

## Forbidden Heat 18

### Chapter 56: Goodnight Kiss

#### Goodnight Kiss

This is so ironic. True to her words this afternoon, | did let her into my room in no time at all...

The moment | heard the door of Reiner's room close behind us, | felt a little safer as if whoever that was chasing me wouldn't reach me here. | knew deep down that there was absolutely no one and nothing chasing me in this mansion, but my fear wouldn't subside. My head was still throbbing, and | focused all of my energy to control my irregular breathing. | leaned my body on Reiner as my legs gave out and he supported me as we slowly slid together to the floor. | hate how I'm feeling right now, and | hate that he has to see me like this. I'm always showing him my worst and never my best.

| was still unable to stop the sobs that were wrecking my body as | hugged Reiner tighter to me, my nails digging into his back. | closed my eyes and focus on steadying my breathing as | inhaled Reiner's calming scent. It reminded me that | was not alone, Reiner was with me. Reiner hugged me tighter as he continued to stroke my hair and then my back. He's so warm and comforting. | want to be in his arms like this forever.

"Natalia...can you get up?" Reiner whispered softly in a calm voice into my ear after a while has passed.

| shook my head in reply, not trusting the sound of my own voice and my ability to speak.

"Can you put your arms around my neck?" Reiner asked softly. | slowly moved my arm upwards a little so that my arms were around his neck.

| felt his arm under my knees and around my back before my body was lifted princess-style into his strong arms. How he carried me seemed so effortless and yet he handled me with such care as he slowly walked towards his bed. | felt the softness of the pillow behind my head and the touch of the bed on my body as he slowly laid me down. I'm sleeping in Reiner's bed, | thought to myself, as he pulled his blanket over me. | closed my eyes and inhaled his scent; this bed smells like him. It feels so safe and so warm. His footsteps were silent as always, so | felt rather than heard him walking away.

"R... where are you going?" | spoke up in a panic. The panic must have been clear in my voice because Reiner was right next to me in the next moment.

"Sorry, | was just going to wet a towel to clean your face..." Reiner replied softly as he placed a hand on my head to calm me down.

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"Can you...stay with me forever? Can you never leave?" I asked softly. My voice cracked as I continued to sob. I know I need to stop crying but I couldn't.

He brought one of my hand to his lips and kissed it softly. His lips were soft and warm, but in the

end, he never replied to my question.

“Do you want to get some sleep? Or do you want me to listen to your troubles?” Reiner asked after I had somewhat composed myself.

“I want to tell you what happened...or at least, what happened in my head,” I replied. I decided to tell him.

“No need to rush yourself. Just take it slow,” Reiner replied softly as he squeezed my hand for support. He was sitting on the floor and I started to feel bad that I took his bed.

“Before that...can you hold me? Please?” I pleaded in a small voice. I don’t want Reiner sitting on the floor next to the bed; I want him in bed with me.

“Natalia...” Reiner sighed and began to protest. He didn’t make any move to get in bed with me. I knew he wouldn’t give in so easily.

“Fine. I’m so sorry for bothering you,” I said as I turned my body away to sleep on my side with my back to him. I was

surprised at the hurt in my voice. I don’t blame him for not wanting to get in bed with me. No matter how you look at it, cuddling with me in bed isn’t his responsibility as my butler.

I’m definitely not in the sexiest state right now and the situation is far from being a turn on. So, unlike our previous tryst at the lake, I could understand why he wasn’t in the mood. If I continue to be a mess like this, he’ll tire of me soon too. My head was

still in so much pain, I should probably just let myself black out and sleep. The room was silent and dark, but the atmosphere was abnormally tense. I closed my eyes and willed myself to fall asleep.

After a short while, I felt the spring of the bed creak as Reiner slowly got in the bed with me. I felt his warm presence against my back and then his warm arms around me, cuddling me close. I felt tears in my eyes again; however, this time from relief and joy rather than fear and sadness. I started to feel a little better as I felt the warmth from his body all along mine. He was hugging me tightly and the whole length of our bodies were touching. I feel like I fit so snugly with him.

