Ava's POV ——— a few hours later———

I woke up to something cold splashing on my face making me flinch.

WARNING

Some scenes in this chapter and the ones a er can be harsh for the

reader. Read with caution!

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The only source of light was coming from a faint bulb flickering on

and o constantly above me. I tried standing up however I couldn't

cause I was completely tied to a chair with ropes around my hands and legs preventing me from escaping. I can't remember anything of how I ended up here. Panic washed over me as I heard chuckling and not just any chuckle but and evil sounding one that sent goosebumps down my entire body. I raised my head towards the person who was chuckling however I

couldn't see them due to the darkness of the room. "It's been quite a while since we've seen each other, isn't that right Ava?" A familiar

voice asked me and I began to feel a sharp pain go throughout my neck. "W-who are you?" I asked the person. I heard shu ling before the person answered me. "Well... See for yourself." Suddenly bright lights invaded my vision

causing me to blink several times. I looked around the room and it seemed like I was in an abandoned

building cause the walls had huge holes in them and the wallpaper was flaking away. I glanced at the person and my heart stopped beating for a moment and I was horrified. The person standing in front of me was Asher.

I started breathing heavily in fear cause I felt powerless. "W-w-where a-am I?" My voice trembled asking that question. Asher laughed and crouched down to my height and looked directly into my eyes. "That's for me to know, but you're kidnapped and you won't be leaving anytime soon until I get what I want." I frowned in confusion as he stood back up and stepped far away from me.

"What do y-you mean?" I asked him with a frightened expression.

Instead of answering my question he yelled for someone to come in.

Soon a door that was situated at the corner of the old room opened

revealing two people, slowly creeping their way towards us. I winced

in pain when I tried untangling the ropes o my hands which was connected by the ropes to the chair. "Don't even try to escape!" Asher snapped as the two people stood either side of him. "Please let me go I won't tell anyone about this." I pleaded him as my eyes welled up with tears. "I'm not a fool to think that you won't tell your rich boyfriend. Well ex boyfriend about this." Asher sneered in my face before glancing at each of the people on either side of him.

"You wanna know who helped me trap you and betrayed you all

along?" He asked me and I nodded not trusting my voice. "Reveal yourselves." He stepped back letting the people step closer to me. The people took o their hoods revealing themselves and leaving me shocked. "Julianna a-and Sophie?" I asked them with a frightened look which they returned with a smirk. "How are you dear cousin" Julianna asked me widening her smirk. "H-how?" My head was spinning in confusion as to why Julianna was here helping Asher cause Julianna died, didn't she?

Julianna laughed clutching her stomach as if my question was the

"Aww she still doesn't know, he never told her..." she shook her head

"5 years ago I met Carter in college, he was a very kind and shy guy,

he never really had friends except for Asher. I liked him so I talked to

him and overtime we became friends." she paused for a moment

funniest thing ever.

and chuckled.

her waist.

before continuing. "Asher, Carter and I soon became close friends, we would do everything together and our life was well, you can say amazing." She rolled her eyes. "But then one day Carter asked me on a date and at that time I liked him so I said yes and soon we were both in a relationship. Over time I lost interest in him, Carter was getting handed his father's company so he was busy which led to him not spending time with me. Later

onwards Asher and I started dating behind Carter's back. Carter

a relationship with Carter, I think I dated him just for his money."

deserved it for not spending time with me. Unfortunately I was still in

Julianna stepped beside Asher to which he wrapped his arm around

"Carter thought I loved him but he was so wrong. Asher and I loved

each other and we tried keeping our relationship a secret but the

word went around and soon we were caught by Carter. At first that

fool believed me when I said that I never cheated on him but then

some b*tch took a video of me and Asher when we were kissing

which led to Carter attacking Asher until he was in the hospital." she said while I listened with tears flowing down my face. "I and Asher grew hatred towards Carter cause he did that to Asher. We came up with a plan to ruin Carter's reputation, cause he cared about his reputation more than anyone. We spread lies that Carter assaulted me and tried to kill Asher. I don't know how, but everyone believed our lie and it was just enough to put Carter in depression. I felt accomplished hearing that but just to my disappointment he moved away from our college and everyone blamed me for everything that happened to Carter. I ran away from Asher and everyone cause I couldn't bear the taunting. But have a look now,

Carter became a billionaire, living a life of riches." she completed with

a laugh and I gasped in horror to what I was hearing.

my mother." she chuckled.

