## 64 CHAPTER 64 I Need To Protect Her

Albie's POV 1

All the happiness and excitement I had in me just vaporized at the sight of her in that state. Her face looked freighted as she looked at me in shock.

I was startled by the way she just shot out of her chair when I opened the door, there was something wrong at the moment.

"Elsie, what's wrong?" I quickly rushed in, closed the door behind me, and hurried to her.

My head rang through all the multiple possibilities that could have occurred, what happened? Maybe she heard bad news? Whatever it was, I silently hoped it wasn't life threatening.

"Albie." She gripped me, her hands were tightly around my suit jacket, she lifted her eyes to look at me and she buried herself in my embrace.

I opened my hands quickly to accept her

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without any form of hesitation, whatever was bothering her, I was here for her. I will do my best to assist her in any way I can.

"Elsie, what happened?" I asked her as I led her to the long couch by the side in her office for resting. Her body relaxed as she sat down but she was still leaning towards me.

"Please just hold me." She whispered and that was exactly what I did, I held her, and I had no idea how long we sat there.

She finally released herself from me, she was about to talk but couldn't say anything, I moved from the couch and got her some water.

"Here, drink and try to relax, I'm not going anywhere, you can tell me when you are ready to talk."

She took the water in her hands and I could see the way her fingers trembled as she held it. She tried to hide it and steadily get a grip on the glass but I saw it.

We sat in an understanding silence as she calmed down. So much was going through my mind, I knew for a fact that she wasn't the type to have a panic attack but it was the first I'd seen her like this.

"Thank you, I feel better."

"I'm glad you are okay."

Another span of silence filled the office, I wasn't going to push her to say anything, she would talk about it when she was comfortable and ready to share with me.

"It's Espada Von."

Dread seized my chest, I felt my mouth dry up instantly, don't tell me it was what I was thinking.

"They called me and offered me money in exchange for losing the case, I just got off the call when you entered that's why I reacted like that." She added.

In as much as I wanted to pull the hair out of my head and panic out of fear for her, I sat very still and composed myself.

She was watching me closely and I know for a fact that she was scared, I couldn't show any hint of fear, it would only make her more scared. That was the last thing I wanted for her right now.

"I see," I replied in an even voice.

No! Fuck! This can not happen again, what was I going to do now? This was just the beginning, they would soon act again.

First, they would use a soft easier method to avoid any form of attention to them which was in the bribe and if that didn't work, they would use force.

I can't even start imagining what would happen to Elsie if they took her, I looked at her lovely calm face, and without asking her, I already could guess what she said.

"What did you tell them?"

"I said no, I wasn't going to collect their bribe."

Just as I suspected, she declined the offer which means they had no choice but to look for a way to stop her.

"Elsie, you sh-"

"No Albie, I'm not going to accept any filthy money from those bastards, and don't tell me to."

Her face suddenly became hostile and aggressive, I could feel a cold burning anger coming from her as she spoke. Her eyes had a hint of deadliness to it that left me speechless.

"I wasn't going to tell you to do so, I wanted to tell you to have to be more careful and ready to face it," I said after collecting myself.

Her brows twisted together as she stared at me. "You weren't going to say I should have agreed?"

"No, my love, never, I just want you to be aware of what you were getting yourself into okay?"

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean to think you would say that."

"It's okay, come here."

I opened my arms, and she scooted closer and leaned into me, I hugged her tightly. Stroking her hair, I kissed her head and kept her clued to me.

"It's okay, you are safe, I won't let anything bad happen to you, I promise," I whispered to her as I cradled her against me.

In that very instance, I wanted to pick her up and fold her into my soul, to keep her with me all the time till this trial came to an end.

"Albie, I don't want to chicken out, I want those evil men to pay for what they did to Lori, they need to be punished."

"They will, they will, that's for sure."

Now that it had come to this, it was going to be a tug of war, I was going to have to work double the shift now, which included protecting her and helping her win the case.

The only way I could do that was to be on alert, always knowing where she was and exactly what she was doing. Whenever she was at work, it wasn't much of a problem but her house wasn't safe, she couldn't stay all alone right now.

That was the safest way I could have her with me, that way we would go to work together, she would be under the company's surveillance and then we go home where she would be with me.

"Elsie, move in with me."