“Are you asleep?” he whispered ever so softly in my ear.

“Not yet. Thank you...for fulfilling my selfish request,” I replied in a whisper as well. “Umm...I had that bad dream again but this time it was a little different. Usually, I just dreamt that I was lost, and I couldn’t find the way out until a mysterious someone saved me. However, this time, in my dream I knew quite clearly that someone or a group of people were chasing me. They were after me and they wanted to harm me...” I explained before my voice trailed off as I recalled the fear I felt during that nightmare.

Reiner listened intently before squeezing me a little tighter in his arms. He kissed my hair softly and then my ear. It felt so calming for him to touch and kiss me like this. My fear started to melt away and so did the pain in my head and temples. I wish my night here with Reiner would go on forever. I didn't want to wake up to face reality once more when dawn arrives. Although, he didn't offer any words to comfort me, his actions were more than enough.

\*"R, can you give me a goodnight kiss?" I asked shyly as I rolled my body around so that I was face-to-face with Reiner.

Although we've done more...sexual...things, I still felt very conscious and shy around Reiner. His responses to my approach was also inconsistent, making it hard for me to guess what he really wants or thinks. Plus, he almost never came on to me first.

After a brief moment of hesitation, Reiner lowered his head to give me a gentle kiss on my forehead. Well, that was sweet but

not exactly what I had in mind. Sensing my slight disappointment, Reiner cupped my face in his large and warm hands before

placing his warmer lips on mine. I let out a slight sigh. This kiss feels so right and so natural.

"You need to sleep now, Natalia," Reiner ordered as our lips parted.

This man can be so bossy, I thought to myself as I snuggled closer against his chest. I fell asleep listening to his regular heartbeat...

-To be continued...

## Chapter 57: A Bride Wears White

### A Bride Wears White

The three of us definitely make a weird combo at this upscale wedding boutique. The bride-to-be, the groom-to-be and the groom's stepdaughter slash on-and-off secret lover. Today, as promised Lucien and I will be spending the precious time of our lives in helping Angela pick out the wedding dress of her dreams to use as a guideline to tailor her extravagant wedding dress. One glance at Lucien and it would be clear to anyone that he would rather be anywhere else but here. I, on the other hand, was busy thinking of how to make this day as entertaining for myself as possible.

Since Angela is obviously a VVIP client, the whole boutique has been prebooked in advance to serve us exclusively. This, unfortunately, meant that we had the whole day to spend on helping Angela pick her dress. The boutique manager and the team of staff greeted us warmly as we entered the boutique.

"Miss Angela, we are honored that you have chosen us to craft the wedding dress of your dreams for your big day. Congratulations once again on your engagement!" the middle-aged store manager said while presenting us with her most brilliant smile.

"Thank you, you are very kind," Angela replied as he linked her arm with Lucien's.

"We have prepared many dresses for you to try on. I suggest that you start by trying on

dresses of different style to see which one suits you best; for example, the mermaid, the ballgown etc.” explained the manager. The staff escorted Angela into the changing room where they could help her try on the various dresses. Lucien and I sat on the sofa while we waited to see Angela in her many dresses. I couldn’t care less which dress she wore to her wedding and I bet Lucien doesn’t give a damn either. Lucien, as always, is fully concentrated on handling the family business affairs on his mobile. Even though he chose this day because he was ‘free’, it was clear

that his ‘free’ day today is still his working day.

After around 10 minutes, Angela emerged in a huge white glittery ball gown coupled with a long white wedding veil on her head. To be fair, the dress looks amazing on her. It showed off the curve of her boobs perfectly and the ballgown made her look like an elegant queen.

“How do I look?” Angela asked excitedly.

I waited for Lucien to give his opinion first.

“It’s good,” Lucien said flatly before his attention went back to his mobile screen.

“Umm...I agree. It’s beautiful,” I chimed in softly. The staff members are glancing around nervously due to the tense

atmosphere. So now they are starting to realize how weird our group really is.

“Let me try on another one so you two can compare!” Angela said animatedly. She sure has a lot of positive energy.

