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A small smile crept to Mia's lips. "Even though I want to kill Natasha right now for disrupting this beautiful plan of yours, I'm happy you went out of your way to plan all of these for me. My exes hardly put any effort into my birthday. They only get me a cake and sometimes a gift. Don't blame yourself for anything, Colt. It wasn't your fault." 1

"I'm deeply sorry for everything Natasha did to us. You don't need to feel disgusted about yourself. I'll make you forget her touch and every other silly thing she did to you. I promise." For some reason, Mia's voice came out seductively.?

"What did I do to deserve you?" He whispered, running his thumb over her lower lip.?

Mia shook her head. "I should be the one asking you that question. You've been nothing but a light in my life and I give you my word that I'm never going to leave you. In life, we make plans which may not go as we want but what matters is that we are there for each other."?

Colton nodded in approval.

"Happy Birthday, My love." He cupped her face in his hands and kissed her.



"Thanks, babes." She replied in between the passionate kiss.?

Pulling away, Colton rested his forehead against hers. "You have no idea how afraid I was before I got Hailey's call. I thought I had lost you already. I would have never forgiven myself."?

"Me too. I'm glad I chose to hear you out. I missed you."?

"I missed you too, love."? He placed a long kiss on her forehead.

"Your eyes are aching, right?" He asked because of how red they were.

Mia shook her head immediately.

"Don't lie to me, Mia."

"Just a little, but I'll be fine. There's nothing to worry about."

"You sure? I can always call Richard to come to check up on you"

"I'll be fine. I promise." She assured.?

Colton nodded. "Once again I'm sorry for making you cry. Let me know if the pain doesn't go away, okay?"?

She nodded.

"My family sent gifts to you. They are in my



apartment."

"They did?" Mia smiled.?

Colton nodded. "The driver brought them on Thursday evening. I only told my mom about your birthday but turns out she told the rest of the family. Fortunately, my family doesn't joke about birthdays. Not only birthdays, but they also find excuses to celebrate any occasion that is worth celebrating."

"You all are so lively!" Mia smiled.

"You have no idea. By the way, Ashley called on Thursday too. She wanted your number but I told her I would talk to you first."?

Mia chuckled. "You know you should have given her right? She's your sister so she means no harm."?

"I know but I'll always respect my woman's privacy. Besides, I have to warn you, Ashley can be really demanding. She sees you as a big sister so she's going to be disturbing you a lot. Get ready for long talks about her silly boyfriends, backstabbing friends, and her not-so-interesting life."?

Mia smiled. "I used to wish I had a younger sister to discuss these things with so she's in good hands."?



Colton nodded.?

"I'm sorry about the deal you lost. Why didn't you tell me about it? We spoke four times on Thursday!" Mia accused.?

Colt exhaled. "I'm sorry, I didn't want to bother you."?

"I want you not to only share your wins with me. I want to be there for you in good and bad times. We should feel every pain and every joy together. And I'm so sorry about the deal."?

"Please pardon me for that. I didn't think you would be interested in anything relating to my work life."

"Of course I'd be interested. Your work life is part of you."?

Colton nodded. "Thank you for your concern. We worked pretty hard for the collaboration, I was hoping we would get the deal but we didn't."?

"I honestly don't take failure very well. I'm always too hard on myself when something doesn't do well under my care. But I'm trying to let go and be positive."

Mia caressed his face. "Don't be too hard on yourself. You have accomplished so much already, things that people could only dream of."



Your family is proud of you and I'm proud to say that I'm the proudest of them all."

"You're doing extremely well Colton and I know that many more greatness awaits you. Your future children will be so fucking proud of you."

"Future children?" His eyes lit up.

Mia smiled, shrugging. "We will eventually conceive. Won't we? Or you've changed your mind?"

Colton shook his head. "God knows I would give anything for you to be the mother of our children. But really, are you okay with it?" He asked, looking at her intently.

Mia nodded, biting her lower lip in the process. It's okay to say that she was a bit shy talking to him about it and trust Colton to notice it.

"May I know what you're being shy of?" He said, raising her chin with this thumb.

"The baby would not just miraculously appear in my belly, you know." She said, trying to hide her blush but she failed woefully.

Colton smiled. "I think it's high time for us to consummate our relationship. Isn't it?"

Mia nodded. "You've been patient enough."



"Thank you for agreeing to start a family with me. I love you so much, Mia."

"I don't mind hearing you say that to me forever." She smiled at him.

He possessively circled his arms around her waist. "And so shall it be, sweetheart. I'll never stop telling you how much I love you." He sealed the promise with a long passionate kiss.

"I would love to make a proposal." She said when they pulled away.

"What is it, sweets?" He asked.

"It's okay to say NO. I'll understand since you're a very busy person."

"What is it, Mia?" He asked again, hiding the fact that he was sort of nervous. Mia hardly asks him for anything so whatever her request was going to be, he was determined to make it work.

"Is it possible for us to go to Sicily today? We don't have to come back tomorrow either. We can spend a couple of days there before we come back to New York."

"It's okay if it's not possible. I just thought after all we've been through, it will be cool to take a break from everything."

Colton nodded in understanding. "I can always tell Caleb to cover up for me at work."



What about your work?" He asked her. "You sure you want us to go to Sicily?"

"Yes. I want a short vacation. Just me and you, in a peaceful place, forgetting about everyone and having the time of our life. I can always let my Boss know that something important came up. You're in?"

Colton smiled. "Yes love, This is the best news I've heard in a while. A short vacation is it then?"

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