

## Chapter 22 Temptation

I have handed the form back, and so has Kian; she is now looking on the system for which room is best.

"Ruby." Turning, I see Alaric.

"Hi." That's all I can think of saying.

He nods and smiles. "Stay safe." I watch him walk away, okay, so awkward doesn't even begin to cover that. I see him stop out of the corner of my eye and turn before walking back to us.

"Do you mind if I take her for a minute?" Alaric looks at Kian, and he nods.

Sighing, I follow Alaric away. "Ruby." He stops and turns to look at me but doesn't speak.

"Yes?" I stand waiting, and he glances towards where Kian is.

"You signed up?" What? I almost laugh but stop and just nod.

"I have, yes."

"What happened to keeping yourself safe?"

"This is safe, Alaric, or are you saying your business isn't?"

"No, it is, just." He sighs and nods. "Never mind, enjoy your night."

I nod and turn and walk away, his hand stopping me.

"Don't go with him."

"What? Why?" What is wrong with Kian?

"I just think...Look, consider it. You do this there's no going back."

"I know that, Alaric. I've spent a lot of time considering it." I know I want to do it, and I won't back out.

"Yes, but are you sure?"

"Alaric, I'm sure." Why doesn't he just say what he is really thinking?

"Okay, as long as you are. Enjoy your night." Sighing, I turn and walk away. When I reach Kian, he smiles at me.

"Everything okay?"

"Yeah, he was checking that I had actually done research before coming back."

"Based on how you spoke to me about it, you have." He laughs, and I nod. "This way." He picks up the key, and I follow him.

"Ruby, stop." I stop on the stairs and turn to look at Alaric. "Come with me."

"Alaric." We're not meant to be doing this.

"Now, Ruby!" God, the way he said that makes me want to kneel and agree.

"It's fine, see you around." Kian smiles and walks back down the stairs and away.

"We're not meant to be doing this." I look at Alaric. His hand reaches for mine, and he guides me through the building, I watch as he scans his hand, and steps into a hall. Soon after, he stops at a door and scans his hand again.

Opening the door, he walks in with me right behind him.

"Alaric, you..." My words are stopped as he kisses me. Pushing him back, I fought to remember what I was going to say. "We agreed this couldn't happen."

"This is different." I laugh slightly at his words. "Sorry, but I can't just stand there and watch you walk off with a guy and go into one of the rooms."

"You shouldn't be stopping me from doing it, Alaric."

"I know it's fucked up. I'm sorry, I saw you and told myself I was fine with it, and the fact is, I'm not. It shouldn't be him or anyone else touching you. It should be me."

"You have Jake to consider." Has he forgotten that?

"No, I don't. He's an adult. I realised that I told you not to consider or think about what others would think; I did it myself. So indulge me, Ruby. Don't go back out there and into a room with him; stay here with me."

My head nods slowly, and his lips press against mine.

"I need to find Bex. I came with her."

"Stay here, I will tell her. I will also explain this to Kian. Grab a drink." He points to the bottles and glasses before walking out. I walk over, pick up a glass, and fill it. Standing, I look around, my hand opening a door.

It's a bathroom. Opening another door, I stop. Are these clothes? I glance back to the main door. Is this his personal room? Closing the door, I walk around the room, picking up items and looking at them. It feels like forever before the door beeps and opens.

I watch Alaric step in. "Bex will stay here. I've arranged for her to sleep here tonight. It's like a hotel room, totally safe." His eyes stay on my body as he talks.

Moving, I lift my hands, fastening the restraints around one, I smile at him.

"Ruby, what are you doing?"

"I thought that would be obvious, Daddy, waiting for you to finish tying me up, then having some fun." He walks to me, his hand grasping mine and fastening the restraints around it.

"We need to talk about this."

"I know, you want to know everything, all the yes and no's. You want my lists. You want all the details. Right now, I'm happy having a small bit like before. I'm not asking you to get out the open-mouthed gag, spiked floggers, clamps, anal hooks or electric wands. That can come with time."

He stares at me. "Yes, I know each of them is. I never stopped researching." My eyes follow him across the room, and I watch as he picks up the blindfold and slips it over my eyes.

"You remember the safeword?"

"Red, it all ends. Red for when I can't take no. It means it has to stop. It's not to be used as a way to stop play because I'm sulking. Yellow, I say it and explain the issue. Whether that is I'm getting tired, my legs hurt, or the new toy isn't comfortable. I say yellow, and explain the issue then you decide if it should end or something change to make me comfortable again."

His hand stops stroking. "That is more than I said."

"I know, but I know the rules for both now."

"You're shaking." His voice comes from behind me, and I nod. I am, excitement is building up, and he has done nothing. The feel of his fingers running down my back makes me moan. I'm sure this ends again after today. I will enjoy this moment however, one final time with Alaric unrestricted.