Angela went back inside the changing room. Lucien and I waited again in silence.

Angela must be madly in love with Lucien or desperate to have him. The sight of Lucien burying his face in between my legs as

he licked my pussy was not enough to chase her away from marrying him. Since Lucien is also peacefully working on his job

next to me here on the sofa; it is clear that Angela did not approach him to speak of the matter either. Angela is rich and

decently beautiful, I am sure that she can have her pick of high-profile bachelors as her husband but instead of taking that

route, she has decided to marry a widow man who is sexually engaged with his stepdaughter.

The world is starting to make

less and less sense to me once again.

Perhaps she believes that things will change after she successfully marries Lucien? Something along the lines of Lucien getting

tired of me and loving only her or that she can completely win him over? That woman is clearly over-estimating herself. I, on

the other hand, am not entirely sure what I want. However, one thing is for sure, I am not handing Lucien over to her even if

she becomes his wife. I will make sure that she is his wife in name only and I have decided to do whatever it takes. I don’t

know if Lucien is in love with her or not, but I will cause his change of heart if he is.

Angela came out of the dressing room again to show us a different gown on her. Lucien once again gave his vague response

and I followed suit. After around 10 dresses had gone by...I was losing my patience and focus.

“Natalia...come here,” Lucien said softly as he grabbed one of my hands in his and pulled me to follow him.

“Where are we going? What about Angela?” I asked in confusion.

Angela came out of the dressing room with yet another amazing wedding dress on only to find that the sofa was empty.

Where did Lucien and Natalia go?

“Where did those two go?” Angela asked in confusion mixed with irritation. Where did that girl drag Lucien off to again?

“Oh...Mister Lucien thought that it would be a good idea for his daughter to try on some dresses as well. He asked us to

prepare a couple of dresses for her in advance. Is she perhaps getting engaged soon as well? So many good news going

around!” the store manager replied in excitement.

“Where are they?” Angela snapped. Lucien prepared that for her? Natalia is getting engaged? Nonsense, I have never heard of

such news. Why would she need to try on wedding dresses and on the same day as me?

“They are upstairs. Mister Lucien has asked me to continue to assist you in choosing your favorite wedding dress. So please let

us help you until those two returns,” the store manager said in calm voice.

Lucien, what are you thinking? Why are you doing this? That girl is overstepping so many lines. The other day she even

brazenly stole Lucien away from me and ruined the evening with him that I had planned by pretending to be sick. How dare

she seduce him? If she thinks I will cancel our engagement, she is sorely wrong. Now that I know that she is Lucien’s lover, I

want to marry Lucien even more. I will marry him and do everything in my power to ruin their relationship. I must tell my dad

about this so that he can help me deal with it. Marrying Natalia off will most likely be the most effective way to take care of her

once and for all.

Lucien led me to the upper most floor of the boutique where a couple of staffs were waiting for us. The floor was packed with

breathtakingly beautiful wedding dresses and to one side there was a dressing room. So, are we here to pick out more dresses

for Angela?

–To be continued...

## Chapter 58: Wedding Dress Play

### Wedding Dress Play

Lucien led me to the upper most floor of the boutique where a couple of staffs were waiting for us. The floor was packed with breathtakingly beautiful wedding dresses and to one side there was a dressing room. So, are we here to pick out more dresses for Angela?

“Please leave us alone. I would like to have private time with my daughter. Don’t worry about trying on the dresses, we will somehow manage,” Lucien

told the staff casually.

After glancing at each other nervously for a bit, the staffs readily agreed to leave Lucien and I alone.

“Who’s trying on dresses? Me?” I asked curiously as I pointed a finger at myself. I mean, these are all wedding dresses and I’m the only girl left standing in this room.

“Yes...please try on some wedding dresses. This is the sole reason I’m here today,” Lucien answered as he came closer and placed his hands on my shoulders.

“Sorry, I don’t quite follow. The latest I checked, I am not marrying anyone...anytime soon,” I replied as I slowly shook my head in confusion. My guards are up now. Am I going to get married off now that Lucien is getting married?

