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- -Light... Gerard's voice is barely audible, as he stands up Little Light.
- -That mask... It was you she tells him walking towards the mask, but stops halfway You... It was you!
- -Love, sit down, we have to talk... -Talk?! *And what* time did I discover you?! She puts her head in her hands, feels short of breath and sways, but Dan holds her. I can't believe it, I was all this time living, sleeping... Damn! I let you make love to me every night!!
- My love, please she says, joining her trembling hands, with fear portrayed on her face and in her voice -, many things happened that night, I need you to sit down, I have to explain many things to you.
- Luz, listen to Gerard, this is very serious she looks at Dan with a frown and brushes him aside –
- Of course it's serious! Don't you realize how fucked up this is? I told him, I told him everything and he promised to lock up the unhappy man who raped me, every time I asked him how everything was going, he told me not to worry, that everything was fine... And that was why!
- -No, love, that is not so. I was investigating something else, I... Gerard can't speak anymore because the tears are stuck in his throat -. I love you, I fell in love with you before knowing the truth...
- -And even so, you didn't tell me anything, you know that I hate lies, that they hide things from me. And you...-she approaches him dangerously and slaps him-. You hid from me that you were the unhappy one that night!
- -Luz, please, listen to Gerard... Dan tells her, while Gerard keeps his eyes closed, the pain he feels in his heart is a thousand times worse than that slap —
- -Don't mess around!! This is between this liar and me she looks at him again, with red eyes from the tears that she didn't know ran down her cheeks and from anger Listen to me well, I could forgive you that night, because you yourself took care of erasing it a sobbing makes her hiccup and raises her index finger -. But I can't forgive you for hiding the truth from me!
- Please, calm down, think about our baby, my love, please... Luz recoils as if she had been slapped and begins to hyperventilate –

- -My son... she whispers frightened by that truth in front of her -, he's yours... you're the father she puts her hands to her belly and yells at him -. You are the father!! Don't you think I deserved the truth?! At least... at least to be sure that my son didn't have a wretch for a father...
- -I am what you want, my love, but please, listen to me... there are many things I need to tell you, let me explain...
- -No, I don't want anything from you, no excuses, no promises, nothing... she wipes her tears angrily and looks at the two of them -. They're a couple of sick, cynical people, they call themselves the best lawyers, but they're the biggest liars in town." She looks at the mask one last time and feels her body tremble. "I'm leaving.
- No... Gerard says, letting out all the air he had -
- -I can't stay here, with an unscrupulous lying rapist... you're twisted, you knew you forced me my first time, and you slept with me without a shred of remorse the rest of the time.
- Because you asked me to erase it he says approaching her, with a broken voice
 Because you begged me to do it, I did it for both of us, out of love, because I would do justice.
- LOL! Justice she looks at him contemptuously and walks to the door-. That word is too small in your mouth, you have no idea what justice really is.
- -Luz, please don't go he tells her, throwing himself on the floor -. Forgive me, that night was not me, I was not in my five senses, I never... never hurt anyone.
- -You're wrong he says with a cold face, with a deep and tight voice -, The first one you hurt was your daughter, ignoring her all these years... and then you hurt me.
- -Lucecita ...
- -Lucecita has just died she opens the door and finds Rafael about to knock -. get me out of

here.

- *Did* something happen? Are you okay? he asks worriedly.
- -No, just get me out of here she begs -, just like that night, take me away from here, please.

Rafael sees Gerard, who is walking towards them with tears in his eyes and fleetingly sees the

-Curse! – Take Luz in her arms and run with her to the exit-Everything is fine my girl, everything is fine, I'm with you.

Once outside, he rushes her into his car and only hears Gerard's cry of pain coming from the driveway.

-iiiLUZ !!!

But now is not the time to face him, to break his face, now is the time to rescue his girl, even if she is no longer the love of his life, she is still important to him and there is nothing he would not do for her.

- -To my house? -he asks taking a seat in front of the wheel-
- -No, it will be the first place where he goes for me he sobs and cries again -. And I don't want him to ever find me.
- -Then... it will be my mother's house.

They leave the Finnick mansion unhindered for Baltimore, to the place that Rafael left long ago, but he is willing to return there to hide Luz and protect her.

