

# Most Wanted Love by Lexi Chapter 1

AL's POV

I was on my way to the exhibition. But I saw something. Something which stopped me right there. There was a girl and I guess the 'DCF' is also present. They are here for another crime, this Devil Crime Fam. This girl looks innocent and I'm nowhere interested in the deed I have to do before 3 PM. It's not of my interest, anyway. So, I hide near a pole and started hearing their conversation.

"So... You're going to give the speech, huh?" a guy spoke.

"Y-yes.. and I'll give it, whatever may happen. It is my dream" she said with mysterious confidence because anyone could see right through it that she was faking it.

Suddenly the guy slapped her. I could see that the girl was hell scared and moving backward, she probably didn't notice that the guys were all around here, at the back too. That's when I entered the scene. I am not so interested in fighting much, but I don't fear it either. I kicked the guy who slapped the girl.

"Who are you??" they asked. Before I could say anything, they saw my jacket. My name was engraved on it.

"AL?" The same guy spoke. "Nice to meet you, AL. We've always been on the same side, let's join hands" they said.

My face is always hidden and never has anyone seen how AL looks like. And the same is here too. I lowered my hat which hid the rest of my forehead, the glasses hid my eyes and I think that's enough... And ya for additional security, my jacket's collar is high enough to come to my lips... Just in case.

I didn't reply and I've never spoken in public. That's because I think there's something called voice print and I'm not interested in getting caught. I took the girl in my arms, who was already now scared to death. I have good skills in running and in jumping from roof to roof.

We soon reached a roof where I thought we were safe. I didn't let her see me, she didn't see it either, her eyes were closed the entire time.

"Hey, girl?" I whispered. She suddenly hugged me and started crying. I've never hugged a girl and I don't know how to react. I just put my hand on her head. She got away a while later and then saw my name too.

"Y-you're.... you're A-AL?" she asked.

"Yes, I am. Didn't you hear it when they just told it?" I asked.

"You're... AL..." she repeated.

Come on, it's fine that I'm AL, but at least I'm better than those guys, aren't I?

"So? Can't you just respect me? I just saved you" I said.

"Y-yeah.. t-thank you," she said.

"Fine," I said.

"W-where am I?" she asked.

"Somewhere you are safe," I said.

"I... I want to return home" she said.

"Okay, where is it?" I asked.

"No... No I can go on my own"

"Look down," I said.

She looked down. Somewhere far, we can notice those guys still waiting and searching for us.

"But... But you're AL... Why did you save me?" she asked.

"Well you see, people have made me worse than I am. Wait. You wanted to go to the exhibition, right?" I asked.

"Y-yes, But leave it, I'm fine"

"You said it was your dream"

"But I can't live my dream if I'm dead, so leave it"

"Your security is my priority, for today. So, let's go" I said and took her to the exhibition and left her at the backstage, very discreetly. I'm lucky that no one noticed me or my name. I got out of the place.

My earbud has a tracker, which lets Felix track me and also connect me to him. Oh ya, let me introduce Felix. He's my partner at work. When I remove it, he can neither track me nor contact me. I just wore it right now.

"AL! It's 4! Why didn't you do it??" He yelled at me.

"That's because I've got a mission to do, Felix," I said.

"Which mission??" he asked.

"Something I never did," I said and turned off my tracker and with it, the connection broke.

I changed my attire to a simple boy.

I looked at her. Totally opposite to what she was some minutes ago, she was smiling confidently and gave the speech. When she was done, she got down and the exhibition started.

“Hi. I’m Nash. Nice to meet you” I said to her, in order to make sure that she doesn’t know who is AL and also to make sure that she hasn’t seen my face.

“H-hi. I’m Ivy,” she said.

Does she always stutter?

“Your speech was awesome,” I said.

“Thank you” was her fast reply. I think she stuttered before because I was a stranger.

I went from there and waited at the entrance for her. As soon as she came, I hide myself and then followed her to ensure her safety. I have never done anything like this for anyone. Really.

To my surprise, the DCF didn’t get in the way and she reached home safely. I wrote a note because I didn’t want to meet her, and of course, I wrote it with a pen I never use and with the writing, I never wrote.

“Your speech was awesome, girl. No one will hurt you, so don’t be afraid and achieve your dreams.

-AL”

And I left it on the balcony of her house. I guess the room next to the balcony was hers because there were so many photos of her and also everything was messed up.

I hid myself on the roof of her house and waited for her to see the note. After an hour, she came out to the balcony and saw the note and read it. She looked here and there, searching for someone, probably me.

“Woah. He’s AL. And he can speak something this cherishing?” she spoke to herself and went inside.

Huh. Is my image really that bad? I never did any deed that hurt others. That’s why I didn’t do what I had to do today. But I’ve been framed for so many things... It isn’t her fault either.

I also left for my house. My house has an advanced safe lock, only I know how to open it. Maybe the detectives can do it, but I don’t mind them. I went inside and laid on the bed. The satisfaction I got after helping her today, it’s inexpressible.

AL’s POV

“Why the heck did you put off the plan?? Now you only have to compensate for the loss!!! The boss has now demanded a lot of money in exchange!” Felix started doing his regular business, that is shouting.

"Yea yea. I'll pay him"

"Do you even know the price!?!?"

"I'll see it later"

"\$10000"

"What the hell!?!?"

"Hm... I know you can't pay!!"

"I... I will!!" I said and put off my tracker. I went out to run an errand. I'll just see that that girl is safe. Nothing more, there is no business that I have to do.

I found her at her house. I changed my appearance into someone different. Wait. She knows this face. Nash... My name was Nash, right? Uh-uh. Yeah, it was. But.. how can I go inside??? This is her father's shop, on the lower part of this house. It's a shop for coffee. I can easily go there.. but she will not doubt me, will she? Anyway, I'm going.



I went inside the shop, which had quite a few people around this time. Can't believe my face is exposed all this while and no one has any idea that I'm AL.

I went straight to the counter. Her dad was there, I suppose. I haven't done a Ph. D. in her family!! I don't know her family members at all.

"Hello sir, can I get a Latte coffee?" I asked him.

"Sure. Please wait on that seat, sir" he said. I sat on the seat. Just then I noticed her coming down the stairs to the shop. She was looking beautiful.

Wait. What the hell am I thinking??? Beautiful, seriously AL???

"Ivy, give this to that young man over there" that man, supposedly her father, said. Her name is Ivy? Great. As she stepped near me, involuntarily my heartbeat increased. That didn't ever happen. Never.

She gave the cup of coffee to me. As she looked towards me, a sense of 'I know you' came on her face.

"Hey... you're Nash, right?" she said.

"Hey, ya! I remember you. You gave a wonderful speech" I said.

"Oh, thank you. I also work here sometimes. He is my dad" she said.

"Oh great. Have a seat!" I said. I really had no idea what I'm saying. My brain was continuously questioning me. But I had no control over my voice.

"Thank you," she said and sat in front of me. I just then met an eye staring the hell out of me. It was.. her dad? Oh god. Why is he staring at me like that? Because I invited her to sit here? Because she gave me a coffee? But wasn't it him who ordered her to give me the coffee?

"Oh... Nash... Actually don't mind my dad... But he hates to see me with any boy... So he just tries to dig a hole by his stares in anyone whom I talk with... So I should leave" She said and got up.

"Hey, Ivy!"

"Hm?"

"T-the coffee is g-great," I said stuttering.

"uh, Thanks," she said and left out of the house, probably to her work. I also left the place, I have to make sure that she is safe.

But.. why does her security means so much to me? I'm really surprised by myself right now.

Just then my phone rang. It was Felix.

"What the hell Felix, why are you calling me out of all the contact options you have?!?"

"Ya, and you know what, I can't do anything when you turn them all off!"

"Oh.. well.. yeah"

"Why the heck do you turn off your location tracker so often?? I can't even track you!"

"Why do you need to track me, Mr. Felix!?"

"Because you're behaving weird"

"I'm not!"

"You left the job for some reason that you aren't even telling me!"

"Oh, sorry Felix, But I have a personal life," I said and switched my phone off too.

I don't know why and how, but I think I made that girl a part of my personal life.

Ivy's POV

I met Nash. He is so good-looking, but that's strange that he came to my shop. He hasn't followed me, right? Oh, it may be a coincidence. I have a reporting job today. I'm going to give an audition to become a reporter. I went inside and they asked certain questions. I was lucky enough to answer them all and thus I was selected. Tomorrow is a big day. I will do my first report tomorrow. I just got a minor theft case. I will have to go there.

Somewhere I feel that there's someone around me, but I usually feel that.

AL's POV

I was following her around. She was going someplace. Soon she reached the Cartesian Hall. What was she doing there?

She started investigating a few things and interviewing the people around. She also had a cameraman who was recording everything. Is she a reporter?

After some hours of this thing, she started going back home. I met her on the way... I wanted to.

"Hello, Nash. How come you're here in the middle of the street?"

"Oh hi. Actually, I was just going home"

"Oh, cool. Me too"

"Oh, that's great. F-friends?"

"Okay. Friends!" she said.

AL's POV

She went to her home after I parted ways with her. I didn't follow her then, I'm not the type to follow girls around.

I put my tracker on again.

"You're fired!!" Felix yelled.

Don't worry. He says that a million times every month.

"Ok thanks" I replied.

"Hey! Wait, just kidding"

"I know"

"Hm... So we've got a mission"

"What?"

"First the conditions. It should not be blown like the last one at any costs!" he yelled in anger.

"Ok"

"Hm. Someone's planning something against the state mayor. You've got to save him"

"Who's that someone?"

"The DFM"

"How? What are they gonna do? Why?"

"Go to their headquarters and listen to it yourself," he said.

I just went to their known headquarters. Not really known, I just know it.

I put on my usual form. Usual, that's, of course, my black jacket and my black cap, followed by my black glasses and my black earbuds.

Dashing, isn't it?

I went to their side hall. They were in the main hall that was also the control room. I'm an expert in doing things stealthily.

I was just facing the other side as I reached near the main hall. I stood against a wall, listening to their conversation. My face faced the wall that stood in front of me, while I was all ears to them.

"Hm, so Mr. Joe is going to be dead by tomorrow, copy that!"

"Copied, sir," they said.

I missed the main conversation I guess. I came here after so much trouble. All these cameras, these securities, and I didn't get anything. That's not my style.

I entered inside slowly, looking down, making sure that my hat covered my face and they looked together at me, and I'm sure that they recognized me.

"Hey, AL. Nice to meet you again!" one of the guys, who is supposed to be the boss, spoke. His name is J by the way. Yes, J. Huh, these names.

"Leave Mr. Joe"

"Huh, why do you act like you're good? Come on dude, you're like us"

"Take it as a warning Robe"

"Oh don't come on my real name, AL, I'll expose yours"

"Like you know!"

"Hm, Your name is..." he showed me a paper.

"Mark? Huh, I used that name ages ago"

"Don't piss me off! If you want to make it out alive then join hands"

"Oh really?? My skills aren't for bad!"

"Hm bear the consequences," he said trying to threaten me. Well, I guess I should be when I'm here all alone.

He started to attack me, which I dodged easily. But being alone with the entire team of them, I wasn't sure if I would be able to make it out. And, I wouldn't want to be in bad hands.

So yes, I took the craziest decision to run away, which I didn't do earlier, never actually. I beat some of them and ran away.

As I went a bit too far from their headquarters, that was the time to call Felix. He called me himself, though.

"Hey, AL. You're safe now" he said with a sigh like he was holding his breath for the last 15 minutes.

If that was possible.

"I know it better, I guess"

"Oh yea," he said.

"You almost got me surrendered today!"

"Hm? Surrendered? And you?"

"Yaya. I know that's impossible. I'm never gonna do that. But the important thing is that... I couldn't hear anything because I was late!"

