Twenty-Five - Happily Ever A er "What the hell are you doing with my baby sister man? Get away from her!" Isaac growls as he storms into the kitchen and forcefully pulls Zander away from me by the scu of his collar. "Isaac no!" I exclaim feeling a rise of panic in my system, worried he is going to beat Zander's face in. Crap! How could we be so careless? "Look I'm sorry I didn't tell you, but I'm in love with Nell and I want to be with her." Zander exclaims calmly as he is pushed against the fridge harshly. "What's going on?" I hear Waverly ask fretfully behind me, making me turn and give her worried eyes as she, Owen, Adam and Nina crowd the doorway. "No! How dare you touch my sister!" Isaac yells before punching Zander in the gut, causing him to groan and crumple in on himself. Owen and Adam rush into action to pull him back and prevent him from causing any more damage to Zander's body. "Zander... are you ok?" I gasp, hating how wrong everything has turned. I rush to his side as he stands up with a wince, and I try to be strong and not cry. We knew this would be an outcome of being together, I just didn't expect it to happen so soon. "I'm fine Nell." Zander mutters looking anguished. "Seriously, my best friend Nell? How could you both? And you know Nell has always been o limits Zander!" Isaac seethes as he struggles against his brother and friend fruitlessly. "You need to calm down Isaac." Owen snaps as Waverly rounds my raging bull of a brother to hug me. Zander squeezes my hand to show a united front. "I'm sorry Isaac, I didn't mean for this to happen, but I love her and I'm done fighting the feeling." Zander determines, looking him squarely in the eye. "And I love him too!" I add fiercely. Isaac glares at the both of us before shrugging the boys o and storming from the room, pushing past everyone else who is curiously watching in the doorway. How embarrassing... I can tell that underneath it all Isaac is just hurt and shocked. I don't suppose he expected to walk in on his best friend and sister making out in his kitchen out of the blue. It certainly wasn't the best time to kiss, although I can't say I regret it, as it was the hottest make out session of my life. I had one little experience at prom, but that was child's play compared to the soul-stirring kiss I just shared with Zander. With a sigh, Zander leans down and kisses my forehead. "You should go home now Nell, sorry that everyone has found out this way." He sighs as he tucks some of my hair behind my ear. "I'll try and talk to Isaac tonight." "I don't think he's in a listening mood." Owen announces in a curt voice, looking very pissed o. Everyone else is in the hallway whispering about what happened,

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which isn't exactly helping the situation. I feel like shouting 'show's over people!' "It's ok Zander, we both got... distracted." I murmur with bright red cheeks. "I will speak to you tomorrow." I suggest as I take a little step back from him, trying to di use the situation. "Ok Nell, stay safe." He smiles grimly with his emerald eyes looking dull, and I hate that our love has caused a ri between him and his best friend, and my brother and I. I brush past Owen who is content standing there glowering at Zander, probably making sure he doesn't touch me again. Waverly follows me out of the room, and I am quite embarrassed when everyone starts looking at me and parts like the red sea, and Nina asks what happened. I note that Roxie isn't here; she is probably with Isaac trying to calm him down. I leave with my eyes trained on the floor, not wanting to attract any more unwanted attention. It is safe to say that the atmosphere is particularly awkward right now. Nina and River leave with us, but luckily their apartments are in the opposite direction to mine, so I am not quizzed for too long by Nina. It's safe to say she loves drama. Waverly squeals and demands to know everything as we carry on walking home. It all still seems a bit surreal to me - my life has turned a full 180. I can hardly believe it... Zander loves me and is going to fight for our relationship! Of course not everything is perfect yet, with

the 'protective older brothers' situation, but I am hoping that they

will calm down and see sense. Nothing much will change, and we will

still see them all the time, we'll just be more inclined to make out and

hopefully move in together further on down the line. Waverly is really

happy for me and won't stop jumping up and down excitedly like a

Zander loves me... He really, truly loves me! I have to keep pinching

That night I can hardly sleep, too excited and happy to rest. I hold o

toddler on a sugar rush, which makes me smile wider then I can

already help.

Could it be Zander?

my cheekbone.

slender hand on my hip.

naturedly, although I feel bad.

reveals sweetly making me smile.

happy to be in each other's presence.

teeth and rests our foreheads together.

counter, leaving no visible gap between us.

whisper.

apart to breathe.

"Hello." Isaac grinds out.

