"Did you kiss?" "Did he tell you his social security number?" My eyes shoot over to Kara, have seen the sneaky grin on her cheeks. She shrugs and peers between Mamma and me. "What? If you're going to take a goddess out you might as well give her your bank details." A blush covers my cheeks while I fold my arms over my chest, processing each of their questions. Before I could get an answer in, I'm suddenly being pulled into Kara's embrace. "You look so fucking hot" She twirls me around and assesses me from benind, "Mnm, gorgeous, gorgeouswoman, "And that's my daughter!" Mamma cheers and bounces on her feet, stealing a kiss on my cheek before I can smack them both away. "And my goddaughter!" Aunt Kara reminded, leaning into my other cheek. "Damn right she is!" Mamma claps her hands and they laugh jokingly together, leaving me to stare at them in disdain. "Ugh. Don't look at us like that flower. We just love you too much." Rolling my eyes, I step past them and make my way to the kitchen, their feet trailing behind me like little lost puppies, obviously still waiting for answers. "We had a good time." I told briefly, running a hand through my hair with the visualising pictures of justwhat our night was like. counter. How did they all enter this house and I hadn't heard them? His mop of blonde hair tickles my skin as he wraps me up in a the attention everyone was giving me. grin I return back at him. "Pretty good, Uncle." kissing her cheek.

Chapter Nineteen

Mamma and Aunt Kara stood in front of me with the widest grins I'd

"You have to tell us everything!" Kara jumped up and down on her

I broke into a laugh and shook my head at their childish behaviour—

"No!" They both exclaimed, starting to jump me with questions.

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ever seen, equally matching my shock.

feet, her spiralling curls bouncing with each jump.

Mamma nodding and agreeing with Kara too.

"Can I tell you in the morn—

"Where did he take you?"

"Serenity!" A di erent voice stops me this time. Like a brewing storm, my eyes flash up towards my Uncle Theo standing behind the kitchen

comforting hug. I giggle slightly and hug him back, secretly enjoying "How are you, gorgeous?" He asks kindly, looking down at me with a

smile as she leans back against him as well.

Mamma and Kara were caught up in a conversation behind me, while Uncle Theo leaves my side and pops around Aunt Kara's shoulder, Guess they're back together again. cabinets where the jar of cookies was hidden but fail miserably. "She's right." My mother agrees and easily reaches the cookies, throwing her a thankful look. white chocolate-flavoured cookies. "So, how did the date go?" Uncle Theo asked me. Stu ing my face

"You guys should just get married or something. Like in the end you'll just end up together." I murmured, giving them both a pointed look. Standing on the tips of my toes, I attempt to reach one of our higher with cookies I give him a thumbs up, and he purses his lips and nods, wrapping his arm around Kara's waist, trying to hide my mischievous "It's definitely made me like him more. He set up a whole paint night at the beach for us." I smile giddily, staring between the three adult

I hoist myself onto the counter with di iculty and begin eating the figures. "Oh my gosh," Kara sighs happily, pushing her cheeks together in awe. "That's so fucking cute! Where is my Roman?" My mother rushes out of the kitchen to look for the said man, only to collide with him as he "Oh, there you are!" She gushes and he holds her by the waist to keep her steady. Looking down at Mamma, he frowns at her excitement.

She turned around and looked at me. This caused Papà to look in the direction she was looking, and his gaze was immediately drawn to "How did it go?" He walks into the room, the entire kitchen silent as

stepped through the threshold at the same time. "What's wrong?" I give him a small grin, and he tends to focus on my attire as if he remembers where I've been.

he dominates the room. "It was good, he was really sweet." I babble, biting into another He stays motionless, staring at my mouth as I eat. "Did he feed you?" Indeed he did. "Mhm," I nod my head hastily and he forms a frown. "He didn't touch you, did he?— "Roman! Leave her alone, she's twenty, she can do whatever she Romangrunts in response to his wife, passing me a sceptical look and I shake my head at his fatherly protectiveness. "Papà, he was fine. Nothing without my consent, he's respectful." With an attitude, he nods at me in response before snatching the fourth cookie from my hand and eating it himself. "No more." He grumbled, taking the jar o of me and placing it back

in the cabinet. "I'm not five," I retort back and he shrugs, making Uncle Theo laugh. "Oh, god. I remember when she was actually five and she had dug into the jar of honey. She had it all over her face and hands just grinning and eating it," Uncle Theo chuckles and amongst the dug-up memory, everyone else laughs as well, including slight chuckles from "And Roman picked her up to put her into the bath but then she had

