Her Darkness
His Light

Chapter 34

Sorry for the long wait. Updates will be slow. 🙏🙏🙏🙏

But here's another chapter for you guys. Hope you enjoy. Don't forget to comment.

The cover on top was made by @Roxieproduction

Thank you!!! 😊😊😊

Have a wonderful day ahead and God bless all of you.

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Prince Phoenix's POV

"She's numb, you're right about that Your Highness," Dr.Renald confirmed.

"She is refusing to feel anything. She has completely shut down her mind and body. We don't know how long it will take for her to come out of this and after that she'll still need to accept whatever happened in the dungeons." The other lady, Dr.Mirian added.

"So what now? How do I treat her?" I asked impatiently. I wanted to go back to my chambers. We were currently discussing her situation in my office. Odelle was taking care of her at the moment.

"Just treat her as usual. She will not struggle or fight back."

"And if she doesn't eat?"

"That is going to be hard. Someone who is very close to her will have to feed her. Someone who the girl trusts."

"That will not be me," I muttered.

"She will not eat immediately. That will take time. You'll have to go slow and if she still refuses, we'll have to insert a tube, which we don't recommend. Try your best to make sure she eats solid food. If she doesn't eat anything by the third day after today, then our only choice will be the tube."

"She has to eat, she's extremely skinny." I growled. She looks so pale and unhealthy.

What if she keeps refusing to eat? Will she do that?

"Don't worry Your Highness, she has not lost her memory. Her mind will know what is important for her. Everything will come back. You also said that she refused to look at you in the eye. That's a good example. Somehow, the girl understands and remembers that law." Dr.Renald continued pacing back and forth.

"Were you strict with her before this?" he suddenly asked.

"What do you mean?"

"I mean no disrespect Your Highness but surely you weren't all nice and sweet to her.....right?" he squeaked out. My blank face turned into a menacing glare.

"Where are you going with this?" I gritted. The temperature was already changing. I could see Dr.Mirian fidgeting with her hands.

"I only mean to say, that, if you were strict with her, like if you scared her into submission....I mean she's a servant right? So I only guess you treated her the way I assume you would have Your Highness. Please don't get mad, please hear me out," he trailed.

"Careful doctor." I said lowly.

"It miiiiiight be a good thing now. Just a thought, I don't know if it would work but maybe she'd still fear you enough to do whatever you tell her to do."

"I am not going to order her around!! I just got her back!!" I could see the shock written on their faces. Why were they so fucking stupid? Up to this point, surely they should understand she means something to me.

"Your Highness, Dr.Renald is just giving a suggestion. This should be one of the very last options if she does not react to anyone or anything. For the next three days just treat her like a normal patient. Have her fed, cleaned and make her feel comfortable. Most importantly make her understand that she's safe and nothing is ever going to hurt her. Ever."

"Are we done?"

"For tonight, yes. We'll come by tomorrow for the regular check ups."

"Great. Now leave."

I sped into my chambers and found Odelle sitting on my chair beside the bed. She was saying something to her but she was looking out the window. Not moving a muscle. I couldn't see her reaction as she was facing the other way but I could imagine her emotionless face.

"Did she eat anything?" Odelle just shook her head. Of course. I shouldn't be expecting too much from her tonight. Perhaps she'll eat tomorrow.

I then signaled for Odelle to leave. She adjusted the pillow behind my girl's head and made sure her back was comfortable in that position. After Odelle left, I walked around the bed and sat on the chair. She was still blankly looking out the window. There was nothing to see. It was dark outside, late night but her eyes never left the window. I then moved my chair and sat in front of her, blocking her view.

Her eyes fixed themselves on my chest again. I reached for her small hand and held it. "How are you feeling Little Flower?"

No answer.

Was I expecting one? Maybe.

"Are you hungry?"

No reply.

"Do you want to sleep?"

Silence.

She didn't move and her eyes didn't stray away from me. I caressed her cheek again and kissed her forehead. I hated seeing her like this. I hated what happened. I wished I never left her with those creatures.

I then gently pushed her body down on the mattress, making her lie down flat. I readjusted the pillows and brought the comforter up to her shoulders. If she wasn't going to do anything, the best thing for her is to sleep and heal. "Go to sleep, I'll be here when you wake up."

She didn't close her eyes though. They continued to stare blankly, but this time at the ceiling.