"Hm that's what was expected, but did you do what you went for there for?"

"Of course! Track their voice now!" I said.

Yup. You got it right. I inserted a microphone and a tracking device near their hall.

"Hey hey! I'm forwarding the voice to your tracker" he said and then I could hear those guys.

"Fuck! How can you let him go!" someone spoke.

"He was not of any use anyway!"

"Well well. Don't try to postpone the murder!"

"We know boss!"

"K! Call Joe right now!" J called.

"R! Don't miss a second of their call!"



"M! Maintain the intensity and the frequency well!"

Huh? Do they have names or are they learning alphabets?

"Hey hey wait. What's that black thing?? What the hell-" someone said.

And the voice was gone. Maybe they found out the device.

Oh god. Voice manipulation. They're using their first card now!!

"Felix. Message Mr. Joe now!!" I screamed as I was directed back to him.

"Got it, AL"

I was waiting for his response, but not just standing. I ran towards the mansion of Mr. Joe.

He was going out with his bodyguards, in his car. I went to him, with my hat downer than usual.

"Mr. Joe, your life's at risk"

"Who are you?? How dare you-" one of his bodyguards came in front, covering him.

"I'm leaving anyway. Well, the call you just received was manipulated by the DCF. Don't go"

"That was a call from the president!" the other one yelled.

"Oh really? Why would the president call the mayor and that too at this hour?"

"He said that there's some important issue!"

"Oh god. I'm hating it. Just don't go!"

"We won't listen! Just leave!"

"Hey, you-" his bodyguards came upon me and I don't hurt good people, so I made my way out.

"Have you done any preparation, Felix?!?" I said as I got a little far.

"Yup bro all set, we have blocked all the ways of him to reach them"

"Good. Bring back up, I'm going to DCF"

"Hey hey! Our people will take time! Just slow down"

"I'm leaving now, back up is needed a little later, I'd like to have a talk first!"

"Okay bro, all done, I informed them," he said a little later and I went to the headquarters again.

Hmm wondering how I got there when all the ways were blocked? I go with bloody roofs, man!

I reached there and I met them just at the gate. The boss. Namely, J.

“Oh hi AL. How are you here, bro?” he said sarcastically, which wasn’t humorous at all.

“Leave Mr. Joe alone!”

“Why the fuck!”

“Money? That’s what you want right?”

“Huh, Mr. AL, We want much more than you can even think!”

“And what is that?”

“Power! Control!”

“That you will never get, you piece of shit!”

“You!!” he tried to attack me and I dodged and the backup was soon there.

“Wanna have a one on one fight?”

“One on one is done alone, my dear brother!”

“Don’t you fucking called me your brother!!”

“Someone has-”

“You! Just get ready!” just then my back up got ready with their weapons. They loaded their guns and pointed them at them.

“Do you wanna fight?” I asked at last.

“Leave it,” they said looking at each other.

“Huh? Afraid?”

“What did you say?? You just-”

“Hm? What? You just wait and watch you-”

“You know what, even we have back up!”

“What? No backup can st-” I was stopped by the scene that played on his phone ahead of me. I was not believing what I was seeing and what was happening. I.. I didn’t know what I should do.

AL’s POV

I couldn't believe what I was seeing in front of me. She was... She was Ivy. They had a recording, which was probably going live. They had a gun... Forced on her head... And... And she was not scared. Yes! She was not scared... But hell! I was!

"J... She's not from our world, leave her!" I yelled at him, as a smirk appeared on his lips.

"Oh really? Haven't you been following her around?"

"I... I haven't been doing anything like that... It's a misunderstanding" I said, my eyes still fixed on the video being played.

"Oh really? Now the most wanted criminal will go around a girl all day, save her, and still it's all just a stupid misunderstanding??"

"J, whatever it is, she's not related to us!"

"Maybe she wasn't, but now she is!" they said.

"Don't bring her in this, J!" I yelled yet again, but it didn't seem to affect him.

"I can shoot her any second," he said. "What can you do?" he said.

"Weapons down," I said and everyone looked at me confused.

"I said Weapons Down!!" I yelled and my back up kept their weapons down.

"Let's talk this out J," I said and he smirked.

"Huh? Really? But she's not-"

"I said we will talk and.."

"You'll do what we say!" he said.

"And... And. I'll do what YOU SAY!" I yelled at them, making them smirk evilly at me again.

"Fine," they said and went inside.

"J! Set her free then!" I said.

"After our pretty talk, brother"

"I said don't fucking call me your brother!!"

"Huh, you won't be free from some-"

"Just shut up & talk already!" I said as we reached the inside hall.

"Just one thing, my little brother. You've been trained so well, shouldn't you use it for some good? Come on, you just have to kill Mr. Joe" he said, as they made me sit on the damn sofa.

"K-kill?"

"Oh AL. You have been framed for so many murders... Don't you want to do one yourself?"

"I'll never kill anyone!"

"Not for this girl?" they said, making me look at the video again, in which they've pointed another gun at her.

"I.. I'll kill Mr. Joe... By this week"

"By this week? Are you fucking out of your mind?? The election is at the end of the week! He should be dead by tomorrow!"

"But-"

"This is the last chance to save her!"

"What? Ok! ok! I'll.. I'll kill Mr. Joe! But set her free!"

"That's good if you do so," they said and I stood up.

"But!" they said and I looked at them again.

"I still know her house and my men carry guns to even their relatives," he said. I knew he was clearly blackmailing me.

"Don't you dare-"

"Until you do everything under the plan and don't try to act over-smart"

"Fine!" I said and went out of the damned building, back to my house. I was hell worried about what I should do when I received a call from Felix.

"What did you say to them? Did the matter cool down?"

"Sorry Felix, but I'm out of this job for now"

"Out of the job? Means?"

"I resign to work with you"

"Wha- why?"

"I got a new boss"

"What the fuck are you talking about? Don't tell me you joined hands with-"

"I did"

“And?”

“I am not playing dumb anymore”

“What?”

“Everyone knows clearly that they are the boss”

“But-”

“Please Felix. AL out” I said and broke the connection.

I went to my apartment, which was an abandoned building.

I was not doing their job for God’s sake if you all thought so!!

I knew they were spying on me!!

That’s why.

Then I called Felix again and explained to him the situation.

“Oh god, you scared me”

“You really think I would join hands with those bloody rascals-” I started to speak whatever I wanted.

“I know. Just calm down and think of a plan”

“All they have is that girl”

“What?”

“That girl to keep as a hostage”

“So?”

“I’ll go meet her then,” I said and put the tracker off, I went to her house. I was on her house’s roof. I have already hacked out her number.

I messaged her.

“Come to your roof – AL”

For a moment, I was confused will she come or not, but then I heard some footsteps approaching the roof, so I hide my face completely by the collar, hat, and glasses.

As she stepped up, I spoke.

“Please close your eyes,” I said and she closed them at that instant, knowing how much my privacy meant to me.

Meant to someone like me.

“A-AL?” she asked, a little afraid look on her beautiful face.

“Yes I am AL, and you shouldn’t be afraid of me,” I said and I saw her calm down.

“Okay,” She said.

“I’m sorry for what happened today, it was all because-” I was stopped as she interrupted in between.

“I know AL. I was not afraid because somewhere I knew that you’d save me again” she said and that made my heart have a different warm feeling at her words.

“But.. I don’t know what’s gonna happen next... This house is not safe for you now” I said.  
“I wanted to ask your permission... Can you come with me for sometime?” I asked.

“W-with you?”

“I would never have asked that if your house was safe for you”

“But-”

“I know. You’ll need to convince your dad and maybe he doesn’t really understand”

“Yes..”

“Just for two days”

“...”

“You can tell that you’ve been doing some research & report”

“Oh ya... Wait. How did you know I was a reporter??”

“What? Oh, that... What’s difficult for me? I can find out anything”

“Oh ya sure. You’re AL”

“Ya... So”

“Then I’ll... Ok... Fine.. I’ll come” she said and I went near her and patted her shoulder, making her feel that it’s ok. I asked her to ask her dad. Her dad agreed after a long quarrel between them.

Now all I had to do was save her and do the right thing.

AL’s POV

I took her with me. Ha, I didn’t take her from roofs! I took her to my car.

I reached my abandoned house and she was shocked by all this. I told her that she can open her eyes because I can't make her blind! Although my face was almost covered.

When we reached inside she was beyond shocked, seeing the big apartment, with four rooms.

"You live alone, right?" she asked. I nodded.

"Four rooms?? For what?" she asked.

"Well, someone abandoned this house, so I wouldn't go to them to destroy these rooms just because I live alone?" I said sarcastically.

"Oh yeah, correct," she said. I smiled, but she couldn't see it.

Then I pointed towards one of the rooms. "It's yours," I said. She smiled and went there. I went inside and asked her if she was ok with it, for which she smiled and nodded gracefully.

"Thanks," she said and I went to my room.

It was night, so I preferred sleeping.



The next day I woke up, only to find her already ready, and she was doing something in the so-called kitchen.

"Hm? You're up?" she asked me.

"Oh yeah," I said, covering my face again.

"Don't worry. I didn't look at you" she said and I smiled under my collar.

"Well, can you please bring my phone from my room?" she asked. I went to her room and took the phone. But my eyes landed on a diary. It was her.

I didn't look at it much and first went to give her her phone.

Then I went back to take a look at the diary.

"Personal Diary, don't touch"

The first page read. Well, I shouldn't read it, but.. I'm a criminal, breaking rules is my deal.

"9 PM

I was here, at this abandoned building. Luckily, I got this new diary today, to initiate the habit of diary writing. My last diary got filled a week ago. I'm here with the most well-known criminal, AL. No, I'm not kidnapped, but he's here helping me. Something is strange, in my

heart. I feel like he can never hurt anyone, and that's what persuaded me to come here. My heartbeat raises whenever I see him. Maybe it's just an attraction, but I catch butterflies whenever he looks at me. Although I can't see his eyes, I can surely feel his gaze, whenever it shifts towards me. I want to see him, but it's not my wish, not my land, not my mind. I can't tell him to do what I like, because beggars can't be choosers. I'm in trouble, and he's helping me. It's been days, and it's the first time this feeling is caught in my heart. Never knowing what it's really feeling, I just can't let myself from falling for him. Yes, you read it right, dear diary, I think I'm falling for him. Anyway, I'm off to sleep.

Good night Diary,

Ivy”

I was dumbstruck. What was that? Really? I mean like really? I kept it right where it was, and decided to act as nothing happened. I went out.

“Here is your breakfast, AL,” She said as she placed the breakfast on the table. She looked at my eyes for a millisecond, but then looked down again, realizing what she was doing.

Against what I told.

“Well, you can see my eyes,” I told her, and she looked intently at them, that same second, with some desire, and then shifted his gaze towards the food.

“Yea, thanks, now eat the food,” she said and sat down across my chair.

We had a good breakfast. I told her that I'll come in a moment. I need some time alone.

I was thinking about something.. about someone... about her.

She is falling for me?

What does it feel like to fall for someone?

Is it the urge to protect someone with your life?

The desire to hold someone near you forever?

If yes, then... I'm falling for her too.

★★★★

I decided to go according to the plan in my mind without confessing anything that's unsure to her.

“I'm leaving for my plan,” I told Ivy.

“I'm coming with you, right?” she asked me.



"No," I said. "You're here to be protected not hurt" I clarified.

"Please AL" she pleaded.

But why? Who wants to roam around with a criminal? Why?

"Why?" I asked the question on my mind.

"Just please," she said. I had no other choice.



I reached their headquarters. I wanted to act like I'm making some plan with their help. She stood outside, at a hideous place.

"Oh hi AL. Good that you came here" J said.

"Thank you. So, what's the plan?"

