this and I don't plan on waiting a second longer." I said determinedly, momentarily forgetting about Alexander's call that had left me uneasy.

I fixated my gaze on my name written on the envelope and my hands acted on their own, opening the envelope with trembling hands at the same time as Abby, and I carefully read the contents.

My brow furrowed as I read the only word that mattered to me, and I didn't know how to feel or react. The truth was, I felt a mix of emptiness and relief at the same time.

I looked at Abby with a smile on my face, expecting to receive the same gesture from her, but I soon realized that her reaction wasn't what I expected. She had her eyes fixed on the paper, and a few tears suddenly appeared.

"I'm not pregnant, God, it's a relief to know that. I was almost certain..." I left the sentence unfinished when I looked at Abby with a smile on my face, expecting to receive the same gesture from her, but I soon realized that her reaction wasn't what I expected. She had her eyes fixed on the paper, and a few tears suddenly appeared.

"Abby, are you okay?" I stood up alarmed from my seat to reach her, who was still standing, not moving a single muscle, not even blinking, and that began to scare me.

"Abby, you said you were going to smile from ear to ear, if I had known you were going to be moved by a negative result, I wouldn't have let you continue with your game."

As if I had said something wrong, Abby looked at me as if she was holding back tears, and her hands began to tremble as she still held the paper.

She didn't even need to say a word for me to understand what was happening, and my astonishment was huge.

"I... I'm..." Abby spoke clumsily, it seemed like she couldn't even say it out loud, and she handed me her shaking paper. I didn't bother to read it entirely, my gaze immediately traveled to the spot where there should have been a negative, just like in my result, however, what I found was completely the opposite.

"I'm expecting Vincent's child."

Abby is pregnant.

Chapter 124 Exemplary mother.

## Chapter 203 - Divorced Heiress

Abby's hands trembled slightly on the table and she couldn't even take a sip of her steaming chamomile tea. I kept silent, afraid that any word I said would make her burst into tears. It was evident that she was holding back the urge to cry, I could see it in her glassy eyes and her gaze lost in any corner of the cafeteria, the same one she used to visit with her father when she was a little girl.

Seeing her like that made my heart ache, in front of me was not the same cheerful and witty Abby as always, the one who spoke without stopping about whatever was on her mind.

No. This Abby was the complete opposite of who she used to be.

The news of her pregnancy had affected her greatly, and I didn't know what to do or say to make her see that it wasn't as bad as she thought. Abby was drowning in a glass of water.

I took a sip of my cappuccino and took a deep breath, determined to make her see reason, to show her the positive side of the situation.

"Abby..." I started to say, but she cut me off without the slightest intention of listening, we knew each other so well that words were not necessary to understand what was going on in each other's minds.

This time was no exception, she knew what I was going to say, and I knew that with just one word coming out of my mouth, she would let out the tears that had accumulated in her eyes.

As soon as she finished speaking, she lowered her head so that no one could see her cry, I was the only one witnessing her silent sobs, and I didn't care about what she had just said, in one way or another, I would make her see that she was wrong, and that this was great news.

Abby was going to become a mother.

"Do you remember when I told you I was pregnant?" I asked directly, getting her attention. I wasn't lying when I said that I would make her change her mind, even if I had to remember that miserable moment, the one I went through because of Paul's lies and obsession.

"Do you remember the situation I was going through back then?" She asked, her tears stopped and she stared into my eyes, her eyes filled with water. Without bothering to wipe her damp cheeks, she looked at me as if she was remembering every detail of that day in my room, when I saw her again after so many years apart.

In a way, I remembered it with her.

Flashback

"I'm pregnant." I blurted out directly, without beating around the bush, and she stopped searching for my dress for tonight.



Her gaze showed surprise. Yes, she was very surprised, so much so that she had to sit down on the bed and fan her face in a dramatic way, worthy of the drama queen.

"It can't be, is that why you're here? He didn't want it?" She asked with a mix of worry and anger on her face, alternating her gaze between my face and my belly covered with a bathrobe.

I thought that if it had been like that, it wouldn't be as tragic as the real reason, but the truth is, he didn't even know that I was pregnant.

"He cheated on me with my friend." I informed her of the real reason, so she wouldn't jump to her own conclusions, and her face completely fell apart.

I sat beside her and told her about the tragic moment when I found Alexander with Rachel just when I was about to tell him the news that he was going to be a father. I also updated her on the dealings of his family and some of his friends who didn't really like me.

Abby kept cursing and insulting the Lancaster family, the friends, and especially Rachel, who eventually revealed her false friendship.

"You know what? This shows that you are stronger than anyone could imagine. If I were in your place, I would be dying, no! I would be seeking revenge. But look at you, cool as a cucumber, with all the attitude, that's my friend. Even more so, that bastard doesn't deserve a woman like you,

and that bitch, ha! What kind of friend did you get? She doesn't have an ounce of dignity, that bitch. Karma will take care of them, you just sit back and watch as they pay for it."

End of the flashback.

I looked closely at Abby, who shook her head and looked away towards the view from the window beside us.

"I'm not as strong as you, Sarah." Abby said after a few seconds of silence. She wiped the moisture from her cheeks, but it was in vain, as more tears escaped from her eyes uncontrollably.

"Don't you realize? Just because your situation was tragic doesn't mean mine isn't, starting with the fact that I'm just starting a relationship with your cousin. Do you think the master of contract sex is ready to be a father? God! I bet he's never even considered the possibility of being a dad someday in his entire life. Secondly, my family is in prison, and not for stealing a candy. What will I tell my child when he asks about his grandmother or his uncle? What answer can I give him? That his grandmother was obsessed with Leonardo Doinel and that his uncle was obsessed with you, which led them to commit more than one crime, endangering the Doinel family's lives. And third, but no less important... Sarah, I won't be an exemplary mother, I am not prepared to bring a child into the world. In case you didn't know me, I'm Abby Dubois, the woman who doesn't just lack a screw but the entire hardware store, nice to meet you."