I can't believe that these people would do that to Carter.

I thought Julianna was done telling her story but she continued

talking seeing my horrified face she smirked. "You know I never

regretted cheating on Carter. Poor thing he is scared shitless of me.

And all of your family were dumb enough to believe I died especially

"I didn't know about Asher going to jail until I saw it on the TV, and then I realised that you were with Carter. I wanted to destroy you as well as him. I treated you just like my sister Ava, but you were di erent. So I took things into my own hands and blackmailed Carter to break your heart and release Asher from jail." At this point my mind was spinning with thoughts and confusion. "How?" I asked her with all my strength. "I don't understand why." "Is was pretty simple. I had Sophie here watch you. I did it cause you deserved it for being by his side and loving him, and you know who poisoned you that day?" Julianna asked me and I shook my head not knowing who poisoned me that day that I ended up in the hospital. "I did." Sophie stepped beside Julianna and folded her arms on her chest. I narrowed my eyes at her. "W-why did y-you do it? I thought

"Not me, you thought that. I thought you were nice the first time I

Carter, I got jealous. I was trying to find ways to ruin you so when I

came to know about Julianna, we made a plan and it worked out

perfectly. You ran away from Carter thinking he betrayed you by

kissing me but it was all part of blackmailing him. I thought I had

Carter all to myself but he still went on all about you." Sophie glared

"I always loved him!" She screamed in my face pulling my hair in all

directions. Asher and Julianna pulled her away from me to stop her

met you but when you got the attention of everyone I loved including

you were my best friend." I asked her sobbing.

at me before coming over to me.

but she kept on yelling.

Carter didn't kiss her intentionally, he was forced to! Asher and Julianna led Sophie out of the room cause she wouldn't calm down, when they both came back into the room they also bought a barrel with them. "Now coming to the point, the reason we want you here is for-" I cut Asher o . "What do you else want from me? I lost everything by falling for your lies! I thought Carter cheated on me but all of that was just a set up!" I screamed at both o them crying hysterically. "Julianna, your mom died thinking you were dead! How can you be emotionless towards your own mother? And to Carter? All he did was love you and you betrayed him." Julianna just sco ed at me and

"Why do you want to do this to Carter? He was your best friend." I

despised him, he was my friend but when he was becoming

asked Asher who was gazing at me with a stern look. "I have always

successful, I started to hate him." he shrugged and paused for a while

before continuing. "Listen to us before you lose your dear brother...

"Tell me where Noah is!" I pleaded them. Julianna laughed and then

removed the lid o the barrel and a small figure rose slowly from it

The figure turned around to face me then I realised who it was.

we have him here with us." Asher smirked leaving me in panic.

Asher rolled his eyes ignoring my question.

They have Noah?

shaking and quivering like a leaf.

"Noah!" I shouted frightened at the sight in front of me. Noah stood in the barrel as it covered half of his body. His hands were tied together and a blindfold covered his eyes and masked his vision. "Avee!" he cried. I turned my gaze towards Asher and Julianna who looked rather relaxed. My heart stopped beating when Noah started to sob calling for help. "Please let him go... he's just a child." I pleaded helplessly tied to the chair. "Avee! I'm scared!" Noah screamed as

Julianna went up to him. "Shut up!" she yelled and Noah went silent

"How can you people do that to a child?" I asked them as tears rolled

calling Carter and will tell him to collect you and your brother from us

done and will tell him to bring the money immediately when I say so."

down my face. "If you want him to be free then listen to me. I am

for an exchange of money. You will explain to Carter what we have

I glanced over at Noah to hear him calling for me and crying with

Julianna li ing him out of the barrel and dragging him out of the

at which Noah was dragged out of. "Okay?" Asher roared and I

nodded scared of what he was going to do to Noah.

room and into another one. "Noah!" I shouted at the empty doorway

"Good, now I'm calling him and if you do anything stupid I'll kill you

Asher grabbed my chin in a forceful grip.

but words flew out of my mouth seeing my brother like that.

and your brother." he pulled a gun out of the waistband of his jeans and showed it to me and then put it back. He then he took his out phone and stared calling someone who I guess was Carter. I shouldn't of le Carter without knowing the truth... I just hope they don't do anything bad to my brother or Carter. Carter's POV –present time———

I kept on searching for Ava around the corridors and checked every

room but there was no sign of her."Ava?" My voice echoed through

herself." Jacob said as he followed me. I frantically searched all the

"No I'm not letting her go this time." I stopped at a dead end of the

hallway. "She must be here somewhere, Jacob you go sea-" Jacob

cut me o by yelling loudly in my face. "Carter you're going crazy!"