"Just kill him. That's it"

"Ya, but how?"

"You know it well, don't you"

"Ya sure. I just need to make sure you don't hurt her" I said.

"Yes, we won't," they said. "Until you do what we say" they added.

"Deal," I said.

I left the place and reached where she was hiding.

"I'm leaving for Mr. Joe's house," I said to her. "Should I leave you home?"

"AL. I trust you, and your plans. But what will you do?" she asked me.

"Ask him for help"

"That's not what you can do, AL! You know he won't trust you!"

"Yes, I was kidding, Ivy. I have my backup. I'll wait until they know that I'm not doing anything, and then I'll attack them"

"That's cool but dangerous, AL"

"My life has been always dangerous, Ivy, but I'm still alive, even if I die-"

"AL! Don't you dare speak anything like that! "

"Oh Ivy, fine"

"Yes. So I'm coming with you"

"No, you're not," I said.

"Please!"

"No! You won't! That's dangerous, you said it yourself!" I yelled a little, which made her scared.

"Please AL. Please" she said in a low voice.

"Fine. Come. Don't be scared" I said and she looked up and smiled. I took her with me and reached Joe's home.



It has been so much time and I know DCF must come here at any moment. I'm ready too, so no need to fear. But all I fear is her. She was sitting in our car. I told her to run away the moment they take over us if that happens.

They came. As expected.

"You will pay for this, AL!" J yelled and we got involved in a fight. It was going wild. Everything.

Everyone was fighting. J and I were also fighting with each other.

But I saw someone else coming with a gun towards me. He pointed it on my head, while three others surrounded me, binding my hands. J stopped, everyone stopped. J came in front of me, while my hand was tied with rope.

"You should know who's the boss!" he yelled and took the gun in his hands. He was about to shoot when Ivy... she came there and took the gun immediately from him. They all looked towards her. He snatched the gun back.

"I'll die. I'll die but leave him, please!" she said to him and he smirked.

AL's POV

"I'll die. I'll die but let him go" Ivy said whilst the gun was pointed towards her now. I couldn't do anything, three guys were holding me, with their guns pointing at my head, and my weapon was already taken.

"Ivy, what the hell... let go of her, J, she isn't one of us," I said trying to be calm because if I'll shout then we are definitely dead.

"Oooh seems like two love birds are here? You will risk your life for him, but don't you know, it's not a movie, you won't be saved by some hero, and all that happily ever after tales!" he said and started laughing and took another gun and pointed at me.

"Let's do a deal. You both die together. Nice, isn't it?" he spoke.

No. It isn't happening. I still haven't confessed my love to her. NO!

"J. I'll.. work for you... I.. uh.. promise.. let her go" I said and he chuckled.

"No. I won't fall for your trick again" he said.

"J. Remember we share one thing. At-least for that, don't do this, you know what I mean, we promised something to her" I said.

"Oh god. Now you remember you're my freaking-"

"Please J," I said. He stopped. Yes, we promised something to her, and he wouldn't open his mouth, because we both respect her equally.

"Let her go, J, please" I can't believe I'm helpless.

"Fine, but make sure this in your mind, that if you don't do what we say, you're gonna lose someone close to your heart," he said facing Ivy and left.

"Sorry Ivy.." I said as she was still in pure shock and was scared by everything. She hugged me suddenly. I don't know why... but I hugged her back.

"AL.. what will you do now," she said crying, as she got back.

"At least I won't want to watch you cry," I said.

"Hm?" she asked shocked.

"Ivy, close your eyes," I said and she closed them. I went more near her.

"Can you forgive me?" I asked her.

"For what?" she asked.

"Just tell me, you will"

"Ok, AL, I will, but whats-"

I kissed her on her lips. I know she is shocked and probably angry... But that's what my heart said to do. I got away and she had her eyes still closed.

"AL..." she said.

"Sorry, Ivy, that's just... I.." That was the first time, I was afraid of something, afraid of her getting angry, afraid of her hating me.

"Was it... Do you.." she couldn't complete her sentence and a tear left her eyes.

What? Did I hurt her? Hurt her feelings? Was she angry? Why is she crying?

"I'm sorry Ivy, don't cry, please"

"Answer me AL, you know what I want to ask"

"Yes Ivy"

"But why me?"

"Because... Ivy, because you're Ivy, and that's what I love about you"

"That doesn't make sense"

"It does if you can like a criminal like me, what's wrong in liking an innocent soul?"

"W-what? You know?"

"I wouldn't have touched you if I didn't know," I said and she smiled.

At-least she is smiling.

"AL. You're not a criminal" she said.

"I am," I said.

"I know, you can't kill anyone, I know you don't hurt good people"

"But how can you be so sure"

"I think that's what love is all about"

"No Ivy. You are wrong, I've killed many people, they all were innocent" I said the lie, she is unsafe with me, I want her to leave me, I shouldn't have kissed her, but I couldn't control myself.

"AL, That's a lie"

"No, it isn't Ivy," I said.

"AL. I know that-" she was still speaking something.

"I said, I'm all about a criminal! Get that shit in your head!" I yelled at her, and she flinched at my sudden harsh voice, she took a step back and nodded.

"o-ok," she said and looked towards the car, finally opening her eyes. She didn't see me, but I know her eyes were full of tears.

Sorry Ivy, but I have to do this, I want you to hate me so that you can finally go away from me. I know I also can't live without you, but that's not what matters, because you being with me, will only put your life in danger, you are too pure and too good to even be here in this cruel world. You don't know that they won't even think for a second before using that gun. I can't let you be a victim, because I love you, and trust me, all love couples are not meant to be together.

I went to the driver's seat. She earlier sat on the passenger's seat, but this time she sat on the back seat.

"I want to go back to my house," she said.

I didn't have any other option, so I dropped her at home.

Ivy's POV

He dropped me at home and I went straight to my room. Dad was asleep, maybe because it was late. He sleeps early enough. I started crying as I reached there. As if someone has pierced my heart. He never behaved like that. How can he shout at me? Doesn't he like me? If yes, then why did he..? If no, then why did he kiss me? I was a weak-hearted person, so I thought not to think about it.

I slept and waited for the night to pass through. I took sleeping pills, I wasn't catching any sleep.

AL's POV

I went home after dropping her. I was not in my senses. I hurt her. Everything is clear, It's better that I hurt her than them hurting her. I don't deserve her love.

I went inside and Felix called me.

"Yes Bro," I said.

"I told you not to go around any girl"

"When?"

"From the start. Now what?"

"What?"

"You're acting stupid, AL"

"So? My mind is not clear! I don't wanna help them, I can't! But her life is in danger!"

"So what did you decide?"

"Helping them?"

"Shut the fuck AL!"

"So do you have a better plan?"

"Hm. ask Mr. Joe for help," he said and call cut. He was the only one who can help.



I called Mr. Joe.

"Hello" he picked up.

"Hello, AL here"

"Who- oh what!!"

"Don't be shocked, just listen. DCF is planning to kill you. So"

"Why should I trust you?"

"That's the only chance you have"

"Okay okay. We all know you aren't bad. You saved my son"

"Yes, so, spread the word that you're dead"

"Wh-at?"

"Don't leave your house and do all the procedures with any dead body, just make sure you don't get caught. The elections are at the end of the week. Just keep your profile low till then, and once you win the elections, you won't be in trouble"

"Okay. I got it, thank you AL"

"Bye sir," I said.

Yes, I had saved his son once. He's in politics so his son is also a victim sometimes.



It's been one week. I made sure that the truth doesn't come out. The DCF is blindfolded, and Mr. Joe is dead for all. But what I want to get is now to make sure no one knows that it was OUR plan. It would be difficult to convince everyone that he's alive, but it would work because we'll say that he had taken an oath not to speak or do anything till the elections. So the elections are today and he came out of his house startling everyone.

The media was insane, but the government was providing security to him. It is provided to every political leader before the election and during their rule time.

It was all going on, but the thing that was worrying me the most was that I hadn't spoken to her for a week. But I saw her go to work, so it's fine.



The day ended, the results came and Mr. Joe won. Now, his life is not in danger. Mine and hers is. I went to her house.

I messaged her to come on the roof but she didn't come.

"Ivy, please it is important" I messaged again. She came and closed her eyes.

"Your life is in danger again. So.."

"I'm not coming with you, sorry"

"No. I'm not asking you to come with me. Just keep...some of my guards here. And take this necklace. It has a small chip. If you press this button then the police will come. Don't worry."

"Can I open my eyes"

"Can I.. help you in wearing it" she was quiet for a second but nodded. I went to her back and made her wear it. Then she opened her eyes (because I was at the back) and saw a button behind the pendant of the necklace.

"T-thank you AL"

"I'm sorry Ivy"

"For?"

"You know it"

"I'm confused"

"About what?"

"Everything," she said. "Do you like me or not!?" I was shocked by her straight question.

"Y-yes, I do Ivy"

"Then? Why did you..."

"Because I'm just a trouble for you, Ivy, you need to understand"

"No. I want to be with you. I don't care about the world"

"But I care about the world, because my world is you, and my dear world, your life is in danger because of me"

"Sorry AL, I can't be like this, I want to be with you"

"We'll talk about it... later"

"Okay"

"Bye, take care"

"Thank you, AL" with that I left.

AL's POV

He messaged me.

J.

"You've messed up big this time, you will lose Ivy"

Oh yeah. Of course, she is the target.

I didn't flinch or fear because I knew she will be fine. I went to her house, although.

Police.

Sure enough, they tried.

I went inside.

No... This... Th-this... It's... Not true, right..?

"Surprised much!?" J said. I looked at him.

Her dad was tied to the ropes, unconscious and his mouth was also covered with a cloth. Ivy was in one of the man's arms and her mouth was shut by the hand and also a gun was pointed by another man. Police nowhere to be seen.

"J.." I said.

"Now lose her!!" he yelled.

I looked into Ivy's eyes. She was trying to say something like 'everything is fine'.

"Sure, but can you let me.. uh.. kiss her one last time?" I asked.

He smiled, evilly, of course.

"ooh, love birds?? Sure!" he said and freed her from the grip but of course, three guns were pointed at us.

I hugged her as she came to me. I saw the necklace she was wearing from her back-neck. It wasn't the one I gave. It was a copy. The one I gave had the name 'IVY' encrypted on it's back. But it was slightly different. Oh, now I understand.



I didn't kiss her of course and got away.

"Don't want to kiss your girl?" J said.

"No... Not really. Because we need some privacy, don't we? But you aren't really giving it"  
I said.

"Damn it, you aren't going to get it either"

"I'm fine with it!"

"So, you wanna save her?"

"Yes, I do, what do you want?"

"We want you dead," they said.

"Sure! But that's unequal, I mean I didn't kill anyone, so why should I be killed? I mean, some sort of-"

"You sure killed many people!" they said.

It took me a while to understand what is happening, but now I do.

"I surrender," I said to the police that just came from the first floor.

"Show your face!" they said.

"Well, that, uh... I would most likely do that at the police station?"

"That's more like it," they said and handcuffed me. The DCF already ran away when the police came down. Well, how coward they are, right? At-least have a good image in front of the police!

They started taking me to the police station I guess, they were taking me to the police car, when I opened the handcuff, I learned that years ago, and started to beat some of them. Although it was a bit difficult, I'm a pro at it.

I ran to some roof far away, when they were out of sight.

---

After about half an hour I came to Ivy's house. I can't take the risk of police thinking that Ivy is with me, or something like that.

I entered her house through the balcony that was closed, but I knocked on it and she opened it.

She hugged me as soon as I entered.

"I'm glad that you're fine, AL," she said.

"I'm more than glad that you're ok, Ivy" I replied.

Just then I heard footsteps and the door flew open. It was her dad, and I'm really dead.