Abby poured out her emotions, expressing the reasons that had her overthinking and considering herself as a bad mother for the baby growing in her womb.

"Abby, forget about what other people might think or what your child will ask you in the future. No one is prepared to be a mother, there is no manual for being an exemplary mother. But when you hold your baby in your arms, you will know how to give them the love they deserve. I'm telling you this as a woman who had everything against her and still made sure Tristan received all the love he deserved, even though he grew up without his father. You just need to answer one question, and don't answer me, answer yourself, without thinking about anyone else but yourself, what does your inner self dictate? What does your soul say? Doesn't the idea excite you even a little?"

I insisted once again, and it seemed like my words touched the most sensitive part of her being, as her gaze lingered on my face longer than it should have been, as if she was contemplating the right answer to my question.

I immediately knew that she had answered herself when the corners of her lips curved slightly, with an almost non-existent smile. I knew my goal had been achieved, Abby was putting aside what people might say and focusing only on what she wanted.

"And now what do I do? What do I have to do? Do you think I should tell Vincent right away?" She asked after a few minutes of silence, enough time for her face to light up with her own glow, and her nervous smile became more noticeable.

A genuine smile appeared on my face, glad to see that she was starting to accept it.

"No. The first thing you're going to do is go to your first prenatal appointment, that way we'll know if everything is in order, and once you're sure, you'll tell him. And while we're at it, I'll get a check-up too, my symptoms are not normal. I was almost sure I was pregnant." I confessed, furrowing my brow, making an effort not to think that something was wrong with me, as a delay was not something to be taken lightly. I have never had an irregular cycle.

"First appointment, making sure everything is going well, breaking the news to Vincent. Understood." Abby enumerated each step with her fingers as if she was storing them in her memory, and nodded confidently.

"Okay, you'll accompany me to my first check-up, I'll schedule an appointment for tomorrow morning." She said, more motivated than before, taking out her phone and typing on the screen, while taking the first sip of her tea. I simply nodded my head in response to her request.

"Everything is ready then. So, we have nothing to do here. I'll finish my tea, and we can go back to L&J before Alexander causes a scandal throughout the city for your disappearance."

## Chapter 204 - Divorced Heiress

My eyes widened in surprise, and the smile disappeared from my face as I remembered that little detail. With Abby going through her crisis, I had completely forgotten about Alexander.

I knew Alexander must be causing a commotion. I was certain that he was in a bad mood due to the worry of not knowing where I was after finding out that I had fainted at the company. At this point, he had probably already worried my parents.

However, I didn't want to give it much importance. I took my time to enjoy a pleasant moment with my friend, not remembering the last time I freed my mind from all the responsibilities that I had recently been burdened with. Upon returning to L&J, we came face-to-face with Julian who was leaving his office with some documents in his hands and Abby looked at him with narrowed eyes, as if she was throwing daggers with her gaze while accusingly pointing her index finger at him.

"You! You're a gossip!" Abby approached him immediately, and Julian abruptly stopped when he saw us walking towards him, his gaze filled with concern mixed with fear at seeing Abby like a panther ready to attack.

"Abby, Sarah, we were so worried. Sarah, is everything okay? Are you alright?" Julian decided to ignore Abby's threat and spoke directly to me with evident concern. Although I was annoyed that Julian had told everyone about my fainting spell, I wouldn't take the same attitude as my crazy friend. At least I understood that he did it because he cared about my health.

I opened my mouth to speak, but closed it again when Abby spoke for me, evidently angry.

"Can't you see she's fine? Do you see any missing limbs? Of course she's perfectly fine! But you decided to stir things up, worrying Alexander and half the world. You always exaggerate everything!" Abby continued to scold him, moderating her tone of voice. She didn't shout because that would attract attention from everyone, and we weren't in the right moment or place for that. She knew her limits.

"Abby, it's okay, leave it. He didn't do it with ill intentions, he was worried about me, it's normal." I spoke calmly in an attempt to calm her down, but she looked at me as if I was now against her.

Julian looked embarrassed by Abby's complaints, and in his gaze, I could tell he was questioning whether it was right to inform everyone about my fainting spell. If I were in his place, I would have done the same.

"Worried, worried. Well, stop worrying, she's fine. Want a reason to worry? I'll give it to you! I'm pregnant!" When Abby exclaimed, everything seemed to freeze before my eyes.

Julian stood motionless, looking with surprise at Abby who was blushing, who seemed like she was about to explode with anger. Yes, it was evident that she was very angry with Julian and couldn't control her emotions after finding out about her pregnancy, but it seemed like she was unloading everything she had inside on the poor guy in front of us.

Suddenly, Abby's body tensed and she froze upon hearing a very familiar voice behind us.

"You're pregnant?" Vincent's cold voice chilled me to the bone. This was not the way he should find out. Honestly, I wouldn't want to be in Abby's shoes, but it was her own fault for not being able to keep her mouth shut or control her emotions.

"Abby, answer."

Abby couldn't even turn around to face him, she stood still, wide-eyed, staring at Julian as if she was telepathically asking him to save her. However, there was nothing to be done, Vincent would find out anyway, and Abby had to face the situation.

"Sarah, can we talk in your office?" Julian spoke first, far from saving Abby, he was pushing her to sort out her mess, and that was the wisest thing he could do.

"Abby, I'll be in my office, you need to talk to Vincent." I said, looking at her completely pale face, I couldn't bring myself to look at my cousin.

"This was supposed to be the final step, you can't do this to me, Sarah, I'm going to panic." Abby whispered with evident terror in her voice, and her eyes began to well up again. I took her hand to caress it with my thumb, as a sign that everything would be fine.

"Forget the steps, there's nothing left to do but tell him everything. You can do it. I'll be in my office if you need me." I whispered back, and she tightly held onto my hand, as if she had no intention of letting me go, but I looked at her with a warning glance, and she let go.

I gave her a smile, showing her my full support, and walked towards my office accompanied by Julian, leaving her alone with Vincent in the middle of the hallway.

I let out a tired sigh as I entered my office and closed the door behind Julian. I had taken the day off to be with my parents, but I was as exhausted as if I had been working as I usually did.