"Hey guys." Owen sighs.

decide to speak up.

couple now.

arms around me.

butterflies swirl in my tummy.

myself just to make sure it's real.

from texting Zander even though I really want to. Happiness fills my heart at 11:07pm when he texts me simply saying "I love you". I try to leave a gap in between replying, but I get too excited, and I've never seen the point of deliberately giving slow replies anyway, so I quickly text back confirming my love for him too. I awake early the next morning with a satisfying stretch, immediately remembering what went down last night, and unable to stop the smile from blooming on my face even if I wanted to. I am tired as I didn't sleep too well, but for once it doesn't a ect my mood, and I bounce out of bed excited for what the day will bring. I don't have any messages from Zander so I can only hope that his talk with Isaac and Owen went well and they won't try to stand in our way. Not wanting to dwell on the negatives I busy myself with getting dressed and doing some laundry for a lazy Saturday morning. When Waverly gets up, we finish some chores together and then mess around on our phones. I keep checking my phone but Zander doesn't message me at all, making me feel a little glum. Some time later there

is a knock at the door, making Waverly and I share an excited look.

Quickly I check my appearance in the mirror, pushing my hair up to

give it some volume and applying another layer of lip-gloss before

"Oh Zander!" I exclaim in awe as I take in the huge bunch of vibrant

answering. What is on the other side makes my heart sing and

flowers he is holding.

Pinks, blues, oranges and purples delight my vision, bursting out beautifully and tied together with a red ribbon, making my heart melt because of Zander's cuteness.

"Hey Nell." He winks with a nervous smile.

"Oh my life they are beautiful! Come in, come in." I usher him excitedly, bouncing on my toes with a wide grin.

"These are obviously for you." He chuckles with a wide smile presenting his jealousy-inducing straight white teeth, and o ers the flowers to me.

I quickly fetch a vase from the kitchen and fill it with water.

Once the flowers are in water I smile up at Zander who stares

"Hi Zander, I'll see you two kids later... don't do anything I wouldn't

do!" Waverly winks before skipping to her room leaving us all alone.

"I love you Nell." He hums as he steps closer to me, making my breathing increase in pace and heart thump in my chest. "I don't know why I thought I could ever move on from you with Viv. I'll never get over you... it is impossible. I didn't think I was good enough for you, and I still don't, but I'm going to try my hardest to be worthy of your love. Being apart is simply too painful, and the last thing I ever want to do is hurt you." He promises as he trails his fingertips along

"I love you too." I reply, edging closer to him as he places one long,

He is handsome from the depths of his eyes to the gentle expressions

of his voice. Everything about him is captivating from his generous

opinions to the touch of his hand upon my own. I love the way his

voice quickens when he sparkles with a new idea, or when he is so

the mask he wears for others. It is only natural that I give him my

heart and keep his safe, that's the way it should always be.

enjoying one of mine that he loses himself for a moment and forgets

"I spoke to Isaac again." He sighs. "A er another punch..."

"Oh Zander, where?" I ask worriedly, hating the thought of him coming to harm because of me.

"It's fine Nell, just my arm." He shakes his head dismissively, but I reach up to massage both the le and the right in hopes of bringing him some comfort. "I promise I'm ok baby. He says he won't stand in the way if we really like each other, although of course he isn't very happy with me. And I received a lot of threats." He chuckles good

"I'm sorry Zander... I never wanted you to have problems with Isaac."

I sigh as I shu le closer and rest my head on his chest as he wraps his

"We will work it out Nell, it's just new at the moment and he's worried

We stare into each other's eyes, green on blue and blue on green just

"You know it's not o icial yet... Will you be my girlfriend?" Zander

asks with a cheerful grin making me roll my eyes playfully.

about you. He loves you a lot you know, and I would go through a

thousand punches from him if it meant I could be with you." He

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"Hmm... No." I determine with a wicked grin making him raise his eyebrows challengingly.

"Really? I guess I will just have to take you captive until you agree."

Zander shrugs with a naughty glint in his emerald eyes, as he walks me backwards until I am pressed against the counter, and he towers over me with his arms caging me in.

Ok, this is hot...

I place my hands on his chest, trying not to be awkward about it and just doing what feels natural. His silver chain dangles out of his white vest and leather jacket, which has me biting my lower lip in approval.