"Ivy, your dad..." I tried to tell her because she wasn't facing him, but she kissed me. I kissed her back, I don't want her to be disappointed.

She got away and I told her, "Well, your dad really hates me," I said. She turned around, to meet with the burning gaze of her dad.

"D-Dad! I.. I.. uh.. this.. he.."

"I'll see that," he said calmly, totally opposite to his facial expressions. "Who the hell are you!!" he yelled at me.

"Sir... I.. uhh..."

"Oh great. The most wanted criminal AL is scared of someone who is unarmed" Ivy whispered in my ears.

"Keep quiet princess," I said without letting any emotions come to my face, although my face was not visible to them!

"I.. I.. my name is AL," I said. Don't wanna lie to my future father-in-law!

Okay, that's so much cheesy.

"AL? What's that name!?"

"uh.."

"Wait. That criminal?? AL???" he asked.

"Dad! He's not a criminal! He saved us today, without him the police wouldn't have been here!" Ivy yelled.

"We'll talk to you later!!" her dad said and Ivy said to just give her a minute and then her dad went downstairs.

"huh. That was..." she said.

"It's fine," I said.

"Really! You're not a criminal!"

"For you"

"Jeez, leave it, you wouldn't understand," she said.

"Listen, Ivy"

"Hm?"

"She was an actress, right?"

"Who?"

"You don't know?" I asked.

"Nope"

"There was a paid actress who was masked like you and was made to pretend as if she was you. But you know what, they are totally stupid. Because I feel you from my heart, and heart can't be fooled like that!" I said.

"You speak really good lines"

"Thanks.. and your duplicate dad was also present," I said. She smiled.

"But the best thing is that you are smarter than anyone," she said.

"Because I need to protect you" I completed.

"AL. I don't like people calling you a criminal. You're not a criminal" she said concerned.

"But I am, for the world, and that fact can never change," I said.

"It can, if you and I... If we are together.. let's work together to clear your name"

"That's-"

"Please AL. Promise me we will clear your name and we will do this together"

"Okay, Ivy, we will," I said and we both smiled.

I know from today, everything will change.

AL's POV

That day ended and I went back to my house. Well, the DCF was quiet and I didn't get any further responses and they didn't try to contact me. Well, they just got away from the police by inches!

They were almost caught.

They really fear the police.

Anyway, I was happy until I received a text. A horrible text. It took all it needs to make me stop breathing.

"She's gonna suffer hell," it said, and attached to it was a photo of her tied with ropes and a gun attached to her head.

She was blacked out and a man was holding the corner of her top threatening to tear it. I saw a tear roll down her closed eyes. The gun pointed straight to her head, and the man looked at her with his shit\*y eyes.

“What do you want” that’s all I could say as I felt the most vulnerable at that time.

“Leave this country to save her” they texted.

Yeah sure. They sure want that, so that no one can come between them and the crimes they commit. After all, I’m the only one opponent they have. After knowing their powers, everyone joined hands with them. If you can’t beat your opponent, better to not let them play.

But do you think I’m selfish? Staying here is the most selfish thing ever. I stay here so that I could fulfill my purpose of cleaning AL’s name? Fu\*k, let AL go to hell.

“When?” I asked.

“Now! Right now”

“Okay. I’m leaving. You can follow me and confirm it”

And then I packed my stuff. I’m leaving, really. I don’t have anything to think about. I can’t let them do anything to the only one I ever loved.

You’ll understand me once you are in love. Once when you know that you mean NOTHING in front of your love, and when your love thinks that you are EVERYTHING. But trust me, it’s not what it seems. I knew it was coming. I knew it.

I lost.

---

I went to the airport. I was going to Russia.

Nah. Nothing special there. It’s just the flight was heading there. And from now I will go wherever the wind will take me? Not kidding. I’m not in that mood. I’m finished.

I paid some extra to get the tickets. I met one of their men on my way.

“So you’re really leaving,” he asked amused.

“Yes, I am. Just don’t hurt her”

“As long as you don’t return, we won’t even touch her and she can return to her old life”

“Fine,” I said. Suddenly J video-called me.

“Hmm... Lost?” he said.

“I... I lost” I responded.

"Huh? That's what I wanted to hear always!" he said and started laughing.

"And for our mother's promise," I said. He looked at me with attention. "I'll leave and you promise me to leave her alone," I said.

"Yes, sure," he said. Well, I only trust her because I used my mother's name for this. He won't ever break it. And that's it.

If you're wondering, then we both are brothers... Real brothers. And due to some circumstances, our mother made us promise... That in this life, we'll have to listen to each other, once. Once, wherever the other asks, we have to do that. Although we have some exceptions like we can't ask for each other's lives, still. And we both loved our mother very much. She's the only reason we don't reveal each other's identity.

---

I left the country. I reached Russia and decided to change myself completely.

Sorry, Ivy, I knew we can't be together. Sorry for getting your hopes high. Not in a billion years did I think that he will go for you. That's for the best, what I did. And trust me there, if destiny wants us, we will be together someday. And also trust me right now, all couples are not meant to be together. I told you before, didn't I? My words have some meaning, and now you know what they meant. But destiny is something, isn't it? Not now, not anytime soon. But we can meet... Maybe.

Sorry, but I'm changing myself forever. I'll make sure not to change my love for you, that's impossible, but no I'm changed. I'll live like the true me from me. AL's dead, Ivy.

Here I come, Russia.

Ivy's POV

I woke up after a long time. My hands were tied. I tried to remember what happened.

I was kidnapped.

Kidnapped when I was on my way to get evidence to prove AL's innocence.

I felt a gun near me and I closed my eyes. Suddenly the phone of the man holding it rang. He picked it up.

"Noted," he said and then removed the gun.

"You can go," he said to me. I had no idea what was going on, but I ran away. Who would leave such a great offer?

I took a cab on my way home. I was so afraid. AL saved me!

I reached home. Dad didn't know I was kidnapped, so he was normal, and so was everything.

But wait.

Where's AL?

I called him.

"The number you are calling does not exist. Please contact your service provider for further details"

What. The. Hell.

I called again, with another phone, but the same result.

The number does not exist!

I was afraid. Where is he!?

Did he leave me? No! He saved you, Ivy!

Suddenly a message popped up on the phone.

"Looking for something, eh?" the message said.

"Who are you?" I asked.

"That doesn't matter. I know where is AL"

"Where is he?" I asked.

"He left you. He left California. He left himself here, he's no longer AL"

"What? Do you think I'd believe you? Fuck off, man!" I texted and put the phone down.

I was already pissed off that he was nowhere to be found. And these stupid people.

The phone started ringing. I picked it up.

"You are fooled by AL, Ivy, he left you and you didn't even see his face. You'll never even know him!" some male voice said.

"Who the hell are you?" I asked.

"Your well-wisher," He said and the call ended.

I tried calling again, but,

"The number you are calling does not exist. Please contact your service provider for further details"

What is with these numbers and their existence!!

I threw the phone away. I was so angry. I left the house to go to his place.

The place where he once took me.

I reached there and started searching for him.

“AL?” I yelled but no reply. I searched everywhere and finally found a note.

“Hey. Ivy, right? You made a fool of yourself. I don’t fucking love you. I’m a criminal and you should’ve known that. You are just a play toy for me. And now I don’t want to waste a fucking another second on you. So get lost!

Yours!!

AL”

This... This isn’t true, right?

That’s... That’s some prank or.. something like that, right?

No. He loved me! I’ve seen that in his eyes!

But then where the hell is he?!

Did he really leave California?

Leave me?

Leave AL?

No! Stop these stupid thoughts, Ivy. He’s yours. He told that himself. Trust him.

I trust him!

He can never leave me. It’s definitely a plan to make me weak and vulnerable.

Yes, it is, right?

I won’t believe any word. I know you haven’t left me.

I know you loved me.

I headed back to my home. I took the page with me.

I know him... He can’t write that. Maybe someone else did that?

I can’t be sure of anything. I’ll definitely do something. I know you would come back very soon.

Just be fine wherever you are.

Don't forget to miss me.

---

It's been 5 long days.

No sign of him.

I tried every possible way to find him. But no. No AL. Nothing.

I switched on the TV.

Lately, AL has not been seen anywhere in California. So he's on news. I saw him on news yesterday.

"The Most Wanted Criminal of California expected to be shot by another gang named DCF"

What?

What?

What did it say?

Shot?

Are you fucking kidding me?

That's what is left, right?

Just make me go rot in hell! I don't care about anything but him if god. If god anything happens to him, then I'm telling you I'm going to end my life.

You! You will be responsible for my death.

I don't know anything! I don't want to believe that letter, but sure he left me! Then also I wanted that he should live happily, so now what?

Huh?

Shot?

Why don't just kill me?

I can't take it! Firstly he left me. That was just enough to break me!

Now not this!!

AL's POV

I reached my brother's place. Yes, we were three brothers.



Edward, Andrew, and Antonio

Edward didn't like all this criminal stuff. He left us at an early age itself when he was told to select between crime and us or clean and just himself.

He said he'll like to live a happy life alone, away from us.

It's not like he doesn't love us. But just we weren't that type of siblings.

Like you can see Antonio and me?

Yes, that J has a name and it is Antonio.

And my real name is Andrew.

He took J as his initial because of reasons unknown. He never told us why did he do that. But I'm not interested either.

Because all I feel for him is hatred.

I rang the doorbell and Edward opened the door. He was beyond shocked.

"A-Andrew?" he asked.

"Yes, Eddie. You've changed so much!" I said.

I last saw him in his teenage years. He left the place but being a criminal that was able to find anyone, I always took note of his whereabouts.

"So do you!" he said. "But.. How do you know I'm here? Why are you here? Is Antonio still on your opposition?" he threw his questions to me.

Yes, Antonio was against me from the start. He wanted to have all the happiness of this world to himself and that's where I didn't agree with him.

He said that we have one life and we should enjoy it. But not by ruining other's life, right?

We weren't enemies, though. We have a little fight and then it was fine.

But that one incident changed us forever.

That one girl.

Sophia.

She came like a storm and ruined everything. Everything means everything. She built a wall between us, and Antonio decided to never break it even if that wall is suffocating because according to him, I was the one who built it.

Thinking about it is always painful, I can't change anything, but Antonio changed forever from that day. Our friendship and brotherhood changed to hatred and enmity while Sophia must be having fun somewhere.

Ironic, isn't it?

She ruined us. But what did she get? Where is Karma?

Nowhere. That's why I don't believe in karma.

But Ivy, she made me believe in destiny. And all I required was to get away so that I don't ruin a life.

I know how it feels.

I've been broken once.

By my brother.

My family.

I can't break someone else.

"Well Yes," I said.

"You didn't answer my other questions!" he said.

"I know Ed. I'll tell you everything.." I said.

"I just want one answer and I'll let you in," he said. "Are you still in the criminal world?"

"No," I said. He nodded and let me in.

He doesn't want anyone near the criminal world to go near his daughter.

Yes, daughter.

He married as of last year with his girlfriend that lasted for three years. Her daughter is just some months old and he's just so overprotective over her.

That's good.

At least someone has a family.

Someone has a life.

Not like me, a dead criminal.

---

I went inside. Firstly I saw his daughter. The cutest thing ever.

Then we went to a different room. By we, I meant me and Edward.

“So?” he said.

“.....” I didn’t know where to start or explain myself.

“You told me you are never going to leave being called a criminal,” he said.

“.....”

“What changed you, Andrew!”

“I’m in love, Ed!”

“What?” he said. “Love and you?” he said.

“Yes, I know it’s absurd... But.. It’s true” I said.

“Okay. I believe you, but who’s she? Do I know her?”

“No”

“So why are you here?”

“Because she’s not safe if she’s with me. So...”

“It’s unlike you”

“I’m unlike me,” I said.