"Now I understand Abby's temperament, for a moment I wanted to disappear from the face of the earth with everything she told me, and I ask you to forgive me, I was very worried about you and then Alexander arrived unexpectedly with Tristan, they were asking about you to the point that your parents were concerned and I thought it was appropriate for him to know the truth, I'm really sorry." Julian explained his reasons, while his remorse and embarrassment were evident on his face for everything.

"It's okay, Julian, I'm not upset with you, Abby exaggerated a little. Was that what you wanted to talk about? Or did you use that pretext to leave Abby alone with Vincent?" I asked as I reached my seat, letting my body drop, which was beginning to tense up due to recent events.

Julian sighed and sat in the chair in front of me, placing the documents he had with him on the desk.

"Actually, there is something I want to talk to you about." He said after a few seconds in which he sought comfort in his seat and although he tried to hide it, I could tell the nervousness in his fingers drumming uncontrollably on the desk.

I intertwined my fingers on the desk, carefully observing Julian, waiting for whatever he was about to say, which, to be honest, I had no idea what it was.

"Is something happening with L&J or the collaboration? If it's about your royalties, you no longer need to give up your share, with the money from Paul's accounts being returned, Doinel is going to recover in a snap, it's just a matter of time for the investments to get back on track. Besides..."

"Sarah, I'm not going to talk to you about business or money." Julian interrupted me, in the middle of my clarification on that topic that I assumed he was going to talk about, but clearly, I was mistaken. I remained silent, waiting for Julian to let out what was clearly difficult for him, and after taking a deep breath, he said the least expected words.

"Sarah, I'm in love with you."

Chapter 125 Misunderstanding.

## Chapter 205 - Divorced Heiress

My expression full of curiosity was replaced by a furrowed brow upon hearing Julian's words. I remained silent for a moment, hoping he would say it was a joke. It was impossible for me to believe he was being serious, especially now when the problems seemed to have ended. I didn't need another problem, especially not coming from him.

Nevertheless, his face devoid of any hint of amusement told me he was very serious, especially when he picked up the cruise brochure that was on the desk and played with it, turning it over with his fingers.

"Julian, stop joking around, that's impossible" were the first words to leave my mouth. I held onto the hope that he was not being serious, and that maybe he said it to ease the tension from a few minutes ago, although he had achieved the exact opposite.

Julian let go of the brochure in his hands onto the desk, with a faint smile on his face, and locked his gaze onto mine with an expression of embarrassment.

"Sarah, I'm not joking. I'm being very sincere with you. I know you didn't see it coming, but it's the reality. I've been infatuated with you since the first moment I saw you in New York, and I didn't give it much thought because I thought it would be a passing fancy, but I was wrong." Julian confessed, never breaking eye contact with my face, and his fingers lightly brushed against the brochure.

Of course, I didn't see it coming; I didn't expect Julian to tell me such a thing at this point. The last thing I wanted was to deal with another situation similar to Paul's.

"If I'm expressing my feelings right now, it's not because I want you to change your plans, or make you doubt and do something for me. I just want you to know that, in my eyes, you are a woman of great value and you don't deserve any of the tragedy you've experienced. I don't want you to think that I'm going to do something to fight for your love, because I know your heart belongs to someone else, and I won't interfere in your reconciliation with Alexander. I don't want to be the cause of any more complications in your life. I see you're very happy, and that's enough for me." He clarified, leaving me with a blank mind. I was completely confused, not knowing where this was leading. As sincere as he looked, I didn't fully trust his words.

"What do you want, Julian? Do you expect me to believe that you won't be an obstacle in my love life and then unexpectedly hit me, just like Paul did? Please." I spoke defensively, comparing him to that scum I didn't want to remember, but it was unavoidable that his name was mentioned in the conversation.

"No, of course not! That's not my intention. Don't compare me to a criminal just because I'm telling you how I feel. I don't want to harm you or anything like that. I want you to understand one thing, Sarah, and I won't talk about this anymore. I just want to be honest with you. I couldn't hide it any longer, but that doesn't mean I'll be an obstacle in your love life, nor will I prevent you from... You know who I am, where I come from, and what my goals are. That's why I prefer to step aside. I will withdraw without even entering your life, but you can count on me unconditionally. I'm not a villain, I'm just Julian, your partner and friend." Julian expressed everything he had hidden, remaining calm despite being directly accused.

I didn't know what to think of his words. I wasn't sure whether to believe him, even though he seemed sincere and confident in what he said.

"I just hope this doesn't affect our friendship or our business. From my side, everything remains the same. Trust my word."

Julian got up from his seat, grabbing his documents. After releasing a heavy sigh, as if he had relieved himself of a burden, I suddenly felt a weight on my back. I would have preferred if he had kept it to himself, but I understood that it may have been difficult for him to remain silent about his feelings.

"I appreciate your honesty, and although it's difficult for me, I will trust that you would rather keep our friendship." I said from my seat before he left the office without giving me a chance to respond.

"That's what I want. It's time for you to be happy, and what better way than with the father of your child, forming the family that it should have been from the beginning. So, friends?" He asked, extending his hand. I looked at it hesitantly for a few seconds, but something inside me told me that Julian was being honest, and that brought me some relief.

"Friends." I replied, shaking his warm hand, closing that tense and worrying topic completely.

"Thank you for your understanding, you have always been so kind." He said when I let go of his hand, which strangely didn't bother me after everything that came out of his mouth, and with a smile, he added.

"I'll go back to work. Don't forget that you can count on me for anything you need."

I nodded, not intending to say anything else, and under my watchful gaze, he walked towards the office door, which opened before his hand even reached it, revealing Alexander's flushed face.

My body tensed immediately, at the same time that I felt my face pale, and I stood up from my seat as nerves began to bubble up in my system, because the first thought that crossed my mind was that he had heard the entire conversation with Julian, who stood frozen in his place upon seeing Alexander and their eyes met for a few seconds, during which I felt that my legs were going to give out at any moment.