I don't remember how long I waited for her to sleep but she refused to close her eyes. She just stared up. Not having a clue as to what to do next, I started massaging the sides of her temple, hoping it would make her relax and fall asleep. I didn't want to use my powers and forcefully make her unconscious. I wanted her to sleep herself.

I massaged her head for a few minutes before her eyelids started to get heavy. They closed and opened several times. She was getting sleepier by the second. My fingers began to work more gently and then she finally closed her eyes. She turned her head towards me and her breathing slowed down. I continued to ease her into it for a few moments longer. Once I was sure she was in a deep slumber, I stopped.

"Good night." I changed my clothes and laid down beside her. I slept with her in my arms. Before I drifted off to sleep, I reminded myself that I had to wake up before she did.

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Breakfast was frustrating. I was watching her from the corner of the room. She wouldn't open her mouth no matter what Odelle did. We were trying to feed her porridge and it wasn't working. This was getting bad.

"Maybe we should bring Alexander in to feed her, Your Highness."

"Why is that?" I growled out.

"Sshh, she would be most comfortable with him. They're family," Odelle raised a brow. Who cares if he was her brother?! I shouldn't be feeling this way but I did anyway. From what I heard, they seem to be extremely close and it irked me. Plus, I didn't like people coming in, surrounding my Little Flower.

Odelle stood up and walked towards me. "Oh, come on Your Highness, you cannot be like this towards Alexander for God's sake. Especially now that you've found out that they're biologically related. He's her everything..."

"Enough!! I get it! We'll try this once and if he doesn't get her to eat, he's leaving."

"Do I really need to remind you that he and the rest of her family are dying to see her?"

"They're only allowed to come at a given time. The specific timing will be arranged by me. If anyone walks into my chambers at any other time or without my permission, I'll kill them-

"But-"

"No questions asked!! They break my rules, they die. I don't care who they are." Ugly thoughts of how she was taken filled my mind. I imagined unwanted strangers dragging her away to be beaten and tortured. The thought itself made my heart beat to spike up. I could see the dark blue veins covering my arms.

Odelle walked closer to me.

"Please, Prince Phoenix. Be nice to her family members. They're not Henrietta. If you're hoping to create a future with her, you'll be seeing a lot more of them and she wouldn't like it if you, say, accidentally killed anyone dear to her. Please."

"Are you going to keep talking or are you going to go get him? I want her to eat now."

It wasn't even five minutes after Odelle left when someone barged into my chambers. This someone however, wasn't Alex. It was another one of her sisters. She stopped dead in her tracks, and just watched my Little Flower. She shook her head, snapping out of whatever trance she was in and walked around the bed.

"Where is the boy?" I asked lowly. I signaled for her to come towards the oval table. She immediately complied.

He was so worried and now he didn't show up??!!

The girl who I presumed was Tonya, faced me and bowed. She kept her head down.

"I asked you a question human! Where's the boy?"

"H..he wanted to come so badly but he c..couldn't."

"And why is that?!" I bit back.

"H..he couldn't bring himself.....he's just not ready Your Highness," she said quickly and ended it. She had a sad look when she spoke about Alex. It made me even more curious as to why he isn't here.

"Tell him he can't..."

"He's not doing so well my Prince." Odelle walked in, interrupting me. "Percival is with him now," she gave me a look which said 'no more questions and I'll explain later.'

"Fine, get her to eat. Do not be disappointing." I ordered the girl standing close to the table. Odelle just gave me a look of disbelief.

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Tonya's POV

The Dark Prince was truly intimidating. He growled out every word when he spoke. I couldn't believe Eve worked for him for such a long time. I wouldn't have lasted a week with how he behaved. I feared he would snap my neck at any moment.

I had to force myself to be a little brave. When he told me to start feeding Eve I quickly walked towards the bed and sat beside my sister. She looked small and frail. Her cheekbones and collar bones were protruding. I hate that I don't know what's going on in her mind. Ms.Odelle said she hasn't spoken a single word.

Without saying anything I gave her a warm hug. She didn't move and I didn't expect her to hug me back. I couldn't describe how happy I was just to see her awake. I pulled back not wanting to take too long. I felt the Dark Prince's heated gaze on the back of my head.

I stood up and rolled the small table closer to Eve. It was the same kind of table they had in hospitals. Once it was close enough I took a small amount of porridge and brought the spoon close to her lips. Her lips remained sealed as she stared ahead. Not moving.