“Okay. I need time to understand you now. For now, you can stay here. Just behave and don’t talk about any criminal matters in front of my daughter or wife”

“I know. Trust me”

“Okay then, it’s fine,” he said and showed me my room.

Andrew’s POV (AL)

The next day wasn’t that enthusiastic. I woke up at 7, Edward was already awake, and his daughter was sleeping peacefully. Actually, he told me that his wife had gone to her family for two-three days. She would be returning today itself.

“So, you’re telling me that you hired people and bribed Antonio to spread the fake news of your death just so that girl can forget you?” Edward asked while sipping his tea.

“Well.. yes,” I said.

“You really don’t know what is love, do you?” he asked me.

“Less than you, I’m sure,” I said.

"She doesn't believe that you're dead," he said.

"What?" I asked.

"I'm sure she doesn't," he said. "Of course if only she loved you" he added.

"Of course she did!" I said.

"Then your plan is a complete failure," he said and kept the cup down.

"But.. I did everything. I can't return to that world, Ed. I love her but that's what is keeping me away from her. If anything I can ever give her is pain and that's what I never want to, even if that means staying away from her. I wrote a fake note, I made fake calls, just to make her feel that I'm not good and that she should forget about me, or at least hate me, so that if one day I forget that my return would hurt her and if one day I return to her being a selfish one, then she will push me away herself" I said.

"Listen, Andrew," he said. "It's not the way you think, to be honest, it's totally the other way round"

"Means?" I asked.

"She needs you and you need her. You're hurting her" he said and got up and left the room.

Am I hurting you, Ivy? But that's the only way I have. If I stay with you, you may even lose your life. I'm sorry Ivy, you fell for the wrong person.

---

It's been 1 PM. I had nothing to do, I always keep on thinking about what she might be doing, how was she? Is she sad.. or maybe she is happy that I'm gone? Or maybe she must be finding me or maybe she had already lost hope... Maybe she believes the news of my death or maybe she still believes that I was alive?? Maybe she continued her life or maybe she took a break because of the great disaster like myself came and went out like a storm? Or maybe she really started hating me and moved on or maybe she was still waiting for me to come and tell her that it's all a dream?

If I were you, Ivy, I'd.. I'd die. And that's what I fear. It's all on Antonio.

The last thing I had with me the promise we made to our mother. So, Antonio will make sure you're ok.

I called Antonio.

"Hey, bro," he said.

"Please take care of Ivy"

"She moved on from you," he said. I closed my eyes and tear escaped my eyes.

So easily?

"T-That's good," I said.

"I know how it feels like, Andrew and that's what you deserved for what you did with Sophie," he said and I threw my phone in frustration.

When will that leave me!??

I don't understand what was my fault for what happened? Am I really that undeserving for everything around me?

The phone switched off because it broke. I moved back to my room. Edward came inside.

"Was it my fault?" I asked slowly.

"Of course," he said.

I nodded my head.

"I can't live like this. I can't, I'm a human!!" I yelled and went on the road. The truck was coming and it hit me. I laid on the street and that's when I blacked out.

---

Edward's POV

"Was it my fault?" Andrew asked me as I entered the room. I thought he was talking about Ivy, so I answered, "Of course" but suddenly he lost his temper and yelled. He ran out of the house and stood in the middle of the road. Suddenly a truck came and hit him hard. I couldn't understand anything and I took him to the hospital. Luckily, Lilly had returned from her visit and she can look after our daughter now. After a quick check on him in the emergency room, the nurse told me something which made me totally tensed.

"It seems difficult to save him. We're trying our best, but he's severely injured"

Edward's POV

I called Antonio.

"Huh? Who's this?" he said.

Oh yeah, we haven't talked in years.

"Edward," I said.

"Edw- oh Eddie! How do you remember me today?" he said.

"Send Ivy here," I said.

"Why the hell will I do that?"

"Antonio, Andrew... He... He got in an accident" I said.

"Yea- wait. What?"

"He needs Ivy," I said.

"What? How? How did he get into that?"

"I know you don't care and I know you aren't interested. So just send her girl here"

"I thought he needed her to go away?" he said.

"He may n-not live," I said.

"What? What the hell!"

"Do this. At least do one thing for your brother" I said and ended the call.

Please, Andrew just hold on. Once Ivy comes, I know you'll survive.

For her.

Because that's love.

---

Ivy's POV

I had locked myself in this room from the day I heard about him being shot.

I don't believe it.

HE'S alive.

I can feel it.

I can feel him.

I can feel us.

You aren't leaving that easily, AL.

I'll bring you back.

You push me away, then I'll come to you.

If one day I can't come, you have to come.

I know you aren't dead. You're alive. I know you loved me. I know it wasn't fake. I know you fucking risked your life for me. I know you love me and I love you too.

Just one more time.

One more chance.

Give me one more chance.

I laid in my bed with tears dried, I haven't left the room. My father tried his best to get me out of the room, every time I said I needed time. He even broke the door once, I ran away from home then.

I need some time.

To trust my instincts.

To trust that he's alive.

And he loved me.

My father also believes that he's dead.

But no he's not.

He can't.

He's my hero.

Our story can't end before being started.

No, just can't.

Suddenly my phone started ringing. I ignored it as always.

But it rang again.

And again.

I picked it up.

"I'm bus-"

"AL is alive" that voice caught my attention.

He was my... kidnapper?

"What?" I asked.

"AL is alive and is in Russia. I can take you there" He said and the call ended.

I can take you there?

Am I so foolish to go with my kidnapper?

But what life are you living Ivy?

Isn't it better to die?

Either he is lying, that means you'll die.

Or he isn't lying, it means you'll get your AL.

You've risked many things for me, I can also, AL.

I got up from the bed and left the house. My father asked me and I told him I'm going to work.

I left the place and went to the nearest park. I messaged that number my location and in three minutes, a car arrived.

The person sitting inside was the kidnapper himself.

I remember his name... J.

"Sit on the back seat," he said to me through the window. I nodded and sat on the seat as he started driving. We reached the airport and then headed toward Russia.

---

I reached Russia. He left me in front of a hospital saying that I will have to meet a man in front of Ward Number 761. His name would be Edward. I hurried my way to the hospital and found a man.

I went to him and he looked at me with confusion.

"Are you Edward?" I asked him. He nodded.

"And you?" he asked.

I didn't feel that he was dangerous.

"Ivy," I said.

"Andrew- I mean AL... Do you know him?" he asked.

"AL? Yes! Yes! Where is he..?" I asked suddenly crying.

"Inside," he said. As I was about to go. He stopped me.

"Ivy. You need to know something" he said. I looked at him.

"He... He is not in a good state. Support him, mentally and emotionally. You can save him, only you" and with that, he left. I was crying, but mental support means I have to be stable.

I went inside.



How handsome. I have never seen his face but I can definitely feel him.

I sat beside him and took his hand.

"Now. I'm here, you'll be fine" I said.

Ivy's POV

I sat beside him.

"You'll be fine, for now, I'm here," I said. He didn't react, he was still unconscious. It's been three days, sitting beside him. He doesn't even open his eyes, let alone talk to me.

Doctors say that he is in a coma. He has no chance to wake anytime soon.

I don't believe them.

I don't trust them.

I know he'll come back; and that too very soon.

He loves me, right?

That means he should come back when I ask him to. So why are you still lying numb? Why are you not talking? What's missing?

"I love you... Andrew" I said before going out, as my usual routine. I met Edward sitting there. He looked at me with hope, when I just nodded in a no, silently.

"So, you wanna hear it now?" he asked me.

"Yes," I said as we went out to the garden.

"Antonio or I should say the one who you know as J, he is AL or Andrew's brother, and I'm the third brother," he said.

"Wait. So, you're telling me that Andrew's brother kidnapped me?"

"Yes"

"And that they are enemies?"

"uh.. yes"

"And that you chose to quit the crime world when they didn't?"

"Yes"

"Okay.." I said.

So much information...

His own brother was trying to kill him? Andrew, you're so surprising. He was your own brother, you're fighting with. Why are he and you so different? You're good, then why is he bad?

"And, I guess.. something you should know about," he said.

"Hm?"

"There was this girl, Sophia," he said.

"Who?"

"Sophia," he said. "Never bring his topic in front of him ever," he said.

"What happened to her? Who's she?" I asked.

"I can't tell you much, I don't know the reality," he said. "But she is responsible for whatever we three are today," he said.

Oh my, that gave me goosebumps.

"Oh," I said, hiding the shock evident on my face.

Who could she be?

"Now you should go," he said. I went back to Andrew.

---

It's been a month.

Yes, A Fucking month.

He is lying on the bed as he has nothing to do with the world. I'm here like a maniac, when the doctors are saying.. you know what?

"We Don't Have Hope"

Just go and rot your 'no hope' in hell. I know he's gonna live. He will live. He will come back. I'm warning you Andrew if you won't come back soon, I'm gonna beat the crap out of you!

"Ivy, come on.." my father spoke.

After everything happened, my father finally came to know I went here. I was treated with a serious scolding, but after knowing everything, he let me stay here, but on the condition, he will stay here too.

And that I will do whatever he says, as I've become way too careless.

And much more!!

Whatever, I will always be thankful that he understood me.

"No dad," I said.

"come on. He.. he must not like you like this" he said.

Oh yeah. I haven't slept for weeks. How does that matter? You! Andrew, it's all your fault! Just come back already...

"Today you have to sleep or I will drug you into sleeping" this time it was Edward.

Oh actually, we have become quite friends in the last days. He comes to visit us once in a while.

"You're not in the crime world, right?" I asked.

"Drugs are available to everyone," he said. "Don't force us to use that. Please sleep" he said.

"How can I sleep, Edward, just how? He is lying here unconscious. He won't wake up. How can I sleep? I won't get peace. I won't get sleep"

"I'm sure he would want you to sleep," he said.

"Now get up already!!" my dad yelled. I got up and went to the couch in front of the room.

"Not here!" he yelled.

"Please," I said. He hesitated but accepted, anyway. I tried to close my eyes. Slowly sleep engulfed me. And I met the most beautiful person.

Andrew.

He came into my dreams.

"Take care, Ivy. You know what I need. Your peace and your love. I'll be back, take care of yourself. I love you" and with that, I woke up.

"Wake up, it's already 7 A. M.," they said.

7 AM?

I thought that the dream just started???

Was he really there or just my imagination?

What happened just now!?

"Just I will definitely bring you back, Andrew. I will be fine, and you HAVE to come back, It's my promise!" I promised.

---

## Nobody's POV

Sometimes, we have to go through the worst, to get what we love. Or I should say mostly, we have to go through the worst.

Leaving the past behind is the most difficult task anyone could ever do. And that's what Ivy tried to do. Moving on never meant to be over AL. It was moving over surrendering her to the darkness. She woke up. She woke up from that day.

Andrew wasn't living, but he lived in her dreams. Every day, he used to come in her dreams, telling her to start a new day with new hope.

As for him, she was the bravest girl one could ever come across.

Apart from everything, she held herself together. She started gathering clues, shreds of evidence to prove AL's innocence. That was the least she can do for him. And she was ready, ready to face everything.

Every evening, she came back to Andrew, talked to him about the day, told him how much she missed him, and of course, told him that she loves him.

In her dreams, he comes back and tells her how much he misses her and how much he loves her.

She didn't come to know if it was an illusion or did he really use to come in her dreams. But she believed in him. She believed in love.

She didn't lose hope in the last six months.

She was on the way back to the hospital when she received a call.

"Miss Ivy, Patient in ward number 761 has gained consciousness"

## Ivy's POV

I ran all the way towards the hospital. I was so happy that the tears of happiness automatically came running down my cheeks. Edward was standing on the door.

"Go inside, Ivy, you should meet him first," he said. I smiled at his generosity, wiped my tears, and went inside.