“You’re right...but someday soon...” Lucien whispered in a soft and sensual voice in my ear. Someday soon...what? Is he saying that he wants me to marry some random guy some day soon?

“Are you planning to arrange a marriage for me? Are you going to marry me off?” I asked in anger.

“Never. I will never do that. However, I hope that one day you will choose a man of your own...” Lucien replied as he kissed me on the forehead softly.

I hope with all my heart that one day when all this is over, you will choose to marry me, Lucien said silently in his own head as he stared at Natalia’s anger-filled face.

“I see,” I replied with a mix of relief and disappointment. Well, since Lucien is on the verge of marrying Angela, it is obvious that he does not want to marry me.

“Please try on some dresses...you can do at least this for me, right?” Lucien said smiling kindly. I love this gentle smile of his. It reminds me of the Lucien I fell in love with. He’s still here, right?

“Ok. Will you pick a dress for me then?” I answered as I gave him a small smile.

“Hmm...how about this one?” Lucien said as he handed me a strapless ballgown with lace and flower embroidery. Not a bad choice, this dress is very fairytale princess-like. Perhaps this is the look he would prefer on his bride?

I took the dress from him, realizing that it was much heavier than I initially anticipated. I took the dress into the dressing room and started to strip off my clothes. Putting on the wedding dress was harder than I thought due to the many layers of the floor length long skirt. The dress was surprisingly close to my size but for the life of me, I couldn’t zip up the dress because the zip was at the back...

“Umm...Lucien, can you help to Zip up the dress for me?” I asked a little shyly as I emerged from the dressing room clutching the front of the dress to my breasts before turning my back to him to show him the unzipped zipper.

“Sure...” Lucien answered in a deep voice.

I heard Lucien step closer to stand directly behind me then I felt his warm fingers slowly touch my waist before brushing against my naked back. It tickles a little so I took in a deep breath to focus on staying still so that he could easily Zip up the dress.

"Your back is so beautiful. Your skin is so smooth like porcelain..." Lucien whispered seductively. Then I felt a light sucking sensation on my right shoulder and realized that he was sucking my sensitive skin as he was kissing it softly.

"Lucien!" I exclaimed in shock as I turned my body around to stop his further assault on my back. Now facing him, I could clearly see the look of passion in his green eyes.

"Didn't you seduce me the last time you called me to your room?" Lucien asked teasingly as he moved in closer.

So, he did realize. Yes, I did...but that was just to ruin your evening with Angela. Of course, I couldn't tell him that.

"No...1...wait" I protested weakly as Lucien pulled me in for a passionate kiss. His lips were warm and tempting as they teased my own. His tongue crept in between my lips to enter the cavern of my mouth. I moaned as our tongues met and danced around with each other. This feel so good that it's frustrating. I've always wanted him to kiss me this way for years but now that it was happening, I was uncertain if I was fine with our futureless relationship. How long can this possibly last between us?

I closed my eyes and accepted his kiss and all that came with it. I flung my arms around his neck to draw him closer to me so that I could kiss him back harder. He moaned in my mouth as I kissed him back hungrily. The wedding dress slipped down my body a little since I was no longer holding on to it and my breasts were revealed.

"I never thought that seeing you in a wedding dress could turn me on this much..." Lucien said heatedly as he kissed the side of my neck before turning me around. His arms hugged me to him while his hands reached around to grope my breasts from behind. His large hands squeezed my breasts a little roughly and played with my nipples. I moaned at the pleasure and I felt my nipples becoming erect and even more sensitive. Lucien panted in my ears and that sound turned me on. I could feel a hungry ache in my lower abdomen that yearned to be satisfied.

"Your beautiful back must be pretty sensitive..." Lucien said as he ran his tongue down from the base of my neck along my bare back. I moaned as my whole body became even more sensitive. The hot and wet sensation of his tongue licking my back felt amazing and my body was shuddering at his touch. He continued to lick and kiss my bare back all the way to my waist as his hot hands continued to pump my breasts.