"Eve come on, open up you have to eat." I said softly. Slightly pleading for her to eat. My words however, fell on deaf ears. She was like a statue.

I tried a few more times. I even held her hands and soothed her. I tried talking as gently as I could but still, she remained unmoving. Her eyes were hollow and lifeless. It pained me to see our Eve like this. Nobody deserved this, especially her.

Maybe it was a good thing Alex didn't come. This would have broken his spirits even more.

I was going to try feeding her again when he stopped me.

"You may leave." the Dark Prince said suddenly.

"How are you going to make her eat?" I asked not caring about his mood.

"We'll find a way. You may leave."

I knew that was my cue to leave. He didn't want to hear anything else. I couldn't stay with her any longer. I just wanted to be with her but I knew he wouldn't allow it. With teary eyes I kissed my sister goodbye. "I love you Eve, come back to us." I prayed she would come out of this.

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Beth's POV

I rushed to our room as fast as my legs carried me. Ms.Odelle just told me the most wonderful news ever!!

I barged into our room and spotted Alex on the balcony. He was staring at the gardens like he normally did.

"Alex!!!" I called excitedly. I laughed at his confused reaction as he slowly turned around.

"Beth? You alright?"

"More than alright!!" I skipped towards him. When I was close enough I held his shoulders. He looked even more confused and a bit worried.

"She's awake." His once puzzled face slowly changed into a look of shock and understanding. His forehead creased as he avoided my eyes. His mouth was opened but no words came out.

I nodded my head enthusiastically.

"Yessss!! Eve's awake, Alex!" I shook him.

"R...really? How...how is she?" his voice was shaky like he didn't want me to answer him at all.

"Well, we can go see her. You should go see her first you know. You're closest to her." Alex stared at me, still shell shocked. His eyes became teary.

"Alex, what's wrong?" I whispered out. Now it was my turn to be confused. The excitement I brought with me earlier began to wear out. This was not the reaction I had expected. Why wasn't he jumping to go to her? "She's awake you can go see her-"

"No...I can't...."

"What? Why not?"

"I just can't!!"

"Alex..." I took a step forward to reach out to him.

"Leave me alone Beth!!..." his breathing suddenly changed. It became heavier and soon he was having trouble breathing. His breaths came out fast and short. I was alarmed by this.

What was happening to him?!

He fell to his knees, trying to gasp for air. He seemed like he couldn't breathe at all. I ran out of the room, shouting for help. There wasn't anyone near our room and I was afraid to leave Alex but I needed to find help. I didn't know what to do.

"Ms.Odelle?! Is there anyone here?!! Help me!!!" I shouted at the top of my voice.

"Beth?"

"Oh thank God!-

"Why were you shouting like a-"

"It's Alex!!! He can't breathe. Help him please!!" With that I ran ahead of Mr.Percival, leading him to our room.

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"It's a panic attack Bethany, he'll be fine, I promise."

I released the breath I was holding, feeling relieved. "He...he suddenly c...couldn't breathe. I was so scared."

"He'll be fine. Let him rest. It was good that you ran out screaming or else I wouldn't have been able to help. Plus, no one's allowed to come near this room."

"Thank you so much Mr.Percival."

"It's fine. You need to calm down," he said lightly. I sat on my bed and looked at Alex.

After Mr.Percival helped him with his panic attack, he fainted. I thought he would be so happy to hear the news about Eve. This was the last thing I expected to happen. Scratch that, I didn't expect this at all!!

"When can we see her Mr.Percival?"

"Soon. The Prince would have to give permission."

"Permission?" I asked slightly irritated.

"He's extremely protective over her now. He was protective before but now he's gone to the next level. He did not take the assault lightly Bethany. He will allow you to see her, but only with certain conditions."

"What does that suppose to mean?! We're the closest ones to her and we were assaulted too you know. Mr.Percival I really want to see her!"

"I understand that all of us have experienced things we wish would never repeat itself but this is an order from the Prince. I know you want to see her but you'll have to wait. He will allow you. Soon..."

"But you don't know when. It can be days or weeks!"

"I don't think...."

"I can't believe he's doing this," I chuckled bitterly. He's not letting us to see our Eve?!!

I get that he has feelings for her but this was simply ridiculous. It was so wrong of him to do this!

"I'll be patient for today but, if I have to, I will force myself into that room tomorrow Mr.Percival."