He was still laying with his eyes open, staring at the ceiling.

"Andrew.." I said. His eyes snapped in my direction. Slowly his lips broke into a small smile, that became the most beautiful and biggest smile.

"Ivy," he said. "Is it you?"

"Yes, it is me, Andrew," I said and went closer to him, now sitting on the floor of his bed's side. "You're back... you're back, Andrew!"

"I wasn't dead?" he asked. I shook my head and kept his hand on my heart. "It would've stopped if you were"

"It's going fast.." he said. "And faster"

"Because you are here," I said. "The one who makes it beat"

"uh-uh" we heard coughing and he removed his hand. "Well, this is a hospital room, okay?" Ed said as he came inside.

"Yeah, just got with the flow," I said and he looked at Andrew. They both shared a smile. "Welcome back, man!" Ed said.

"Thanks, man. I know you both did a lot of work" he said.

"And actually, him too," I said as my dad stepped inside. All the colors drained from Andrew's face.

---

### Andrew's POV

There walked in her dad. HER DAD HATES ME. I'm dead, I'm really dead.

"Hey, A. L." he spoke exaggerating at the name.

"H-hi S-sir," I said sitting and looked at Ivy for an explanation.

"Actually, my dad helped a lot in taking care of you," she said. I looked at him and swallowed the lump in my throat.

"I don't hate you Andrew," he said. "Ivy told me everything you did for her"

I smiled. "Really!?" I asked.

"Just look at the most wanted criminal smiling and being all childish at just his fiancé's father's words!" Ed commented.

"Fiancé!?" We all three snapped at him.

"Oh, come on, don't tell me, Andrew, you don't love her and don't want to be her husband, and don't tell me that Ivy doesn't want to be his wife and don't tell me sir that you're now gonna separate them like some villain!"

"Okay, that's true" we both again said in a unison.

"Okay, I then would TRY not to come in between," her dad said.

"Please dad, you aren't doing this" Ivy said.

"Oh Ivy, I need time to think about this," he said. "And you, Andrew, you have to leave all this criminal world if you want to be hers"

"I will leave everything for her, sir!!" I said.

"That we will see" and with that Ed and her dad left, but the nurse came.

"Is he having some strange post-amnesia or any traumatic symptoms?" she asked checking the files in her hand.

"NO, he's perfect," Ivy said.

"Okay" and the nurse left.

"Andrew.." she said. She looked at me.

"Sorry," I said. "Sorry, sorry for everything, Ivy. You know I didn't mean an-"

"I know Andrew, I know it all. I never believed any word because I know that you love me and that you were true to me all along"

"Oh god Ivy you're making my heart crazy for you," I said. She smiled.

"Well, mine already is," she said and got up. "Not get ready to leave this place"

"Okay.." I said and got up. She smiled at me again and then we went to the receptionist and completed all the formalities.

---

### Ivy's POV

"You aren't wearing this!" my dad said as I chose another dress for my wedding. Yes, my wedding.

"But dad, this one is just perfect!" I replied back.

"Oh look, Ivy, this is good," my dad said picking another dress.

"Whatever," I said. He isn't gonna listen to me anyway.

"Haha just kidding. Take that one" he said pointing at the one I chose earlier. I smiled and took the one I liked.

We returned back home and then I went to my room and found Andrew there.

"Hey," I said.

"Hi" I replied.

"So, have you chosen the dress?" he asked.

"Yup" I showed him the dress. He smiled. "The dress is lucky"

"Haha," I said. "Well, I wanna tell you something serious"

"Hm speak"

"Antonio.. he helped us in your recovery," I told. He looked extremely shocked for a few moments, but then returned to normal.

"Why wouldn't you talk to him?" I asked.

"Just I can't"

"You could go and make everything fine, and then you both will-"

"I said no!!" he yelled. I stepped back.

"o-ok," I said.

He stood up and came near me, and pulled me in a hug.

"Ivy, I-I can't tell you some things," he said.

"You trust me?" I asked. He hummed. "Then tell me everything"

Ivy's POV

"You trust me?" I asked. He hummed. "Then tell me everything"

He got away and looked into my eyes. Then he was just on the verge of crying when I hugged him.

"D-Don't cry.." I said.

"I-I am fine. Listen" he said. I got away and nodded. "B-but promise me you won't h-hate me after this.."

"I? I can never hate you, Andrew. Trust me on this"

"A-and you won't leave me"

"I will never leave you either Andrew. I love you"

He smiled weakly and nodded. "Then I'll tell you"

I smiled and nodded.

"T-there was this girl, Sop-Sophia" he started. "S-she was Antonio's girlfriend. We were all very close before she entered our lives... We were all happy. B-but then one day, he

brought her over. Our parents were not at home. That's why she came over. F-for some reasons, Edward had to go out for the night. Probably some business issues, because he was the only one who was interested in our father's business. T-then Antonio came with her. H-he went out to bring some stuff that she has forgotten and needed urgently. S-so we were left alone" he said. "T-then we were practically just talking and nothing ever happened. B-but when Antonio came over, sh-she removed her clothes hastily and-and-and she told Antonio t-that I-I-I.." his voice started breaking. "T-that I-I forced myself on h-her... I- and he-he believed her.."

What?

It's... it's devastating.

Antonio didn't trust his brother? Did he trust his girlfriend over him?

And- h-how can he think like this for Andrew?

"Y-you t-trust me, right? T-that I-I didn't-"

"Of course, Andrew," I said and hugged him. He started crying. "T-then we had a very serious argument. T-this was not the end. We decided to mend things and declare this as a misunderstanding. B-but then everything ruined when S-Sophia, she-she got pregnant"

My eyes widened in shock. Pregnant?

"T-that wasn't mine. B-but no one believed me. We-we decided to do a DNA test. B-but that required time.. for like 11 weeks. B-but before that could happen, she ab-aborted"

I was too shocked to react.

She obviously was lying.

Because if she was right, that was the only chance to prove it.

"F-from then.. he n-never forgave me.. I-I tried but.."

"A-Andrew," I said. He looked at me whilst getting away. "I-I'm sorry for bringing those memories.."

"Y-you believe me?" he asked shocked.

"Of course. I know you, Andrew. I know who you are" I said. He smiled weakly and hugged me again. Then he got away and collided our lips in his soft kiss.

"I love you Ivy," he said.

"I love you so much Andrew" I replied. He smiled between the kisses.

"uh-uh" someone coughed and we quickly got away realizing it was my dad. "You guys really need to lock the door"



"A-h d-dad actually.." he spoke.

Yeah, as a matter of fact, he has started calling him dad since he agreed on our marriage.

"It's fine! I just came to tell her that she needs to get the jewelry too"

"I-I will give her, please dad?" he said.

"You? Are you sure?"

"Yes dad," he said with a smile. I smiled at him.

"Okay then... continue," he said and left the room closing the door.

A blush crept my cheeks. What. Did. He. Mean. By. Continue?

"So.. let's continue," he said with a wink and I got away abruptly. He smirked and pulled me near him by my wrist and started kissing me as smoothly as he always does.

---

"Do you like it?" he asked me as he gave me a beautiful necklace, followed by other beautiful jewelry.

"Lovely" I exclaimed. He smiled.

We are going to get married some days later. I'm so excited.

"Can I meet Edward?" I asked him.

"Yeah," he said. I smiled back at him and went to Edward's house.

"Hey," he said as he opened the door.

"Hey" I replied. We went to the living room.

"So.. any special reason?"

"Yeah. I want to talk about Sophia" I said. "Andrew told me what happened"

"He did?" he asked.

"Yeah" I replied.

"Well.. this thing is a little off-topic, but.. never leave him. He has gone through this thing, and this is the first time he opened up. Okay?"

"I know. I promise you I am never going to leave him" I assured him. He nodded.

"So. What about her?" he asked.

"You trust Andrew, don't you?"

"Yes. I know he was speaking the truth. But what can we do? Antonio is totally blind"

"Let's get Sophia to confess everything," I said to him. He seemed totally taken aback.

"What?"

"I said-"

"No I mean, how?"

"I will find a way to find her. I will take the help of AL's devices. And once we talk about this to Sophia, let's see what happens"

He looked unsure about my plan. "Come on!" I said.

"Okay, but Andrew is not gonna be much happy about this"

"I know. But how long are you gonna live like this just because of a misunderstanding? I want to make things right"

"That's acceptable, Ivy. I will help you with everything I can"

"Oh then, for now, don't tell him about this, okay?"

"Wait. You are gonna hide this?"

"Yes. I don't want him to be stressed"

"Oh-okay" he sighed.

I'm gonna do the justice, Andrew.

You deserve it.

Ivy's POV

I went home. He was here, dad has allowed him to stay here now that we are getting married just a week later.

"Hey," he said. I smiled. "Hey" I replied.

"So, any plans for today?" he asked. I nodded in denial.

"You tell," I said.

"Well, I have some plans," he said with a wink. I blushed and mouthed an 'okay'.

We are here at this restaurant and he is continuously staring at me for the last ten minutes.

“An-”

“Shh,” he shushed me again, like the umpteenth time he has already.

“Okay,” I said.

“You look like an angel, Ivy.. how are you so beautiful?” he asked.

“Because you are my husband,” I said.

“Future husband” he corrected.

“Never matters” I replied.

He smiled. “Your smile is killer” I commented. He smiled even more and blushed.

“Should I smile or not? I don’t want to kill you” he said with a wink.

I shook my head and then the order came. We ate happily together, while I thought of taking his phone so that I can access some resources to find Sophia.

“ah... Andrew, can I get your phone?” I asked.

“Sure,” he said and gave me his phone.

I tried to find someone, but there were only 6 contacts.

Ivy, dad, Antonio, Edward

And two unknowns.

“Well, Andrew, who are these?” I asked.

Perks of being a wife!

Or future-wife...

He smiled and chuckled. “Are you thinking that I might get a girlfriend?”

“Oh no Andrew you won’t dare. Just tell me” I said.

“Well, that one is Felix, my former business partner, you know in the criminal world and that one is the doctor”

“Oh,” I said.

Felix.

I should contact him.

"Can you order a pizza?" I asked. He smiled and nodded. He called the waiter and started talking to him about the pizza. This restaurant doesn't serve that kind of pizza which I like, so it's gonna take a while.

I quickly noted the number on my phone.

"Sorry Ivy, they don't have pepperoni pizza," he said.

"It is okay, Andrew. Let's go back now" I said.

"You sure?" he asked.

"Yeah"

We went back and I went to my room. Andrew went to meet Edward as he called him. Actually, I asked Ed to call Andrew to mislead him for some time.

I am sorry I am hiding this but it's for the best, and you know that.

I dialed the number and the other one picked up.

"Client?" someone said, whose name is Felix I suppose.

"No... actually, I am related to AL" I said.

He sighed.

"AL? Is he alright? There was news he was shot" he asked.

"I can't discuss it, I am sorry. I need your help, but" I said.

"I am his friend. I would help you, just tell me if he's alright"

"Okay then.. he is okay. He is alright. Now, will you help me?" I asked.

"Yeah. Tell me" he asked.

"I want to find this girl, Sophia. I will send her photo to you on this number" I said.

"Okay, sure," he said and the call ended.

This pic was sent by Edward to help me find her. I sent the pic to Felix and then I laid down and slept.

---

I woke up and saw Andrew beside me. He was still sleeping. Dad had told him not to sleep on the same bed, but he didn't listen.

"Good morning," he said, yawning.

Oh, so he is awake.

"Yeah, good morning," I said.

"I will wake up later," he said and probably went to sleep. I shook my head at his cuteness and then got up to get refreshed.

After I got freshened up, I received a message.