"You're moaning quite loudly, does this feel good?" Lucien asked and I nodded in response as I turned my head back a little to watch him in action.

His arms hugged me to him tighter and I felt his hard chest against my bare back. He kissed and sucked on the side of my

neck before dragging my body down with him so that I was somehow sitting in between his legs with my back turned to him.

The thick layers of the skirt were definitely in our way. Lucien's hands played with my nipples causing me to moan out loud before he stopped them with his lips on mine. He sucked on my tongue aggressively and my body writhed in pleasure. His hands started pulling up the multiple layers of the skirt in order to free my legs and lower body. "Maybe I picked the wrong dress for this...this skirt has way too many layers," Lucien complained impatiently as his hands continued to search for my naked lower body.

Finally, after navigating the seemingly endless layers of fabric and lace, his hands successfully pulled up the dress's skirt around my waist to reveal my naked lower body. His fingers found the wetness in between my legs without further delay. I panted and moaned his name as his fingers stroked my opening teasingly. My clit was extremely sensitive from being turned on for so long.

I wanted him to play with my clit and soon he did. He rubbed my clit in between his fingers sending ripples of pleasure up my body and down my legs. My legs and toes tensed at the pleasure and I felt my pussy getting wetter and hotter.

"You're so naughty, Natalia. Getting this wet from your stepfather's touch," he teased me before jamming two of his thick fingers into my wet hole.

My hips lurched upwards instinctively as his fingers entered me. It feels exquisitely good as his fingers stretched my hole and caressed my pussy walls. I thrust my hips up and down greedily to meet his fingers halfway as he pumped his fingers wildly

into me. I spread my legs further apart to draw his fingers even deeper inside of me.

"Ahhh! Lucien, harder...harder!" I pleaded loudly as my lust took over. I wanted him badly...all of him.

Lucien fucked my pussy harder with his fingers as I had begged. I clenched my pussy walls around his fingers tightly to feel more of him. I could hear wet embarrassing sounds as his fingers continued to stir my love juices inside of my hot cave.

"You're so wet...let's see if you can take in another finger..." Lucien panted thickly as he inserted the third finger inside of me. I

felt my entrance being stretched further and then his three fingers were pounding my insides. After a slight discomfort at being stretched and filled, my pussy started to enjoy his fingers even more than before.

Having three fingers inside made me feel more fulfilled and the way his fingers are rubbing my sensitive spot is bringing me closer to my orgasm. Lucien continued to fuck my hot pussy harder with his three thick fingers. I used my hands to hold my legs



open wider for him as I humped up and down against his fingers. Oh! He's going to make me cum very soon!

Soon after I felt my body tense as my climax was fast approaching. Having three of his fingers deep inside me was too stimulating and my body was reacting passionately. I cried out his name multiple times in a choked-up voice as I came. My hot juices spurting out from my hole to dirty the pure white wedding dress. The boutique manager is not going to be pleased.

"Oh no...we're dirtying the dress..." I murmured quietly as I came back down to earth from my intense climax.

"I don't think you should be worried about that right now. I'll buy this dress and all the other dresses that you fancy as well," Lucien replied as he kissed my hairline lovingly.

Lucien held me lovingly from behind in silence for a while as I slowly caught my breath. The next thing I knew Lucien was no longer behind me and I was seated with my back to the wall instead. He proceeded to quickly pull the wedding dress off from me before spreading it on the floor like a carpet.

"Lay down on the dress, Natalia," Lucien directed.

"Shouldn't we go to the sofa...over there?" I asked, pointing to the sofa on the other side of the room.

"I can't wait that long," Lucien replied before pushing me down gently on top of the dress.

-To be continued..

## Chapter 59: Wrapped in Love

### Wrapped in Love

My body slowly laid on my back on the wedding dress and | felt the softness of the silk fabric and lace on my bare skin. It feels weird to be in this position, just lying on the floor but it doesn't feel bad. Lucien laid on top of me using his elbow to support his own weight as he nuzzled my neck softly. He's being so gentle and loving today which was a stark contrast to the encounter in the dining room. He pecked my lips a few times making me smile a little underneath his lips before deepening the kiss into something more passionate. He kissed me hungrily, thrusting his hot tongue into my mouth and | began moving my hips to writhe under him. | could feel the hardness of his cock against my thigh letting me know how much he

wanted me.