She cries quietly, thinking about how happy she was these months, but it was all over in less than a minute.

He can't believe that everything happened like this, in such a grotesque, dark way. How is it possible that we realized that Gerard was the man of that night, that everything that changed his life was because of him.

– It hurts so much... – she whispers looking out the window, curled up in the passenger seat -, but I'll go out again, I promise, just let me go to the dark for a while.

Rafael stops at a gas station to refuel, buy coffee and something to eat on the way, he takes a blanket out of the trunk and covers Luz with it.

As she closes her eyes and allows herself to be carried away by that pain that invades her, after all, she

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Meanwhile, in the mansion, George is in charge of removing the guests, after James and Dan managed to take Gerard to his room.

Once in bed, staring at the ceiling, Gerard asks, his voice cracking.

- My ... my daughter he says too stunned by the pain -,
- -He was in the garden, with Matías and Evangeline, he didn't hear or see anything answers Dan –
- -But he's going to ask about his Little Light.
- -I'll take care of her, don't worry Dan says –
- -James, security for her.
- -Okay, I'll order it immediately so they can locate it he says while texting at the speed of light -, and I'll put two...
- -Six, that woman is carrying my son in her womb James stays with those beautiful little eyes wide open -. Yes, Luz is pregnant and that baby is mine.
- -Ok, say no more. She's already there she tells him looking at him with a smile and shakes his hand. Now I'm leaving, but call me if you need anything, you know I'm here for you.
- -Thanks.

The two leave the room, while Gerard feels that the whole world is spinning, he runs to the bathroom where he expels from his body everything he had and more. He gets up and goes to the sink, takes his toothbrush, he can't help but see Luz's, all his stuff...

If even the bed smells of her and he can't stop thinking that he should have told her the truth from the first moment, but if he did, he ran the risk of losing her before time.

Before finding all that.

She goes back to bed just as Dan walks in.

-Luz's family is downstairs, but I don't know what to tell her.

or not

- Nothing to the parents, but tell Matías to come up.
- -You're going to say?

- -Yes.
- -Gerard, you can screw up the whole investigation, wouldn't it be better...
- -Tell him to come up! He yells at him and Dan recognizes the pain he saw in his friend years ago, but this time he will not let him die in life, especially now with two children-

-It's fine.

A few minutes later, Matías goes upstairs and frowns when he sees Gerard sitting in the chair that Luz used to occupy to read her favorite books. He is dressed in casual clothes, red eyes and staring into the silence of the night, he needs to finish getting that dark secret out once and for all.

Gerard? – Matías tells him worried – What happened? Where is my sister? -She left... she left me and I don't blame her – even her voice is lost somewhere in the world, wherever she is.

was -

- -Gerard, what did you do to my sister? *Matías* approaches and is only a few steps away from the chair.
- -Before I tell you that, I want you to help Dan. There is something... big that we are doing, it is already in the hands of the prosecutor, but we are missing a small detail.
- "And apparently, you have something to do with Alpha Matías opens his eyes, because nobody is supposed to know who the girl is –
- I don't know what you're talking about he says recovering from the surprise -.
- -You know. She works undercover, right? Matías doesn't say anything, but Gerard knows that he discovered her. It's not the first time I've seen her, so you shouldn't hide her position from me. She is an important part and for sure she will need help, if you can... do it. -You have my word.
- -Now, when that investigation is over, you'll have to do something for me, that's why it's important that you do what I'm telling you. It can't be before, but it will be one day, very soon. -I understand.
- -When Alpha finishes collecting that information, you will come for me, you will put the handcuffs on me Gerard stands up, his face bathed in tears and finally looks at Matías -.And you will take me under arrest, under the charge of rape.
- -What? Matías asks, because he can't understand this -I was... I was the unhappy one who left her... Matías, I looked for her to pay for my crime and, without knowing it, I fell in love with her she laughs and <u>cries</u> at once -. Just so you can see how pyto destiny can be. -You're telling me...? -she approaches and

takes him by the shirt, but not with force, because he feels that pain that is invading both Gerard and his little sister – Are you telling me that you were the one who abused my sister?

-Yes, and jail will not be enough for me, your contempt... not even the fact that you hit me to pay for my crime, but I think my broken heart is a start.