"There you go:

Name: Sophia Maggs

Age: 23

Current Location: 1200 Semmes Apartments, Richmond, Virginia, USA"

Virginia? Oh crap. That will take forever to reach there.

"Thank you" I replied.

Now, I have to find a way to go there. And I am going to take Andrew of course. Oh yeah, I will say I want to go on a trip.

I went back to the room. He was almost awake.

"Andrew," I said. He looked at me and rubbed his eyes. "What babes?" he asked.

"First no cheesy names secondly, I want to go Virginia"

"Virginia?" he asked.

"Yeah" I replied.

"Okay... I guess, but why?"

"I want to spend time with you" I replied.

"Honeymoon?" he winked.

"Kind of" I replied with a smile.

Even if I am lying, this is not a complete lie, Andrew. I want to spend time with you.

"Okay sure. After the wedding I guess?" he asked.

No... We don't know how long she is going to be there.

"No... now!" I said.

"Oh-now? Okay... if you say" he said. I smiled. He came closer and kissed me.

"I love you, Ivy," he said between kisses.

"I love you too" I replied.

---

We were all ready. We told our dad that he's starting a new business, so we need to go there.

Well, he isn't believing it.

"So why to fly to another corner of the world!" he asked.

"Just.. coincidence that I got a job there," he said. My dad sighed and accepted. We left the place and headed towards the airport.

This is going to be a long flight.

Richmond, Virginia, USA

Ivy's POV

"I'm just so tired!" I exclaimed as we reached the hotel room in Virginia.

"Oh yeah me too" he replied. We entered the room and he went directly to bed.

"I'm sleeping!" he said, yawning.

"Just get up and help me in setting things up!" I yelled at him, whilst taking out the things from the suitcase.

"Oh sure," he said and I heard him getting up and coming near me.

Then he swiftly lifted me up!

"Hey, you- keep me DOWN NOW!" I yelled.

But he then kept his hand near my knees and the other under my neck and lifted me up in a bridal style. Then he leaned and kissed me.

"You are so bad!" I said. He chuckled.

"If kissing you is bad then I am the worst person you'll ever meet," he said.

I blushed and then kissed him. "And I can be your bad girl"

"Yeah princess," he said. I smiled and then he put me on the bed.

"Now you have to sleep. I will arrange everything afterward" he said and kissed my forehead.

I smiled and nodded. Then he hugged me and I fell asleep.

---

3 hours later

I woke up and Andrew was sleeping. I messaged Felix to confirm her location.

He confirmed that she was still 1200 Semmes apartment.

I got up and then wrote a note so that in case he wakes up, he wouldn't worry.

"Hey, Love

I'm just going out for some work.

I hope you slept well because now you're going to be bored without me.

I'll return fast.

Bye, Ivy"

I went from there in a cab.

---

I reached this place and it's beautiful. Anyway, I have to find Sophia. I went inside and there was an office.

I entered and asked the lady about which apartment is Sophia's.

She told me and then I went to her apartment. I was quite nervous.. and scared.

But I rang the doorbell and she opened the door.

I've seen this face.

Yes, she is Sophia.

"umm.. hello?" she said.

"Oh hey! I am Ivy" I said. "You're Sophia?" I asked.

"Yeah, but why?"

"I am here to talk about Andrew," I said.

She looked shocked for a moment, but then I saw guilt in her eyes.

"I-I am so sorry for what I did.. I-"

"Let's talk inside," I said. She nodded and took me inside.

We sat in the living room and she brought me tea.

"So," I said.

"Listen- I... I am sorry.." she said.

"Sorry? You destroyed them for decades! They were enemies after what you did!" I said.

She started crying.

"I... I know. I-I am sorry"

"You regret it?" I asked.

"Ye-s," she said. "But who are you to him?"

"I'm Andrew's fiancé"

"Oh," she said. "You know right? That nothing happened that day.."

"I know. I know who Andrew is. He respects girls more than anything... Even after what you did" I said.

She lowered her head.

"I-I want to make it better," she said.

"Then tell the truth to Antonio," I said. She looked at me and then shook her head.

"I... I don't have any nerve to go in front of him again... After I ran away"

"You can," I said. "He still loves you"

"But he will hate me once he knows the truth," She said.

"And maybe he forgives you. Listen. Telling the truth can make it better, everything" I said.

She looked at me for a moment and then nodded in acceptance.

"Y-You are so good. Andrew is lucky" she said.

I smiled. "I hope you make everything fine"

"I will try my best," she said and stood up.

"So where is he now?" she asked.

"Well, in California"



"Oops that's far" she exclaimed. "I'll go back and tell everything, I swear"

"Thank you for your help, Sophia"

"You don't hate me?" she asked me.

"Everyone does mistakes, Sophia. Now that you regret it, no one will hate you"

"Thank you!" She said and hugged me.

I said my byes and left the apartment and went back to my hotel. As I entered the room, I saw him sitting and staring at the note.

"What happened?" I asked him.

He got startled and then looked at me. "Nothing"

"Tell me"

"It was really boring without you"

"Oh I know," I said winking.

He smirked and came near but I took two steps back.

"Not. Now. Go and change, we are going out" I said. He smiled and then went to the restroom.

I wish that Sophia apologizes and that Antonio forgives her and understands Andrew. They have been apart for a good amount of time. They deserve to be together now. And Sophia... Well, she looks that she is regretting, so she might really make things better.

Ivy's POV

I went out with Andrew and it was fun.

He is fun, you know.

I was hoping everything will be okay. Sophia said she would go and meet Antonio before Andrew returns. She doesn't want to face or meet Andrew at all. She is just too afraid.

Well, she should be, after what she did.

But, anyway, the one who forgives is always better than the revenger.

So, I am literally thinking of myself as bigger;-)

"Where are you lost today?" Andrew asked, making me come out of my trance.

"Huh?" I asked, totally not knowing what he said.

"I said where are you lost?"

"Uh... Well... Let's go back" I said. "C-California"

"Ivy, what's going on?" he asked.

"Nothing," I said.

He shook his head and then took me to his car and we headed towards the hotel.

As we reached the room, he locked the door and after sitting on the bed, he pulled me on his lap.

He snuggled deep into the crook of my neck.

"Ivy, don't hide anything from me," he said huskily.

"I-I am not"

"Ivy..." he said. "Why did you call Felix?"

My heartbeat stopped for a moment.

What will he do if he comes to know I was searching for Sophia?

"I-I.."

"It's fine, I trust you. No need to tell me. Just..." he turned me around and faced me. "I can't see you worried"

A smile played on my lips as I joined mine with his. He kissed me back passionately and pulled me closer.

"I'll tell you soon enough," I said.

"I'll wait"

Then we headed back to California. After a LONG journey, we reached our house.

"I thought you had a job there, Andrew? What happened?" Dad smirked at him.

"Ah... Actually.. uh... Yea! They rejected me!" he said.

"Too happy to get rejected, huh?" dad winked.

"Ah... Actually... I didn't like it much anyways"

"Ohk now. Go back to your rooms"

After that, I went back with Andrew to my room.

"Andrew, for the last time, can I go out?"

"It isn't dangerous, right?"

"No"

"Okay. Come fast. Give me a call if you need me"

"Sure," I said. He smiled but I saw that he wasn't exactly happy.

But I know you soon will be, Andrew.

I went to Antonio's place as told by Edward. I know he wouldn't hurt me.

After I got inside, I could hear the sounds of them talking.

"P-Please" I heard Sophia's sobbing voice.

"Get out and leave"

"A-Antonio.."

"I will kill you just LEAVE!"

"I-I love you, Antonio... I-I do"

"But I hate you, so just leave!"

I entered the scene at that time. I saw Sophia almost crying and Antonio was fuming in anger.

"Ivy?" he asked looking at me. Sophia's eyes snapped in my direction.

"Hm," I said.

"I-I am so sorry Ivy f-for treating Andrew like that..." he said.

"You're sorry? So you can make up to me"

"How?" he asked.

"Forgive Sophia"

They both were taken aback.

"What? How could you-" Antonio spoke.

"She's regretting, Antonio and she is really sorry. Everything can be fine because I know you love her too and she also loves you. All you need to do is forgive her and then clear all your misunderstandings with Andrew"

"B-But"

"That's my wish"

"Okay," he said.

Sophia's eyes lit up as she came near me. "Thank you so much, I don't know how to-"

"Don't thank me. Just clear everything... Even with Andrew"

She looked at me with a frown. "I-I can't face him"

"Please Sophia," I said.

She nodded after some time. "Okay"

I smiled and left the place at my home.

Sophia's POV

Ivy left the place and Antonio looked at me. I smiled nervously at him. He smiled slightly. But I didn't see it.

I didn't see the love in his eyes.

The look in his eyes has changed.

It is a mixture of... Hatred and sadness.

Other than love and happiness, as it used to be.

"Antonio-"

"You don't need to say anything. I-I forgave you"

"Really?"

"hm-mh"

"Thank you" I replied. He nodded and as I was leaving and I turned around, he called me.

"But Sophia," he said. "I'll never be able to love you again"

My heartbeat made me wanna cry. And I cried. I nodded and without turning back at him, I left the area. As I came out, I wiped my tears and headed towards my house. I didn't expect otherwise, but I-I thought I was ready for this.

I don't know but in all this game, I-I really fell for him.

## Andrew's POV

I checked Ivy's phone and I came to know that she contacted Felix again. I need to ask her... What if she is in some trouble?

As she returned home, and the room, I closed the door and she looked shocked.

"Tell me what's going on?" I asked her.

"Huh?"

"Ivy," I said. "The truth"

"I can't tell you, Andrew," she said.

I sighed. "Please tell me"

"I can't"

"Ivy..."

"Don't you trust me?" she asked and here she goes, doing emotional blackmail.

"I-I do! I.. I just don't want you to get in any trouble" I said.

She sighed and kissed my cheek. "I won't"

I smiled. "Then it's fine. But you need to tell me... Once we get married"

"OKAY husband"

"Future-husband"

"Haha. Never matters!"

"I love you so much, Ivy. I can't believe we are getting married" I said to her.

She smiled and hugged me. "I love you so much too, love"

I smiled and we stood like that for five minutes.

---

## The Wedding Day

### Ivy's POV

I was dressed in my best. The beautiful white dress which I bought with dad was looking lovely and the jewelry with Andrew... Aishh, it was awesome.

I was getting ready when someone knocked on the door. I knew it would be some makeup girls so I said 'come in'.

After a minute, the door opened and then closed. But then it was locked. I turned around and saw Andrew.

"How the hell are you-" he kept a finger on my lips.

"Don't speak anything Princess" he said.

"But don't you know you're not allowed to see a bride before her marriage!?"

"Does any rule imply on us?" he winked.

"Oh god, just leave," I said.

He smirked and suddenly kissed me. I decided not to kiss him back. But he continued kissing me. I so wanted to kiss him, but no! I will not!

After a while, he got away and I saw a frown on his face.

"Sorry," he said and started going.

Not so fast, boy!

I pulled him back and started kissing the hell out of him. He kissed me back with the same passion and now I know.

My makeup is ruined.

He got away and smiled. "You scared me!"

"Oh really?"

"Or am I lying?"

"Huh. What's there to be scared about?"

"Leave it," he said. I smiled and he too.

"Bye now," I said.

"Bye"

He left the room and then I applied the lipstick again. And of course, first cleaned it.

Then the door was knocked. But I went and checked it personally this time.

The girls came and did my makeup and left.

Now I am ready and I am so excited for our marriage.

---

Andrew's POV

I was getting ready but I wanted to meet Ivy first.

I love breaking rules, you know that.

So I went to her room and I literally got sad when she didn't kiss me back.

I thought I made a mistake coming here.

But then she did.

My queen.

I went back and then got ready. I am hell excited about us.