"Can you strip? | kinda want to see you naked too," | requested shyly, uncertain if he would agree.

"Sure," Lucien agreed readily before starting to strip off his suit, tie and then his white shirt followed in succession. Then finally his pants and boxers followed, and he was completely naked. | think my body just got hotter while | watched him strip down to his skin, my pussy getting wetter and wetter.

A strip show by Lucien was such a sight.

"You look like an angel sleeping in the clouds..." Lucien said in a seductively low voice as he came back down on top of me.

| wrapped my arms around his neck as I kissed him passionately. | wanted him to enter me so that we could become one. | wrapped my legs around his hips to draw his cock towards my pussy. He was hard and hot when | felt him in between my legs. | arched up my back to rub my pussy to his swollen dick as | moaned. Please, don't make me beg for it...

We rocked out bodies together and grinded, but he would not enter me. It was starting to get frustrating for me as my body yearned for him. We've had sex a couple of times already but not once has he gone all the way with me.

Did he not want me? Judging by his huge erection, that should not be the case.

"Lucien...?" I called out his name with a questioning tone.

"I'm sincerely sorry for hurting you...before. It was not my intention. My jealousy took over and...I'm so sorry..." he apologized

to me desperately as he cupped my face in his hands. I blinked my eyes rapidly in mild shock. I didn't expect him to apologize

outright and definitely not while we're in this situation. What shocked me even more was the tears swimming in the depth of

his eyes. Lucien...did you feel hurt as well?

I hugged him tightly to me. I was so happy that he apologized at first, but it would be a lie to say that I could forgive him

completely. I can understand that love and desire can drive us to do some insanely stupid things that could hurt the ones we

love as well as ourselves, since I'm probably a pro at doing just that. However, I also know that I may not be forgiven for the

things that I've done and that I must live with the consequences whether I want to or not.

Thankfully, he did not ask for my

forgiveness, something I was not yet ready to give.

We hugged each other peacefully for a while as we attempted to mend our relationship. Having recovered from his moment of

weakness, Lucien was ready to continue our heated affair. He began kissing me passionately again as I moaned into his

mouth, our fire rekindled once more. His large manly hands were on the soft flesh of my breasts, making me squirm at his

pleasurable yet rough caress.

"Can we continue?" Lucien asked needlessly. I nodded immediately in reply.

To my surprise Lucien got off me before repositioning himself on top of me in the opposite direction. His face buried into my pussy as his big hands spread my thighs wide apart. At the same time, his hot and erect shaft was thrust into my face. I could see his beastly cock and balls super up-close for the first time. Without waiting for me, Lucien had already started to lick the juices from the soaking slit of my pussy. I knew what he wanted me to do with his manhood but this position and how close it is hovering above my face is making me feel a little embarrassed. I couldn't just see it, but I could smell its strong manly smell as well. Lucien was licking and sucking my pussy hard and I could hear loud slurping sounds from in between my legs. It felt so good; he's giving me so much pleasure I started to feel guilty for not getting on with pleasing the cock in front of my face. My hips were moving on their own now, thrusting upwards to meet with Lucien's tongue as he tongue-fucked my hole. His tongue inside me felt hot and amazing. I reached out my hand to stroke his bulging shaft and found that it was much hotter to the touch than I had anticipated. Lucien must be very turned on because I felt him panting a little in between my legs. I pumped my hand softly up and down his length a little to get a better feel of him. Then I began to cup his balls softly in my other hand. His cock responded immediately to my touch by twitching a little and soon I could feel it starting to grow bigger and longer in my hands. How would Lucien react if I put him in my mouth?  
-To be continued.

## Chapter 60: Unforgivable

### In His Room

"You're right, I wouldn't have told you. There is no need for you to know where my room is. If you need me, you can just call" Reiner replied, and I knew that logically he was right.