The next thing I thought was that it had all been planned by Julian, and he had achieved his goal.

"Oh my God, Sarah, do you know how worried I've been all day for you?"

My body instantly relaxed when Alex said that and I let out a disguised sigh, while watching Julian's body unwind as if he too had been startled at the thought that Alexander possibly found out everything.

Chapter 125 Misunderstanding part 2

## Chapter 206 - Divorced Heiress

Alexander made his way into the office to my side, and although I was certain that he hadn't heard a word of the conversation with Julian, my legs didn't want to respond, it seemed like my feet were glued to the floor.



"I'm sorry, I..." I left the word hanging in the air when he wrapped his arms around me as if he hadn't seen me in years, and I didn't feel able to return his embrace.

"If it wasn't for Mr. Ferrer, I would have never found out that something was wrong with you, how do you feel? Are you okay? You look pale." Alexander separated from me just a little to examine my face, and with just the mention of Julian, my gaze shifted to the man who remained standing a few meters away, and when our eyes met, he seemed to react.

"I'll leave you alone, with your permission." Julian said as he reached for the door to close it after leaving, but before he disappeared from my view, Alexander spoke to him.

"Mr. Ferrer, thank you." Alexander thanked him, and I knew it wasn't for leaving us alone, but for having informed him about my health. Julian gave a slight half-smile and nodded his head.

"You're welcome." It was the last thing he said before he lowered his gaze to the floor and disappeared from my sight as he closed the office door, leaving me alone with Alexander.

It was inevitable to feel a discomfort in my chest thinking about how difficult that situation must be for Julian, but there was nothing I could do about it.

"Tell me, are you okay? Why didn't you get in touch with me? What tests did you take? What's wrong with you?" Alexander bombarded me with questions, erasing any thought that was related to Julian, and I turned my gaze back to his face that looked worried and somewhat angry.

Considering that I wasn't sure what had caused my fainting spell, I had no choice but to tell the truth.

"I'm sorry, I'm fine, I feel fine. The results were from a pregnancy test I took with..."

"Are you pregnant?" Alexander didn't even let me finish speaking, when he asked with an illuminated face and a smile appeared on his face.

"You're pregnant, you're expecting my second child."

Unable to control his emotions, he lifted me in his arms and spun me around in the air, then he pressed his lips to mine, holding me by the waist.

"I can't believe it, Sarah, it's the best news you could give me, this time I won't miss a single moment of the pregnancy, I want to experience this stage like I couldn't with Tristan."

Alexander didn't even let me speak and although his reaction seemed incredibly endearing to me, I had to take a step back to clarify the misunderstanding before he shouted it to the four winds as if I really were pregnant.



"Alexander, I'm not pregnant." I said bluntly and immediately, the smile vanished from Alexander's face, who now looked at me without that twinkle in his eyes that he had a few seconds ago, my heart sank seeing him in that way, as if I had taken away his joy.

"Don't play with me, Sarah, come on, you took a pregnancy test and..." He couldn't even finish speaking, his shoulders slumped as if he had lost all strength, and I could see a hint of sadness in his honey-colored eyes.

"It came out negative." He replied to himself, realizing that I was serious, and I nodded my head.

"Oh." He said.

"I'm not pregnant, but Abby is." I informed him, as if that would bring back the excitement. But he hardly seemed surprised, I didn't know what else to say to lift his spirits. Even though the misunderstanding was his fault, if only he had let me speak.

"Now I understand the yelling in Vincent's office, I'll wait for them to finish arguing to congratulate the future mother."

I opened my eyes in surprise when he said that, and I wanted to run out of my office to make sure everything was okay with Abby. But Alex pulled my waist, pulling me closer to his body, and raised his hand to my face, exposing the brochure that had been sitting on my desk all this time.

"A cruise?"

I couldn't hide the astonishment on my face. He wasn't supposed to find out, especially now that I didn't even have a set date for the cruise. It was supposed to be a surprise. But with the whole Julian situation, I had completely forgotten that the brochure was visible to anyone.

"Give me that." I said, taking the brochure from his hand before he could read it in detail. He looked at me with a raised eyebrow, as if he was waiting for me to tell him about the cruise.

"Setting aside my disappointment with a negative pregnancy test, I would like to know more about that cruise. Are you planning on running away from me? Because if so, I can make you change your mind." He said almost in a whisper.

His gaze traveled all over my face until it stopped at my lips, which opened slightly when he grabbed my thighs and lifted me enough so that my legs wrapped around his waist. In the next second, he placed me on the desk and his lips met mine without any care.

For a moment, I forgot about the outside world and focused only on the softness of his lips moving against mine, the way his hands roamed my back up and down before resting on my legs, pulling them towards him so that my body could feel the pleasurable sensation of his, which was beginning to harden between my legs as seconds passed. Lost in a kiss that was growing in intensity, I felt like I was floating on a cloud with the exquisite masculine aroma of my man.

"Sari." Abby's voice brought me back to reality, and I opened my eyes at the same time I pulled away from Alexander's lips. Stepping down from the desk quickly, I turned to see my friend, who had wet cheeks and tear-filled eyes.

"Find a motel!"

"Abby, what happened?" I asked, worried. I was about to approach her so she could tell me what happened with Vincent when Alexander took me by the waist, pressing my back against his body, and I immediately understood that he was covering his erection. But he pretended as if he was hugging me from behind.

"Abby, congratulations, I heard about your pregnancy." Alexander spoke casually, as if he wasn't hugging me to hide the bulge in his pants. Suddenly, Abby stood frozen for a second, and in the next, she was sobbing as if I had said the most hurtful words to her.

Seeing her in that state, I knew something was wrong. And without caring that he was using my body to cover himself, I moved away from Alexander and ran to my friend, who needed me now more than ever.

I closed the door behind her and guided her to the sofa so she could sit down and let out what was affecting her so much. Although she didn't need to tell me, I already suspected what had happened in Vincent's office.

