



### Chapter 131

Claudia gasped softly, her hands clutching at his chest. "So... so it's over? That part, at least?"

Ryan nodded slightly. "Yes. And Ryder too. She's no longer our problem."

Claudia blinked, startled. "What do you mean?"

"The head of police declared her a public terrorist," Ryan explained. His jaw tightened. "Every armed force in the state is now after her. I heard her myself, over the phone. She's running, Claudia. Running for her life and freedom. She'll be halfway out of the country by flight right now. She's done."

For a moment, there was silence between them. Claudia stared at him, her lips parting in disbelief. Then slowly, relief began to flood her expression. She pressed a hand to her chest, a soft breath escaping her lips.

"Ryan..." she whispered. "You don't know how much this means. I thought... I thought she would haunt you forever. I thought..."

He stroked her hair gently. "She won't. Not anymore."

Her face brightened. For the first time in weeks, true joy showed across her features. But just as quickly, it faded again.

She lowered her eyes. Her voice dropped. "But... Bobby."

Ryan became still. His eyes narrowed.

Claudia stepped back slightly, her hands falling to her sides. She shook her head slowly. "Even if Ryder is gone... Bobby isn't. He's still out there. He burned down Ricco S-Class, Ryan. He threatened me. He mocked me.



He won't stop until he destroys everything I've built."

Ryan's lips pressed into a thin line. "I'll rebuild Ricco S-Class," he said calmly.

"It would be bigger and Stronger than before. Whatever he tore down, I'll raise again, and he won't be able to touch it."

Claudia shook her head violently. "No, Ryan. Don't you see?"

He sighed, understanding her fear.

"Building anything now while Bobby is still roaming free would be a total waste!" Her voice cracked, filled with frustration and fear. "He'll just burn it again. He'll ruin it again. He'll come after me again. As long as Bobby is out there, Ryan, nothing is safe. Not Ricco S-Class, not me, not even you."

Ryan fell silent. His eyes dropped, his mind spinning. She was right, everything she said sank in slowly.

He had been so focused on Ryder, so caught up in exposing her, that Bobby had remained a shadow lurking just beyond his reach.

Now that Ryder was gone, Bobby was no longer a shadow. He was the storm itself.

Ryan's fists clenched slowly at his sides. His jaw tightened until his teeth ached.

"You're right," he said finally, his voice was low. His gaze lifted to hers, his eyes burning. "You're absolutely right. Rebuilding means nothing if Bobby is still out there. He's not just your problem anymore, Claudia, he's mine. And I'm going to end this personally."

Claudia swallowed hard. She stepped closer, her voice trembling. "Ryan... promise me. Promise me you won't let him destroy you the way he destroyed me."

Ryan's expression softened just slightly. He cupped her face in both hands, forcing her to look into his eyes.

"Claudia," he said softly, "listen to me. He won't destroy me, he can't. Because this time, I'm not playing defense. This time, I'm going after him."

Her breath caught in her throat.

He leaned his forehead against hers, his tone dropping to a whisper. "Bobby Greene thinks he's the hunter. He thinks he has power over you. But now... now he's going to learn what it feels like to be the prey."

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