"I would advice you not to get yourself killed Bethany," the head butler glared at me but I remained unaffected. I crossed my arms over my chest and glared back at him.

Why should I be scared? Okay there were a lot of reasons but I guess I just didn't care at the time.

All we wanted was to see her and spend time with her. Was that too much to ask?!!

"Eat your lunch and just stay in this room. Take care of Alex and call me if you need anything regarding his health. Other than that, don't do anything stupid." He warned and left the room.

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Somewhere around evening, Tonya came back from work. She was in a sullen mood so I kept quiet. I was with Alex the entire time I took a short nap and when I woke up, he was still asleep. It was understandable as he had not been sleeping for many nights recently.

I sat on the bed waiting for Tonya to settle down. When she finished taking a shower, she came and sat beside me.

We stared at the wall not saying anything at first.

"She looked so dead Beth," she whispered after some time.

"You already saw her?"

"When Ms.Odelle heard about Alex, she called me. They wanted someone to feed her. She's not eating, she's not talking, she doesn't move, God I'm so worried about her," she buried her face in her hands.

"Alex was their first choice as he's the closest to her but then this happened. So..."

"How long will it take until she gets better?"

"I don't think they know." She mumbled. See looked more troubled than before.
"What happened in there Tonya?"

"I...I hugged her immediately. She didn't move but that was fine. Then I tried feeding her but she just refused to open her mouth. Even Ms.Odelle had tried earlier but it resulted in the same way. I spoke as softly as possible coaxing her, it just didn't work. She remained motionless. After that the Prince ordered me to leave. I couldn't do anything."

No words came out after what I heard. Not for a few moments. I didn't know what to say.

"She can't refuse to eat forever, right?"

"I don't know," she muttered. "I hope not."

"I have to see her. I don't care if he doesn't allow it."

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Prince Phoenix's POV

"She's very adamant about it. I won't be able to stop her tomorrow."

"Then I will."

"How long are you going to keep them out? Don't you feel any sort of pity? If you don't allow them, your brother will most likely sneak his servant in. I'm sure they're already planning it. The girl will barge in whether you like it or not and there's going to be a whole lot of arguing. The most important thing is, you will not be able to do much to them. She'll hate you for it."

"I don't care!!"

"Are you sure, my Prince?"

I kept quiet refusing to entertain Percival. He was pissing me off to no end.

"I know you are uncomfortable with letting people into your room but she needs to see them so she might get better and you need her to get better. If I may, let them visit her first thing in the morning then at least you won't have to see anyone for the rest of the day."

"If you're done, leave. Now."

I hated him whenever he had something practical to say.

That night, I couldn't think of anyone to feed my Little Flower. Percival tried and failed. Same went to Odelle and two of her own family members. If she doesn't eat we'll have to put in a tube. I didn't want that for her but she's getting worse. I thought about it for a while then I sighed to myself.

This might turn ugly, but I had to try.

Here goes.

I rolled the small bed table closer to her and sat in the chair beside the bed. She was still staring out the window as I opened the tray. It was porridge as usual. It was the only dish she was allowed to have for the time being. I pulled the chair closer to her, blocking her view again. She then turned her head and stared in front.

At was a simple thing but at least she moved. Which means she actually reacted.

I slowly took a bit of porridge and brought the spoon to her lips.

"Eat." I said hoping she would open her mouth.

She didn't.

I refused to take the spoon away. I kept it close to her mouth and told her to eat again.

"Eat the food, Little Flower, you need it."

She still didn't react. I groaned and looked down, feeling devastated with this whole situation. I was thinking of ways to make this better when I suddenly felt the spoon move in my hand.

My head shot up and I saw her slowly parting her lips ever so slightly. She moved a centimeter closer and opened her mouth just enough to take a tiny bit of porridge from the spoon. Once she did it, she moved back and did nothing. There was no reaction.

I was gaping at her wide eyed.

I couldn't believe what I saw. She actually ate a little.

I honestly felt like clapping my hands.

Finally!!

I didn't waste anymore time. I took some more porridge and brought it to her lips. "Come on, eat it," she repeated the same action again, eating less than a quarter of the porridge from the spoon. It didn't matter how slow she was, I was just glad she was actually doing something.