I let Abby cry on my shoulder as much as she wanted, while I silently stroked her hair, waiting for her to calm down a bit. I looked at Alexander, who was sitting in my chair with his hands covering his crotch, watching the scene with concern but without any intention of getting closer.

Abby's sobs diminished little by little, although her tears continued to escape from her eyes uncontrollably, wetting the shoulder of my dress. But I didn't care about anything else except for my friend to let it all out, to cry as much as she could.

I understood that the news of her pregnancy had taken her by surprise, and I had only been able to convince her to change her mind about motherhood. Then, between sobs, she took a deep breath as she pulled away from my shoulder and wiped her tears, which were quickly replaced by others. Finally, she was able to speak with a broken voice.

"Vin... that idiot doesn't want to have children."

Chapter 126 Private cruise.

## Chapter 207 - Divorced Heiress

The woman in front of my eyes was not even a shadow of the shattered Abby, who cried inconsolably on my shoulder and insulted Vincent and cursed him without having anything left inside her yesterday. No. Today her eyes had a special sparkle, while her ear-to-ear smile was capable of infecting anyone.

Silently, with a slight smile on my face, I admired her for a few seconds as she excitedly talked about her pregnancy, how fortunate she was not to have any symptoms that even made her suspect, and how nervous and anxious she felt about seeing the life growing in her womb for the first time, although I explained to her more than once that at this stage of pregnancy she wouldn't see the image that surely passed through her mind.

Seeing her in that way, so radiant, with her face illuminated as if the previous day she hadn't confronted Vincent in the worst way, who ended up disappointing all of us with his attitude, freeing himself from all responsibility and escaping from assuming his paternity as a man, as if Abby had done that baby on her own, confirmed to me that my best friend was not the weak woman she claimed to be at first, on the contrary, she was so strong and capable that she didn't need the approval of the father of her child to continue with her life and her plans to bring that child into the world.

I was so proud of that brilliant and resourceful woman.

I knew that inside she was a mess, as nothing had gone as planned from the beginning, but she was here, determined, following what her heart said.

The doctor indicated that everything was in perfect condition, the pregnancy was going well, however, she gave her instructions she should follow during the first trimester of gestation. On the other hand, my blood tests indicated that my health was fine, and that my fatigue and menstrual delay were due to stress, the excess of work was affecting me, and she recommended that I take a few days off, rest without knowing anything about the companies, so, as if everything had turned in Abby's favor, she insisted that I should take advantage of that moment and not postpone the cruise.

There was no need to insist too much, I agreed almost immediately and did it mostly for my health.

And here I was, ready to start that two-day private cruise to Bora Bora, not forgetting the surprise I had prepared for Alexander.

The fresh wind touched my face as I admired the turquoise waters surrounding the island, Alexander hugged me from behind, inhaling the scent of my hair. I couldn't deny that inside I was a bundle of nerves because of what I had prepared for him, I wanted everything to go as planned since the moment I made up my mind.

"The island is wonderful, but nothing compares to you, my fairy." Alexander whispered near my ear and I couldn't help the shiver that ran through me. A smile adorned my face and I let out a sigh before turning to him and putting my arms around his neck.

I looked closely and in complete silence at his honey-colored eyes, which saw me as if I were truly the most amazing thing he had ever seen. I had never felt so much peace and tranquility as in this moment, when it was just him and me, without worries, without work, without anyone trying to separate us, without anyone tormenting us.

I loved being like that with him, his warm body next to mine, his hands delicately on my waist as if I were made of glass and he was afraid of breaking me, our gazes connected, saying more than a thousand words, and the fresh wind hitting our bodies.

I didn't want that moment to end, I felt like I was floating on a cloud and I was sure I wouldn't fall.

I couldn't resist anymore and I pressed my lips against his, feeling his warm breath in my mouth, which soon opened so that our tongues could meet, making my body slightly unsteady because of the sweet taste of his mouth with traces of the fine champagne we had drunk minutes before.

"It's time to get ready, I have a surprise for you." I said when I separated from his lips, only a little against my will, but I was anxious to see his reaction, I couldn't wait a minute longer, it was now or never.

Alexander let out a heavy sigh before wrapping his arms around me and placing a kiss on my head, while resting my face on his chest, and it was inevitable to inhale his masculine scent that I liked so much.

"I wouldn't want to be apart from you for a second, but I agree with you, I also have a surprise for you." He said over my head and I smiled without him being able to see me, whatever he had prepared for me, it did not compare to what I had prepared for him.

"So, I'll wait for you in an hour in the hall. I took the trouble to pick out a suit for you." I said before leaving him with a fleeting kiss on the lips and disappearing from his sight after winking at him, even though I didn't want to be apart from him for even a second, I had to do it for an hour.

Before getting ready for the already prepared dinner, I approached the waiter to make sure he did everything as agreed, and after showing me his perfect work, I went to get ready with nervousness, this was something new for me and I wanted everything to go perfectly.

The white spaghetti strap dress left half of my back exposed, as well as my legs, as the loose skirt covered me up to mid-thigh. I didn't want to wear a pinch of makeup, I wanted to look as natural as possible for this special day. I left my hair to one side, showing off the shiny pink diamond heart necklace, and finally sprayed a bit of my perfume.

My leg couldn't stop moving due to the nerves bubbling in my system, knowing that I was only minutes away from meeting Alexander again made my hair stand on end, I felt an excitement in my chest that I hadn't felt in a long time, I felt like a teenager in love for the first time, and even

though I was no longer a teenager, I was undeniably in love with the same man as the first time, there was no one else in my heart, only him, from the beginning it was Alexander Lancaster.

Minutes before the hour was up, I returned to the hall to make sure everything was ready. The waiter confirmed that everything was prepared as I had requested, however, he didn't miss the opportunity to give me some instructions that I should take into consideration.

"Here you are."

I heard Alexander's voice from behind and immediately felt his hands grasping my waist to press his chest against my back.

"How do you do it? How do you manage to look more beautiful every passing second."

A foolish smile appeared on my face as I heard his sweet words in my ear, and the waiter left after giving me a complicit look. Alexander caressed my neck with the tip of his nose and I closed my eyes to better enjoy his gentle touch.

