

## Chapter 68

~KANE~

I couldn't stop pacing in my f\*\*\*\*\*g room. I didn't know what the hell to do. My mind and heart were racing. I could stay here and pretend that I didn't care for Giselle's maid, but I would cause more damage if I continued to lie to myself. I had already lost Maya because of my foolish choices, choices that I still regret to this day. I had no idea where she was, but I knew where Giselle's maid was being held captive. She was someone that I could save.

I had to find a way to get her out of there without Giselle suspecting anything. But now that this entire thing had happened, she wouldn't let me out of her sight. She wouldn't allow me to try and help the girl. She knew well enough that I wouldn't want to sit back and let her die.

I had no idea what kind of dungeon she was being kept inside, but I didn't want her in any jail. She was pregnant, and it was dangerous for her to be kept under poor conditions. It wasn't just the innocent girl I had to protect; I had also to protect her unborn babies.

I had to think of something fast that would help me distract Giselle. Anything that would buy me enough time to save her.

My mind is racing with ideas. My head felt like it would explode any minute now. How could I help her without Giselle finding out?

She walks in just then, and I try to pretend that I'm doing fine even though my body is going haywire on the inside. I'm terrified of not being able to protect another woman that I cared about. And it bothered me how much faith the girl had in me. She believed that I was so good that I found myself trying to live up to her expectations. I felt like I would go insane if I didn't get to her soon. There was only one other woman I ever felt like this over. Like I would go crazy if I didn't protect her.

I'm confused by my feelings, but I don't have time to sit and think about it. I need to get to her before any harm can be done to her.

"You look like something is troubling you," Giselle notes. "I hope it has nothing to do with my maid. I know you have a good heart, but she isn't a good person. What good woman looks at a man who's about to get married? I did us both a favor by getting rid of her."

I stiffen at her words, and I can't hide my reaction from her this time, "what do you mean by getting rid of her? Is she not alive right now?"

She shrugs her shoulders, "I can't say. I had her stuffed into a freezing cell without any clothes. If she's still alive, she doesn't have much longer to live."

My blood boils at her words, and I'm panicking on the inside. It's much worse than I initially thought.

"I want to marry you tomorrow." I lie to Giselle. "I don't think that I can wait much longer. Let's have the wedding tomorrow. It doesn't have to be big. Invite only the important people; it will be short notice either way."

"Tomorrow?" She asks in shock. "That's right there. You're not giving me enough time to plan my dream wedding to my dream man."

"I don't care about a perfect wedding. I want us to be married. Is that not what you wanted all along? For the wedding to happen quickly? Are you changing your mind now?" I ask her. "Do you not want to marry me? Should we end this relationship then?"

Her eyes widen, "are you insane? Why would I want to end something I've wanted for so long? If you want the wedding to happen tomorrow, that's okay with me. I'll be extra busy trying to get everything together. I'll have to hire extra staff and get the word out to my friends. The decorations need to be done as well. I'm not sure how to pull this off, but we will have the wedding in the evening; it should give me enough time to place everything together."

I nod; this is exactly what I wanted, for Giselle to be so swarmed with responsibilities that she doesn't even stop and think for a second of my whereabouts. It would give me enough time to get to her maid and bring her out of the cell before she could freeze to death. That is, if she hadn't already. I didn't want to think of that. I didn't want to think of the possibility that I'd lost her too.

"There is someone that I'll like to invite," I tell her. "You're having all your friends over, and I don't have any of mine."

"That's because they're all locked up in my dungeon. Don't worry; I'll release them as soon as we're married." She promises me.

"I have other friends," I tell her. "Friends from the council."

"Oh?" She asks. "I've never known this detail about you. Well, if you want to invite your friend, go right ahead. I'll allow it since it's our wedding day."

This is exactly what I was hoping she would say. I would have to ask Ermanno and his brothers for another favor, not just for him to find out where the people from that list were staying. I would need them to help me free my people. When they were free, I would burn that damn castle to the ground.

"If you cannot find me," I tell her. "I'm just giving the invitation out to the council. They won't come if I don't meet them in person and tell them about the wedding myself."

She doesn't look suspicious, and I'm glad that my plan is working so far. I was brilliant for using the wedding as a way to get her off my back. The wedding was Giselle's one weakness. I was finally getting to use it to my advantage.