With a groan he reaches his thumb over to untuck my lip from my

"Of course I'll be your girlfriend, there's nothing I want more." I

He smirks before leaning in and claiming my lips with his own. So ly

we move in sync before he pulls back slightly smiling at me, and I'm

unable to resist smiling back. Our mouths then press together in a

closer whilst the other caresses the bare skin on my le hip as my

swallow his groan of pleasure as he list me and places me on the

I wrap my arms around his neck, playing with the so black hairs I

find there, before we start to lean in for another pulse-racing kiss.

long, passionate kiss. Zander's hand curls into my hair and pulls me

shirt has risen up. Feeling daring I draw my tongue over his teeth and

"Wow... Kitchens really seem to be our thing." He chuckles as we pull

Before we can connect our lips and feel each other's electric touch again, suddenly the front door bangs open making us jump. I scowl when I realise it is just my brothers intent on making an entrance. Isaac growls when he sees us intimately wrapped up in each other's embrace. He crosses his arms, pouting like a toddler who didn't get his own way, as Zander takes a step back from me and I slide down from the counter.

"Hey guys." I squeak, combing my now messy hair down and trying to hide my rapidly turning red cheeks.

Well... This is awkward. Everyone stays quiet for a minute before I

"Look... I don't want it to be like this. I love both of you and respect

your thoughts, but I have always been in love with Zander, and now I

know he loves me too! This is a literal dream come true for me and I

don't want anything to ruin it. Please can we all try to just get along. I

definitely old enough to date. Zander and I are going to take it slow,

and I know he would never purposely hurt me again." I reveal with

conviction whilst lacing my hand with Zander's to show we are a

"Chill out man." Owen nudges him. "I've always thought there was

"I know he won't. I would destroy him if he did." Isaac sco s,

although he isn't frowning as much now.

understand it's hard for you but I am eighteen and a half, so I am

chemistry between you two. I wondered when he would man up and ask you out. I was very surprised to hear about Viv and Rylan, but obviously we all know that was fake now."

"I guess. Just don't touch her when I'm around, and you better treat her like a fricking Queen." Isaac grumbles, and I run up to give him a hug, which he returns with a sigh.

"Aww I'm so happy for you!" Waverly squeals from behind us, making us all turn in her direction.

"Thanks Waverly." I smile happily as I go to hug Owen now, although his attention isn't on me.

"Waverly..." He clears his throat once I let go of him.

Stepping forward he takes her hand, making excitement race through

me and a nervous smile appear on Waverly's face.

making me clap in excitement.

the direction of Roxanne's apartment.

certainly have chemistry!

on the lips.

that when we're alone anyway.

books, all my love Maddie! Xoxo

**Edited** 

"W-What?" She asks, her deeply tanned skin turning pink.

"Look, Waverly I have always had a so spot for you. When I first saw

I like you... I really like you. I was worried before as I didn't want to

cause problems with your relationship with Nell, but now she's with

Zander so I'm not going to hold back anymore. Will you go out on a

date with me tonight, and hopefully many more a er that?" He asks

"Oh... I..." Waverly stammers as she looks to me for confirmation,

crinkle into a smile and her bright green eyes sparkle with happiness.

so I give her a BIG thumbs up. "Yes Owen. I would love to." Her lips

you as a child, I knew you were the most beautiful girl I had ever seen.

Owen pulls her into a relieved hug and kisses her so ly on the cheek. I am so happy for them! They are going to make the cutest couple and have beautiful babies.

"You've both gone so . How am I the remaining single one out of us three?" Isaac sco s looking uninterested.

"Is that jealousy and loneliness I hear? Well I happen to know a nice

girl who lives next door..." I comment making Isaac sigh and look in

I hope that in the future he will find happiness just like Owen and I

have. I don't know what's going on between him and Roxanne, but I

think they would compliment each other's crazy asses well, and they

Suddenly Zander grabs my hands and pulls me into him making me

giggle.

"Needy boyfriend alert." He sighs into my neck, his breath making me squirm.

I hug him back tightly, so happy that I can finally call him mine.

"You know I always used to kiss you on the forehead as it was the only way I could touch you. Now I can kiss you right where I have

always wanted to." He smiles happily before leaning down to kiss me

We don't let it go any further then a peck, as even that is enough for

Isaac to make sick noises. There will be plenty of time for more of

With a sigh I lean onto Zander's warm, hard chest, a smile

overcoming my features when I look around the room and see most of my beautiful family (minus Eden and Kai and his family of course).

Suddenly I know that everything is going to be ok. You just need a little bit of patience... Things have a funny way of working themselves out how they're supposed to in the end.

Thank you so much for reading guys!! Please check out my other

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