"You smell divine."

"You arrived on time." I said as I saw the waiters approaching the table decorated with a fine white silk tablecloth, they came with a couple of glasses, a bottle of champagne, and dessert, yes, I had asked them to serve dessert before dinner, it was part of the plan.

"I hope you don't mind starting with dessert." I said taking him by the hand and guiding him to the seat that the waiter had indicated was Alexander's.

"Chocolate and raspberry moelleux, I can't believe it, the last time I had one was at our wedding."

Alexander remembered that he had already tasted that dessert years ago. Of course! I had taken care of the preparations for our wedding and I couldn't have chosen a better French dessert.

"Alright, alright, I like that for the first time you're breaking the rules, you're a very bad girl."

Chapter 126 Private cruise part 2

## Chapter 208 - Divorced Heiress

Alexander joked as he reached his chair, but he didn't sit down, he just stared at me intently for a few seconds with eyes that were brighter than ever, that made my heart race, but I quickly refocused on our dinner.

"Today, we'll both be bad kids, so we won't have dinner until you agree to dance a piece with me."

I looked at him with a furrowed brow, containing the slight frustration that Alexander wasn't following the order of my plan, but I wasn't going to snub him either, it would just be one song and then I would resume my plans.

"But there's no music..." And as if they had heard me, the melody of the piano resonated throughout the hall, causing me to swallow my words and Alexander to smile triumphantly. Alexander took my hand delicately and led me to the center of the hall without erasing the smile that was already starting to infect me.

His hand rested on my waist and I put mine on his shoulder, we both moved slowly to the rhythm of the pleasant melody, with only the waiters witnessing such an incredibly romantic moment.

I couldn't take my eyes off Alexander's gaze, and he didn't seem to want to stop looking into mine either, he examined every part of my face as if he wanted to engrave it in his memory, that gaze managed to dispel the nerves that were starting to eat away at me from the inside, suddenly I felt peace, as if everything around us disappeared and it was just him and me, looking at our souls through our eyes.

When the piano melody ended, Alexander let go of my waist, but he didn't move away from me. I was lost in his honey-colored gaze, which seemed even brighter with that unquenchable sparkle.

"Being with you in this moment feels so unreal." He said after releasing a sigh. I took a few seconds to ponder his words, and I realized that I felt the same way. Since the moment I signed the divorce papers, I never imagined I would be with Alexander again, feeling all those things I thought had died but were now more alive than ever.

I opened my mouth to respond, but he didn't let me say a word.

"Sarah, I will never tire of asking for your forgiveness, even if you say you have already forgiven me. I'm sorry for being a coward, for being blind and not realizing the humiliations my family and friends inflicted on you. I'm sorry for neglecting you for so many months because I didn't know how to handle a situation where your life was at stake. I'm sorry for leaving you alone when you needed me the most, and sorry for not being present in Tristan's life until now."

It was not in my plans for Alexander to bring up all the things that had hurt me in the past. But as he mentioned them, I realized that they no longer affected me. I had left all of that behind and truly forgiven Alexander. I felt at peace with myself, and now, all that mattered was the present, and this was the best version of Alexander Lancaster.

"Alexander..."

"I'm not finished, darling. I will let you say everything you want." Alexander interrupted me before I could respond. I nodded my head, allowing him to express all his feelings.

"Despite everything, I never stopped loving you. Sarah, you and our son make me a better person, and there is nothing I want more at this very moment than to be the best father and the best husband to you."

I couldn't help but be moved by his words. Suddenly, my heart skipped a beat, not because of Alexander's sincere expression, but because he was suddenly on one knee, holding a small blue box made of peach-colored leather. He opened it, revealing a ring with an emerald stone and diamond accents.

The beating of my heart accelerated, and I felt like it would burst out of my chest. I had been so focused on planning the surprise for Alexander that I never imagined something like this could happen.

"Sarah Doinel, will you marry me for the second time?"

I was in shock, stunned by the possibilities that this could happen. How was it possible that he had planned to propose to me on the same day and at the same time I planned to do the same?

For a few seconds, the silence was deafening. I blinked a couple of times, realizing that I needed to give him an answer, or he might misunderstand. I would come up with something later to salvage my own proposal.

"Yes! Yes, I want to marry you for the second time!" I exclaimed, a high-pitched squeal escaping me due to the excitement pulsating through my chest and the nerves making my legs tremble like jelly.

Alexander widened his smile and, with trembling fingers, slid the ring onto my ring finger.

"This time, we will do everything better. We will be a solid family. I love you, Sarah Doinel."

After standing up from the ground, Alexander spoke and embraced me around the waist, sealing our second engagement with a kiss that made me smile with happiness, feeling like my chest was about to explode.

Soon, applause filled the room, and I pulled away from Alexander, remembering that the waiters had witnessed the entire spectacle.

"So, future Mrs. Lancaster, shall we have that dessert?" He asked, and I nodded, unable to wipe the smile off my face. He led me to the table, helping me pull out the chair, then quickly taking a seat across from me. The waiter poured champagne into our glasses, and we toasted to our engagement.

Alexander couldn't wait to take the first bite of the chocolate moelleux, letting the raspberry liquid flow from the center. His eyes closed as he tasted the piece of chocolate muffin in his mouth, and almost immediately, I heard a clearing of throat from the waiter beside me.

Suddenly, as if it were a blow, I remembered that the ring I had bought for Alexander was in the liquid heart of the molten chocolate cake. The marriage proposal had left me speechless and now I had no idea what to do, I didn't know if I should prevent him from eating or just let him find the ring.

I didn't even have time to decide because the next second, Alexander started to cough and his face turned red. I opened my eyes in terror knowing what that meant.

Alexander was choking on the ring.

I stood up from my chair not knowing what to do to make him stop coughing, I didn't even know if he swallowed the ring or if it was blocking his throat. The only thing that came to mind was to give him gentle pats on the back while he continued to cough as if his life depended on it.