I went out to the stage and waited for her. Everyone is here. My brothers, their relatives, Ivy's father, and her relatives.

Even Antonio.

Yeah, I kind of doesn't hate him. He does.

Then I saw Ivy. She was coming while her hand entangled with her dad's. As she came near the stage, her dad handed me her hand. "She is yours. But don't forget. If I ever saw you don't make her happy, then you, well, will never get any children"

Ivy burst out laughing while it was quite embarrassing for me but seeing dad laugh, I laughed too. "She will always be happy with me," I said.

He nodded and then went.

I looked towards Ivy. She was looking so beautiful. "You're so beautiful. Sometimes I wonder how on Earth did I deserve you?"

"Because you're the best man. And handsome too" she winked.

I smiled and then the priest told us to exchange rings.

We exchanged rings and then I kissed her hand.

"Take your vows" the priest announced.

"I, Andrew, accept Ivy as my lawfully wedded wife. I vow to love her, take care of her, be hers in her highs and lows. I vow to be a faithful and caring husband to the most beautiful wife that is mine now"

She blushed at my words while the priest told her to take her vow too.

"I, Ivy take Andrew as my lawfully wedded husband. I vow to love him, care for him, and live for him from this instant. I vow to be a loyal wife to the best husband who is mine"

I blushed and before the priest could tell us to kiss, I joined my lips with her and the crowd started clapping. Pulling her close, I kissed the most beautiful girl ever.

I got away and saw her blushing deeply. I smirked and then the priest exclaimed.

"With the power bestowed upon me by the god and the goddess, I now can call you both as husband and wife"

And that was the start of our very beautiful life.

---

### Ivy's POV

After the wedding, we were meeting the people when Antonio told me by a sign that Sophia is going to come soon.

I nodded. I had planned that everything becomes okay today itself.

Everyone left the place and now only Edward, Antonio, me, and Andrew were left.

Suddenly Sophia entered the place and I saw her. Antonio also saw her.

Now was a difficult time. He has to face Sophia after all these years.

"Andrew," I said. He looked at me. "At the gate"

His eyes trailed over to the gate and as soon as he saw her, he froze.

"Andrew," I said.

"Why is she here?"

"Andrew... Try to keep it cool-"

"Why? Why did you do this!?" he yelled. I flinched.

"Andrew.."

"Why did you call her? Why do you want to ruin our marriage!?"

"No Andrew, listen-"

"Go away," he said. I took his hand but he snatched it.

"Listen, Andrew-"

"I-I... go AWAY!" he yelled.



"I will NOT listen to me! You have to make everything alright!"

"I can't!" he yelled back.

The atmosphere suddenly tensed. I didn't know what to do.

"Andrew, please," I said.

He looked at me and this time he was looking angry and helpless.

"Leave," he said.

"You can't tell me to leave"

He pushed me against a pole that was there and then came near my ears.

Even being this close to my ears, he yelled.

"I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE. I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU WANT TO DESTROY OUR WEDDING. BUT LET ME TELL YOU THAT I WILL NEVER FORGIVE HER AND I WILL SURELY NEVER DO ANYTHING THAT YOU TELL ME TO. YOU DON'T CONTROL MY LIFE! YOU'RE JUST MY WIFE!" he yelled.

I flinched and automatically a tear formed in my eyes at seeing him this angry. As he saw my tear, he instantly backed off and kept a hand on his forehead.

"I told you to leave. Why didn't you?" he asked in a broken voice. "Sorry..."

"I haven't made a wedding wish," I said ignoring him. He looked at me. "I wish you forgive her"

"No. NO that is not your wish. Ask me anything but not this, please"

"No"

"A-And my wish is that you don't ask me to forgive her," he said.

I shook my head. N-No, please.

"Don't ruin your wedding wishes because of me. Please" I heard Sophia.

Andrew turned around and sighed.

"Listen Andrew. I will not ask for your forgiveness because neither do I deserve it nor you will ever forgive me. But yes, I will always be longing for it. And Ivy. You are the best person I've ever met. Keep Andrew happy, I've given him many sorrows" she said and turned towards Antonio.

"Antonio, you're the best man one can come across. Stay happy."

Then she turned towards Edward.

"Do you forgive me?" she asked.

"I would have," he said. "But I can't. I-I have seen them coming after each other's life. I have seen them destroying themselves and you being the reason, I can't"

She smiled weakly. "It's okay. I don't deserve it anyway. Just... Stay happy and know that I will always yearn for your forgiveness" she said.

She then turned again towards us.

"Andrew. Sorry" she said and left.

There was grave silence after that. Until Edward broke it.

"Um... So I'll get going"

"Yeah," we all said.

Then Antonio came to Andrew. "I'll go too," I said to them and went.

---

### Andrew's POV

I was devastated seeing her once again.

I was not being able to control my anger and I told Ivy to leave but she didn't.

Seeing her tear I came back into the world's and I knew that once again I was out of control. She wasn't angry... I am just so grateful for that.

Antonio came towards me after everyone left.

"Bro," he said in a broken voice.

I haven't heard his broken voice for much time.

"I know," I said. "You know the truth now".

"I'm sorry, Andrew," he said. "I-I am... I was... I don't even have an excuse. I am just sorry"

"....."

"I-I am sorry for not trusting you. I am so sorry. I am just... Sorry"

I hugged him. I love my brother. Even though he hated me for years, but I know, love is blind and he didn't know the truth.

He hugged me back. "I- am- sorry," he said sobbing.

"It's okay," I said.

He got away and smiled. "Thank you so much"

"Just it's okay. You know, I never hated you" I said.

"Thank you for that Andrew. I was wrong. I was wrong all along. I-I will leave everything I do. I will become good like you" he said.

I smiled. "That would be the best"

"Thanks, bro. Thanks for everything"

"Hm," I said.

"Now go to Ivy. You have a life, bro!" he said. I laughed.

"Yeah"

---

I woke up. She was smiling in her dreams, lying next to me. I smiled at her and kissed her.

Then I got up. I have thought of a new job. I applied for it already. I got a notification that I was selected.

I went for an interview before she woke up and it went all awesome. I am so happy.

She, well, wants to continue being a reporter. So I let her.

---

Six months later

We were living happily. Antonio and I are quite normal now and we are slowly getting happy together.

All thanks to Ivy.

Ivy is probably in her office right now and I, well, have taken a day off today.

She insisted, okay?

So, I was just sitting and working from home, when someone came at the door.

I opened it and found Antonio.

"Hey," I said.

"S-She sent a letter," he said.

"She?" I asked and then it struck me. "Sophia?"

"Ye-ah... M-me and you both"

I was curious to see what she has written. I took it.

"Dear Andrew.

No offense in calling you dear, though, I hope. I have committed many mistakes and have crossed many limits. My mistake made you all suffer. So, I can't expect you to forgive me. And you know I have said all this before too. So it's normal if you're wondering why am I writing this letter.

This letter is meant to be an apology letter. I didn't really apologize to you. I don't know if you'll even read it seeing my name, but if you are reading this, then I am sorry.

From heart.

I never ever knew my one lie would separate you for years.

I just want to tell you that Antonio is a very good man. Tell him to find a girl and live his life. And you three should be together because you deserve to be.

Secondly, Andrew. I am so sorry for what I did. Never thought that I would regret something this much. But I do and I must tell you why I did that.

I did that because I needed money for my dad's treatment and I was offered money by one of your rivals.

That rival was taken down by Antonio two years later I ran away.

I regret it. I regret doing something this cheap for money.

But I hope you just... Understand and be happy. I don't expect you to forgive me, but as I said, I need to ask for your forgiveness anyway.

Quite a big letter, huh?

Anyway, I have so much to say that I could write much more.

But I don't deserve the time you will invest in reading this anymore.

So, I would end it here.

Will long for your reply.

But will not expect it.

I don't deserve it. If you give me a reply, it would be your goodness, not mine.

Sophia."

You know the feeling when you don't know what to do anymore?

That is it.

I can't think of anything I want to do.

I want to forgive her.

Everyone makes mistakes.

She is regretting it.

And that is what matters.

"See. She has written me a letter too..." Antonio said.

I took the letter and he took mine and started reading it.

"Dear Antonio.

This is supposed to be a stupid letter because I... I don't know what to say.

I apologized, you forgave.

But I know. I know you never forgave me with your heart.

It was just the thing for the moment that you told me you did.

And I know it.

Sometimes I wonder how good this world would be if we could just turn back time and rectify our mistakes.

But at that moment we realize that the world is not made to be a good place.

It is full of betrayals.

Who am I telling?

You know that the most.

I betrayed you.

And right now, I am telling you how this world is full of it.

Silly me.

This letter is not having any purpose because I don't have any purpose in my life.

I'm not alive, I'm just breathing.

You know, the first date we went to?

Yes, the one in which I promised to marry you.

Haha.

I made a joke about it.

I regret it.

If I start telling you everything I regret, you'll probably sleep in between the letter.

Let me rephrase.

I didn't joke when I said that I'll marry you.

I made a joke about myself. I knew I don't deserve you.

But know what?

Now I have nothing.

Other than this regretful life.

With you all hating me.

I always wanted to be yours. Even if it all was fake. But it just... ended.

And now you don't love me.

I can't – I can't expect you to love me.

Hell, I can't expect anything.

Just a few last lines, Antonio.

Know this for sure.

I love you.

Some day, maybe, you forgive me.

I will wait for it.

Sophia.”

Oh gosh. That's... Emotional.

I saw Antonio. He was in deep thoughts.

“What should I do?” he asked.

“Depends on you”

“No. You tell me”

“Forgive her,” I said. “Do it”

“Really?”

“Yes”

His eyes lit up as he nodded and took out his phone. He called her.

She didn't pick up.

Again.

No reply.

Again.

None.

“Guess I don't have a chance,” he said.

“Hey Andrew, you didn't pick up this-” Ivy stopped in her tracks looking at us.

“Oh hey, Antonio,” she said.

“Hey” he replied.

“Well, this was left in the mailbox,” she said and gave a small letter to us.

That was also from Sophia.

“I know if in any rare case, I get a chance, you'll call me. Don't, because, I won't answer. It's not like I don't want to. I just can't.

Antonio, this is for you.

You believe in fate.

Destiny.

Today, I leave us. I leave our future in the hands of destiny. I'm going far. If fate wants, we will meet again”

I saw Antonio's eyes watering.

“She didn't believe in fate,” he said.

Till then Ivy was already reading the letters.

"She loves you, Antonio. You love her?" she said.

"She? No way. She doesn't love me anymore". He replied.

"She said here. I love you"

"She meant... She loved me back then"

"That is the thing. That would have been loveD."

"No one pays attention to so much grammar"

"You don't pay attention to her feelings," she said.

He looked at her. "It's not like that"

"Go and find her"

He nodded and said bye to us, he went out, promising to find her at all costs.

---

Two Years Later

Antonio's POV

I can't find her.

I can't find her in any hell or heaven.

I searched the entire America.

I searched everywhere.

I reported it to the police.

Everywhere.

She has just.... disappeared!

I love her.

I know I love her.

I have this emptiness in my heart.

I want her

I want her back!

I called Andrew. "Found her?"



"Not yet"

"I think... You should give up"

"And I think you should shut up"

"That's rude"

"Dude. I can't find her!"

"She...."

"I don't know. I'm so done. I want her!"

"I know.."

"Will talk later. I have a trip to Russia"

"Why?"

"She can be there"

"Huh. Now you'll search for Russia?"

"Yes"

"Oh crap"

"Whatever. Bye"

"Bye... Good luck"

"Thanks"

I went to the airport and then to Russia.

---

I reached here and all I want is... food.

I mean, I am hungry, bruh.

I went to a restaurant and ordered something. Anything.

"Sir, here-"

I looked up at the familiar voice.

Sophia.

THE END