Unfortunately, she stopped opening her mouth the fourth time. "You have to eat. Open up." This time she didn't move. She just stared ahead. "Please, you're too weak. This will strengthen you. Even your roses would want you to eat," I tried. My words did not effect her at all. She remained still. "Just a little bit." I was met with the same hollow eyes. She refused to eat any more.

I reached forward and held her chin. I was very gentle and I just wanted her to face me. This simple gesture however brought about something completely different.

She flinched away and moved backwards so fast that she hit her head against the headboard. Hard

"Fuck." I stood up and reached for her but she scrambled away kicking the small table in the process. Thankfully the bowl did not fall off. I moved the table further away.

"Calm down I'm not going to hurt you I promise," I said softly. I wanted her to get back to her original position but she must have thought that I was going to attack her because the next thing she did was, release a bloodcurdling scream. She screamed with everything she had. I was taken aback by this but I didn't dwell on it.

"Sshhh. Nobody's going to hurt you again Little Flower, breathe." I said gently holding her upper arms.

Once again, bad move.

She let out another ear piercing scream. Next thing I knew Odelle pushed through the doors in an alarmed state.

"Oh gosh! What happened?!"

"I don't know. She ate a little but when I wanted her to eat more, this happened. I only touched her lightly, and now she won't stop screaming! Do something!"

Odelle rushed to her side and cupped her face. "Eve, listen to me. No one is going to hurt you. Calm down." My girl was having none of it. She continued to scream and back away from Odelle as well but then there were two of us, one on either side of her. This made her seem deranged because she gripped her hair and started pulling at them. Her screams grew louder.

Before she could hurt herself even more I pulled her against my chest and hugged her tightly until she couldn't move. She trashed in my arms but her movements slowed down after a short while. She was too weak.

"Sshhh, everything's going to be fine. You're going to be alright. You're safe now. I'll destroy anyone who dares to touch you the wrong way," I whispered in her ear. She was still pushing me but her hands were shaking.

I had to do it.

I held her head with both my hands and willed her to sleep. I felt my hands heat up. Seconds later, she fell unconscious in my arms. Very gently, I laid her down and pulled the comforter over her small body.

My breathing became heavy.

"Everything was just fine for a little while."

"She's traumatized Prince Phoenix. You can't just touch her like that. It would trigger some horrific memories."

I looked up and then closed my eyes.

"You got her to eat?" I looked at Odelle.

"Only a little."

"But still, you got her to eat. That's pretty amazing."

"Not enough and then this happened."

"Nothing is going to go smoothly from here on now. We'll have to learn from this and slowly bring her back."

"You will stay here tonight."

"Where are you going my Prince?"

"To the dungeons."

They were the cause of this. They did this to my Little Flower and now I can't even touch her. I will never forget that look in her eyes just now. She thought I was going to kill her. She always feared me but not like this. I hope I never see her look at me like that ever again.

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I walked down the stairs which led to the dungeons. There were four soldiers behind me. They carried with them whatever I ordered them to bring.

I opened the huge door and walked in. All the guards involved were on the right side. Esther and Henri were on the left side. Both in separate cells. I casually walked over to Esther's cell. She was sitting on the ground. Her ankle was chained to the wall.

All of them here were fed three times a day. I wanted them to be in good shape. They had to be completely fine when I start.

Can't break what is already broken.

Esther had the guts to glare at me. "You can't keep me here Prince," she spat. "My father will come for me."

"Didn't you hear? Daddy messed up. Big time. He put my brother in a cell. Now, even my parents want him to suffer." I said coldly.

"You can't do this to me!!!"

"Oh, I haven't done anything to you yet Esther." I drawled. She looked at me and I saw a hint of fear in her eyes.

"I am to be your wife!" she pathetically squeaked out.

"I guess there's no point in explaining. Esther, you were never going to be my wife. I never loved you. I never even liked you. I've always hated you. Now hate is a very small word to describe how I feel about you." I growled out.

"Let. Me. Out."

I glanced at one of the soldiers. He and one other immediately brought in a wooden table and a chair. They released Esther and made her sit on the chair. One of them tied her waist to the chair and another stretched her arms out and locked her wrists on the flat surface of the table. She fought back of course and she was very strong. Just not strong enough for my soldiers.

"Stop it you low lives!!! Don't touch me!!"

Once she was bound she stared at me demanding to have her released.

I just started back at her with no emotion.

She was going to pay. Very slowly.

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That's all for now guys. What do you think?

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