"Oh my God, the ring! Call an ambulance, but we're on a cruise! Help me!" I looked terrified at the waiter who had been my accomplice in all this, and he quickly approached Alexander to lift him from his seat and, from behind, placed his hands on his abdomen. I just watched in fear as that man gave my poor fiancé five abdominal thrusts, as he struggled to take a breath.

"This is my fault, he's going to die because of me."

I walked back and forth not knowing how to help Alexander and blaming myself for doing all of that in that way, in my mind it didn't seem so dangerous.

When the urge to cry was taking over me, I saw Alexander spit out the ring, and as if on purpose, it hit my forehead hard before falling to the ground.

Alexander started coughing, but at least he could breathe. I didn't even care that the impact of the ring on my forehead had left me sore, I just ran to him and gave him some water to catch his breath.

"Alexander, are you okay? I'm sorry, I didn't think that..."

"Darling, you're bleeding." And as if moments ago he wasn't about to die from suffocation, he took a napkin to clean my forehead that I didn't even know was bleeding. This turned out to be a total disaster. However, Alexander looked at me with a smile after cleaning my forehead.

"Your proposal has been very original. I accept."

Chapter 127 It's not a dream.



## Chapter 209 - Divorced Heiress

I had spent the best weekend with Alexander, forgetting for a moment the responsibilities that had overwhelmed us lately, relaxing and enjoying to the fullest our private cruise in Bora Bora, even though I almost sent him to the other world for not thinking about the risks that my wonderful idea could entail, but in my mind, that plan was perfect and very romantic, and it turned out to be a complete disaster.

A romantic disaster.

Unfortunately, time passed in the blink of an eye and the cruise had come to an end. Reluctantly, we returned to Paris to continue with our daily lives, however, I was no longer going to exert myself further with the companies that were already doing very well since the Dubois trial, those were the doctor's recommendations, and if it weren't for missing Tristan, I would have extended our little vacation.

The driver was waiting for us to head to Doinel Villa , where my parents, Tristan, and Abby were waiting for our arrival. I sent Abby a message, letting her know that we would be at the villa in a few minutes.

"The driver has been very kind to give us welcome strawberries. Are you ready to go?" Alexander asked from the side of the car, waiting for me with the door open and eating a couple of strawberries before offering me one, but I shook my head. I was more than satisfied with breakfast; I couldn't fit even a pin.

I put my phone in my small bag and gave a slight smile as I saw him looking handsome with those dark sunglasses.

"I'm ready." I said before kissing him on the lips and walking past him to get into the car. I heard a long sigh from Alexander and the next second, he got in while taking off his sunglasses with a silly smile on his face and leaving the strawberry packaging on the side.

"How I adore you, woman." Alexander whispered near my face after closing the car door and took my left hand to place a kiss on my knuckles adorned with my engagement ring.

"You can take us now." Alexander ordered the driver after seeing my smile caused by his words and his sweet kiss that made my hand tingle.

The car started moving, and Alexander didn't miss the opportunity to embrace me, burying his face in the hollow of my neck to breathe in my scent, and he stayed there, stuck like a leech, as if he had no intention of ever moving away from me.

"You're going to fall asleep." I warned playfully as I stroked his hair, but he didn't react, just continued breathing calmly, not letting go of his arms around my waist.

I decided not to say anything else and continued stroking his hair as I looked at the road through the rear window of the backseat.

I felt at peace next to Alexander; he transmitted his tranquility to me in that way.

But that tranquility began to fade away when I realized that the path the driver was taking didn't lead us to Doinel Villa. I furrowed my brow as I carefully looked at the streets we were passing, and soon I noticed that we were heading towards the outskirts of the city.

I gave a slight smile and then knew that it was possibly a last-minute surprise from Alexander, so I didn't bother to complain to the driver about the detour he was taking, and I didn't say a word to Alexander, who seemed to be asleep on my neck, or maybe pretending to be asleep was part of his plan.

When we arrived at the outskirts of the city, the speed of the car slowly decreased, and I had a better view of the place we were in, but all I saw were trees that indicated a deep precipice. I didn't understand why we had stopped in the middle of nowhere, and I wanted to know, so I lightly shook my shoulder to make Alexander stop acting as if he were asleep, but after insisting so much, I realized that he was actually deeply asleep.

"This isn't the way to Villa Doinel, what are we doing here?" I asked, hiding the fear that was starting to spread through my body, and I looked at the driver's eyes through the rearview mirror, but that wasn't the driver I knew, I didn't even know who the hell that man was.

His eyes met mine in the mirror with surprise, as if he didn't expect me to speak to him, and I admit that it was a big mistake not to have spoken earlier, thinking that it was all part of Alexander's plan, because obviously, it wasn't.

Alexander was unconscious on my chest and my gaze automatically landed on the strawberries he offered me and that he clearly ate a few of, so in my mind everything fit together in a matter of seconds. The strawberries had some kind of sleeping drug and were meant to knock both of us out, but I didn't even taste them. Now Alexander was unconscious because of it and terror began to take hold of me, as I had no idea what that person intended.

"You should be dreaming sweet dreams." Said the man, sending a shiver down my spine, as it confirmed that his intentions were not good at all.

"Who are you? What do you want? Do you want money? Tell me the amount, but let us go." The first thing that came to my mind was to negotiate, maybe he was doing this for money, it made the most sense.

But as quickly as my words left my mouth, the door on my side was opened, causing me to let out a scream of terror. When my eyes stopped on the person who burst into the car, I felt fear

invading every particle of my being, my legs trembled with fear and my heart raced so fast it could jump out of my chest at any moment.

I wanted to scream, I wanted to run out of the car and disappear from that place, but I didn't even have time to think properly. My mind went blank as I firmly grasped the hand of the unconscious Alexander beside me.

"Sweet dreams, my Sari."

His voice froze me in place. Suddenly, I felt my heart stop and my eyes filled with tears, unable to believe that this was really happening. I didn't even have time to ask for help, although it wouldn't be of any use when we were in a desolate place.

