

Most Wanted Love by Lexi Chapter 3

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 fiancés’ 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.