"Well, there seems to be a need for all the maids in the mansion to know where your room is. How come I'm the only one without the need to know?" I countered. I had my logic too.

Reiner sighed loudly as he seemed to have given up.

"Now that you know where my room is, what are you going to do with that information? By the way, all the maids know where my room is so that they can find me in case of emergencies and I'm not picking up my phone. They don't know where my room is so that they can come inside and play,"

Reiner questioned with challenge in his voice.

Hmm...so he's clearly not going to let me in.

I guess the fact that he wouldn't let me in made me more curious about what his room is like. I just want to see more of his private space to learn more about him on a more...personal level? After all, they say that you can learn a lot

about the personality of a person by taking a look at his or her room.

“Hahaha! You’re so on guard around me now. Don’t worry, I’ll give up for now, but in no time at all, you’ll willingly let me inside your room...” | stated with

certainty, a smile on my lips. The one who will win this challenge will be me. You’ll be letting me inside in no time...

| had no idea when | said that that the time would come much sooner than | thought and for a very different reason...

“RI...RE..Reiner!” | yelled his name so loudly that my throat hurts as | pounded hard on his door. My hands hurt from the effort of my pounding, but nothing beats the throbbing pain in my head.

I don’t remember how I got here but if he doesn’t open this door soon...they’re going to get me! They’re going to find me! My

body was wet with sweat and my face was wet with tears. Please, you have to open the door!

“Natalia...” Reiner whispered in shock when he saw me standing in front of his door.

The moment I saw him, I threw myself into his arms as I hugged him tightly to me.

“Help me...R...” I sobbed into his hard chest. My voice was so cracked that I could barely recognize that as my own voice. I was

panting hard and finding it difficult to speak and stay on my feet.

Natalia is crying. Something is very wrong about her right now. She looks scared out of her mind, hopefully, of something that

doesn’t truly exist. She’s still crying hard and her frail body is shaking in my arms. Judging from the fact that she is wearing

only her night gown and is barefoot, she most likely ran straight to my room from her bedroom. I hope no one saw her in this

state running around this late at night.

I stroked her messy hair softly as I held her tighter in my arms. I need to calm her down before I can find out what is

bothering her. She’s about to lose her ability to stand as she leaned even more of her weight on me. Seems like I have no

choice, I looked behind her on both sides of the corridor to check that no one saw us before pulling her gently into my room,

closing the door behind us and locking it.

This is so ironic. True to her words this afternoon, I did let her into my room in no time at all...

The moment I heard the door of Reiner’s room close behind us, I felt a little safer as if whoever that was chasing me wouldn’t

reach me here. I knew deep down that there was absolutely no one and nothing chasing me in this mansion, but my fear

wouldn’t subside. My head was still throbbing, and I focused all of my energy to control my irregular breathing. I leaned my

body on Reiner as my legs gave out and he supported me as we slowly slid together to the floor. I hate how I’m feeling right

now, and I hate that he has to see me like this. I’m always showing him my worst and never my best.

I was still unable to stop the sobs that were wrecking my body as I hugged Reiner tighter to me,

my nails digging into his back.

I closed my eyes and focus on steadying my breathing as I inhaled Reiner's calming scent. It reminded me that I was not alone, Reiner was with me. Reiner hugged me tighter as he continued to stroke my hair and then my back. He's so warm and comforting. I want to be in his arms like this forever.

"Natalia...can you get up?" Reiner whispered softly in a calm voice into my ear after a while has passed.

I shook my head in reply, not trusting the sound of my own voice and my ability to speak.

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carried me seemed so effortless and yet he handled me with such care as he slowly walked towards his bed. I felt the softness

of the pillow behind my head and the touch of the bed on my body as he slowly laid me down.

I'm sleeping in Reiner's bed, I

thought to myself, as he pulled his blanket over me. I closed my eyes and inhaled his scent; this bed smells like him. It feels so safe and so warm.

His footsteps were silent as always, so I felt rather than heard him walking away.

-To be continued...