Matías raises his fist, but doesn't hit him. He lets go of him roughly, leaving him reeling. He storms out the door, because that's not the only bad thing he's heard about tonight. -Matías, keep in touch with Dan... – he nods and Gerard sighs -. And he takes care of my daughter.

Matías leaves there, goes down the stairs and sees Evangeline trying to go upstairs with Charlize in her arms, because she has fallen asleep. He rushes over to them, grabs the little girl, and Evangeline steps forward to open the bedroom door.

He is amazed at the girl's room, it is that of a princess. Evangeline moves her covers to lay her down, Matías leaves her with her head resting on the pillow and a kiss on her forehead.

He leaves there thinking that difficult times are ahead, but now he has three important people to protect.

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Rafael lowers the glass of the window enough so that the guard of the booth recognizes him and allows him entry, he looks at Luz who is sleeping in the seat next to him, it has been a restless dream, but at least she is sleeping.

Arriving at the entrance of the colonial-style house, one of his mother's maids and the butler approach the car, he gets out as soon as he stops the car to close the distance between them.

- -Scott, good night extends his hand to the man who keeps the same face as always, as if he had a stick in the ... -. Sorry to arrive at this hour and without warning, but it was an emergency. I need two rooms.
- -I can prepare one for you at the moment he says in the same haughty tone –
- -As always, following the heir's orders Rafael tells him with annoyance -. But with one for now it works for me.

- -Do you need help with the <u>luggage</u>? -I'm not bringing luggage, I just need you to hurry up with that room, I'm bringing company and she's asleep.
- -In that case, perhaps it would be advisable to notify your mother.
- -If you'll just take care of her bad temper for waking her up at... -he looks at his watch-, one in the morning, I don't care.

The man frowns and sends the girl with a nod of his head to prepare the room. Rafael returns to the car to wait, while he sends several messages to his second, asking her to take care of everything that his company has scheduled, for an indefinite period of time.

Half an hour later the girl comes out of the bathroom and makes a gesture with her hand that she's ready, but she doesn't just stand there, she walks over to see if she needs help.

Rafael, very carefully, takes Luz in his arms, while the girl helps him hold the door and then adjusts the blanket to cover her from the coolness of the night.

- -Thank you he says -
- -There is no reason to. Come on, I fixed her room for him.

He follows her up to the second floor in silence, while Luz is unfazed by what is happening. Although she remembers the way very well, she is grateful that at least someone receives her with some cordiality.

She enters the room, the girl comes forward to open the covers and then removes the blanket that covers Luz, the girl stares at that little woman, she looks so fragile and the need to take care of her awakens in her, she looks like a girl Lost in this strange world

- -If you need anything, don't hesitate to let me know. My name is Chloe.
- -Thank you, Chloe. The lady is going to need clothes for tomorrow, she doesn't wear extravagant clothes, you know, the normal of a normal teenager the girl nods and walks towards the door, but she stops her-. She's pregnant, so no tight clothes.
- Of course, sir, rest.

The girl closes the door and Rafael stares at his old room.

It doesn't look anything like it did a while ago. Gone are his posters of Eminem, Missy Elliott and Red Hot Chilli Peppers.

– Of course they wouldn't be, if she never approved of my musical tastes.

She takes care of making Luz comfortable, then goes to the huge closet that is there and finds some blankets and pillows. He arranges them on the floor on the soft gray rug and stares at the ceiling.

That night he had moved on for the first time with a girl in a long time, but now he wasn't sure Evangeline would forgive him for leaving without even saying goodbye.

He picks up his phone and sends her a message.

"Sorry. I promise to make it up to you when we meet again."

He leaves it on his chest, a sigh escapes him and decides to do something more risky. "I love you and I will not stop thinking about you." Because that's the truth, she wants it. That girl, without even getting to know her as she had to do with Luz, already moves her floor more than she would like to admit.

He tries to breathe a little, settles down to sleep and lets out a sigh. She can hear Luz's slow breathing, at least she is calm now. Tomorrow she'll take her for a walk or whatever she wants, she needs to know what's going on. She only knows that this mask is the one that Luz described to her that time. But why was it in Gerard's hands?

He closes his eyes, but a whisper of sleeping Light makes him shed a couple of small tears.

-Gerard... don't hurt me... I love you.