My eyes shot to his as I inhaled and exhaled furiously. "She le me

at him before turning my face away, we stood in silence for a long

while. I calmed down slightly and spoke out breaking the silence.

need your help." My voice cracked as my throat went dry.

"Look, I love her as much as you love Bina. I just want to find her and I

I was not facing him so I cannot see his face. The hallway went silent

Just as I was about to walk away he grabbed my hand which stopped

"I'll help." he said and I turned around towards him and hugged him

awkwardly patted my shoulder. "Yea alright... just don't kill me with

your hugs. I'm glad that you never hugged me before or else I would

have been dead already." he said which earned a chuckle from me.

"Let's go search for her." I said and he nodded. I was about to tell him

tightly, maybe a little to tightly. "Thanks." I thanked him as he

I released him from the hug and smiled at him.

once again and I was beginning to think Jacob wouldn't help me.

without a reason and I'm going to find her no matter not!" I shouted

the corridor. "Carter let's go, she must be taking some time for

rooms again for any sign Ava.

me in my tracks.

where to go but then my

speed rate.

phone started ringing I checked the caller but it was unknown. Without another thought I answered the call holding it up to my ear. "Who is this?" I asked over the phone to the caller. "Turn it on speaker cause I know your little slave is there too." A familiar voice said. I

furrowed my eyebrows and hesitantly put the call on speaker and

held it out in between Jacob and I. My heart beating ten times it's

I stood still frozen to the ground hearing his words, Jacob furrowed his eyebrows in confusion. "What do you mean?" Jacob and I asked at the same time. "I'm passing the phone over to her" Asher groaned then I heard rustling before I heard a terrified voice. "Carter? Please help me!" The voice said and I immediately recognised the voice, it was Ava's. "Ava is that you? Tell me what's going on there." I said to Ava in a shaky voice. "H-he kidnapped me and Noah, Carter! And now he wants something from you o-or else, he'll kill us." she said in a

within 24 hours or else I'll kill them, both." I panicked when he said he would kill them. "Asher if you lay a hand on any of them-" he cut me o . " I'll kill them if you don't bring me my money, now I'll be waiting for you to bring the money to me." he paused then continued. "When I call you the next time you better have the money ready then. I'll tell you the address to where I'll be waiting for you. Remember

your business is not succeeding as it use to. Yeah, get me my money

Phew that was a long chapter 😩 How was that chapter? Any thoughts? I'll see you in the next chapter,

"Ahh finally! It about time I called you Carter." The voice said with a chuckle. I sighed in annoyance, it's probably a prank call. "Who are you? And why are you calling me? If this is a pra-" the voice cut me o . "I have Ava and Noah with me now. If you want them safe and sound

then you better listen to me." The voice said and I froze in my spot as

Jacob did as well. Jacob spoke up. "Who are you?" The voice laughed

and then replied. "I know well that you know me. I'm Carter's ex best

"Asher." I gritted and closed my eyes and sighed. "What are you doing

with Ava and Noah?" Asher laughed over the phone and then replied.

"If you want me to give them back to you without having any scratch

friend." My blood boiled up thinking about that b*st*rd.

or bruise on them, you will give me something in return."

trembly voice and whispered the last three words, my heart shattered at what she said. My hands turned into a fist. "Ava calm down I'll get you both back, where are you?" I asked her. "I-I don't know! But help me Carter and please give him what he wants." she pleaded me whilst sobbing loudly. "You heard her. Now I want you to bring me 50 million dollars. In cash." Asher said cutting in. I frowned, "Why do you need 50 million dollars?" Asher sighed over the phone. "When you go to jail and get to know

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you have 24 hours." with that being said he hung up on me. I let the phone slip out of my hand and onto the ground. "He kidnapped her! He kidnapped Noah! What do we do?" I asked Jacob pulling at my hair in frustration. "We have to do it, we have to give him the money but..." Jacob trailed o making me look at him. "What do you mean?" I asked him to which he replied.

Continue reading next part □

"I have a plan."

Until then byee:D