The last thing I saw was the evil smile of that man I despised before he covered my nose with a cloth that made me lose so much strength that I lost consciousness. I just hoped this was a nightmare and that when I woke up, I would be by my son's side. My little Tristan.

Chapter 127 It's not a dream part 2

## Chapter 210 - Divorced Heiress

I furrowed my brow when I felt something preventing me from moving, I opened my eyes, waking up from that terrible dream, but everything around me was dark, the only thing illuminating the place was a small ray of light that filtered through what seemed to be a window covered with dark fabric.

I soon realized that my wrists were tied above my head with a rope hanging from the ceiling. No matter how much I struggled, it was impossible to free myself from such a restraint. It didn't take long for me to realize that what I saw last was not a nightmare, it was reality. I was kidnapped.

"Sarah?"

Alexander's voice made me look everywhere, but it was in vain, I couldn't see anything in the infinite darkness of the cold place we were both kidnapped in.

"Alexander, I'm here. Are you okay?" I asked worriedly, trying to move my feet that were bound to each other, preventing me from moving as I wanted.

"I'm okay, are you okay?" He asked back from somewhere, but at least I knew he wasn't far from me based on how close his agitated and concerned voice sounded.

"I am." I replied, trying to sound as calm as possible so that he wouldn't worry in this situation, although that was impossible.

"How did this happen? Who has us here?" He asked, of course, I had the answers to his questions. Just by remembering, my skin froze, I couldn't believe that man with brown eyes had managed to do such a thing. How was he out there so nonchalant?

I didn't even have to answer, because the light entered immediately, blinding me for a few seconds, when a door was opened and I could only see the silhouette of that despicable being, the one who seemed unable to stay still until he completed his mission.

"I asked for one and they delivered both, life is very generous to me. Hello, my Sari, you are more beautiful than ever." As soon as those disgusting words came out of his mouth, the light was turned on, completely blinding me.

"But what has that idiot done to you, he broke your forehead, I wouldn't have been able to lay a finger on you."

I was forced to open my eyes after blinking a couple of times, hearing his voice closer to me, causing my breathing to become agitated due to the nerves mixed with the disgust he made me feel just by looking at him.

So, I saw it more clearly, just like the place where he had us locked up, which looked like a cellar or maybe an abandoned basement, because of how neglected it looked, the cobwebs and dust were what caught the most attention.

"Don't go near her! Don't you dare! Take one more step and consider yourself a dead man." Alexander's desperate words only provoked a amused laugh from the brunette, who looked worse than ever.

"I'm sorry, my Sari, I'll leave you for a moment, I want to have some fun with your pathetic ex-husband."

I made my best effort to pull away from his hand that came close to my face, but it was impossible to do anything but turn my face, not even that prevented him from caressing my cheek with his disgusting fingers, while smiling at me like the psychopath he was.

I followed each of his steps with my gaze, as he passed by my side, and reached where Alexander was tied up in the same way as me, a short distance behind me. I couldn't do anything, no matter how much I imagined a thousand ways to escape, my options were almost non-existent, it was impossible to even untie myself.

"Alexander Lancaster." He pronounced his name with such contempt, as if the mere fact that it came out of his mouth disgusted him.

"I think you're not in the best position to threaten me, in fact, I could kill you right now if I wanted to." He said as if he was thoroughly enjoying himself, walking around Alexander's body hanging from a rope, who struggled with his wrists but without any success. I let out a scream of panic when he pulled out a gun from the edge of his pants and aimed it at Alexander's abdomen.

"Paul, no! Leave him! Don't hurt him! Just tell me how much you want to set us free and I'll give it to you!"

Upon hearing my offer, Paul's gaze stopped on my face and he flashed a mocking smile that I would love to erase with a single punch.

"Your proposal sounds interesting, darling, but I have a couple of unfinished businesses with this guy." Paul responded as he put the gun back where it was and after blowing me a kiss, he punched Alexander in the stomach, who groaned in pain and seemed to have run out of air.

"No! Please, no!" I screamed in despair, as rebellious tears began to escape from my eyes, but he didn't care about my pleas, he kept beating Alexander's body as if it were a punching bag.

Alexander could only complain of pain with each blow he received, and on my part, as much as I begged and tried to release myself from the rope, which had already bruised my wrists, it wasn't enough to make Paul stop, he was enjoying his pain, it seemed like it genuinely amused him.

"You son of a bitch! Untie me so we can be on equal terms." Alexander could barely speak, but I was sure that the anger he felt just by looking at Paul's face was stronger than his physical pain.

Paul stopped, apparently exhausted from his efforts to take it out on Alexander, and took a deep breath as he brushed his long hair back.

"Thanks for the offer, but Sarah has made a better effort." Paul responded with evident sarcasm in his voice, and he turned back to me as he let out a heavy sigh.

"It's a shame to have to resort to these extremes, but you left me no other choice. If only you had accepted me in your life, this wouldn't be happening. You and I would be on a paradise island, enjoying a life full of luxury."

I closed my eyes tightly when Paul squeezed my cheeks with his hand, and I wanted to vomit from the disgust he caused me when his fingers started to roam my silhouette until reaching my waist.

"What do you want?" I asked through clenched teeth, trying to hold back the tears that were flowing on their own.

"I want you." He responded almost immediately, scanning every part of my body with his eyes, as if he was undressing me with his gaze.

"But it's a real shame that both of you will die today. I'll leave you alone to enjoy your last moment alive. Don't miss me, darling, I'll be back in a few hours, I have many things to take care of."

I saw Paul's clear intention to kiss my lips as he brought his face close to mine, but I was quicker than him as I turned my face and his lips barely touched my cheek.

"Stubborn as always. Anyway, I have a freedom to enjoy. Freedom, freedom, how I missed you." Paul continued on his way to the exit and closed the door behind him, leaving me alone with a injured Alexander who was still struggling to catch his breath.

I didn't even know what to say, I couldn't process that this was happening when everything seemed to be going great, but no, the Dubois nightmare continued and all I could do was think about my son, because the possibility of getting out of this place alive was nonexistent.