my father. Everyone looks over at me and I frown at the attention. stuck her hands onto his cheeks trying to layer him in kisses..." Mamma stops her sentence, excessively in tears of laughter. "He smelt of honey for days," Mamma said and I laughed but stopped when she looked at me, "And so did you, missy." Amidst all of the laughter, I thoroughly enjoyed these moments. My family meant more to me than anything else, especially my parents. I wouldn't be who I am today without them. A er a little while of catching up, talking and laughing, I called it a night and headed up to my room. I made sure to text Hayden and promised to call him as soon as I was up tomorrow. With that, I had changed and it was finally lights out for me.

Already aware of the dreams that would resurface the star of my fantasies. "And why the fuckdidn't you tell me this last night?" I winced away from my father's cold voice, my hands beginning to get "I just forgot, Papà..." I sigh, my crossed legs resting against the leather couch.

My attention was drawn to his end of the desk by movement, and I focused on his phone, which was connected to his ear now. Angrily grumbling fewer words in Italian, his dull gaze looked over at me for a second before declaring another order to the person. I understood everything he said. He was bringing a swarm of bodyguards to keep an eye on me before I went to school. This was why I had told him what had happened last night before leaving for my 9 AM class, which was in half an hour. Papà made another call a er that, still keeping his head up and pacing the room like a man on drugs.

"Sì, call a meeting for this a ernoon." He glanced at his watch for a second, looking back at me with hard eyes and nodding to the door. I frown, standing up confused. Three larger men—bodyguards—marched in, taking up the entire room with their obnoxiously large, built bodies. One of them smiled down at me, and I recognised him as one of the drivers who had driven me to school a few times the previous year. "You are well, Miss Serenity?" He asks kindly, I return his kindness

with a slight nod and smile. "I am, thank you." "I want everyone to keep a close eye on Serenity." My father's demanding and excruciatingly scary voice brings all our attention to him. "If anything or anyone dares to look at her the wrong way, you take action and call either Arabella or me. Understood?"

All of them nod at once, my father then orders them to leave and prepare for the day. I was about to trail out with them but my father stops me before I could. "Serenity." Turning on my heel, I bite my bottom lip and play with my hands behind my back. "Yes?" I mumble shyly, staring at his chest. Don't cry, don't cry, don't cr-"Look at me." Hu ing, I look up into my father's eyes.

He so ens his expression, probably seeing the tears that were about to fall. He extends his arm and motions for me to curl up into them. And I shamefully do. Wrapping my arms around his tu chest, Papà wraps his arms around me protectively and holds me tightly. "You have to tell me these things straight away, Serene. If anything happens to you, your mother and I..."

He doesn't continue on and guilt swirls deep inside of me, only "I'm sorry, I know. When it happened, I was about to call you, but Silver was doing such a good job that I didn't think it was necessary..." I babbled uselessly. It was his turn to sigh, now pulling me away from him so he could face me.

imagining my parents' reactions if I were actually taken from them. "Just be careful? I'm going to figure this shit out, whoever's messing with you." He stops to rub his jaw and stares o into space and I lean up to peck his cheek. "I will, Papà. Don't overwork yourself? Rest, sì?" He looked back down at me with a slight chuckle, as if amused by my concern. "You're not the parent here, Flower."

I roll my eyes, biting down on my tongue to keep from saying something snappy back. Leaning away, I walk further away from the room and turn on my heel about to exit.

"Bye, Papà! I'll see you guys tonight!" I smile and wave at him slowly. In return, he nods and looks down at his ringing phone. Lucky he's got a so spot for me, otherwise, I'd be a dead flower. As I walk out the doors, I notice two of my bodyguards looking up at me from their positions near the cars. Hayden pulls into the driveway on time, quickly circling the fountain and arriving in front of me within seconds. He rolls down the windows and lowers his shades to examine me. I enter the car with an eye roll, catching sight of the bodyguards making their way to their own. "What's with all the guards today?" He mutters and pats my thigh in greeting. I inhale deeply, staring hopelessly up at the roof of the car. "I've got a lot to tell you."

student and more as an opponent in her love life.

Today, I paid as much attention in class as I could. Mostly because it was nearly impossible to concentrate on anything when Silver was Professor Levine avoided eye contact with me, treating me less as a Every time I raised my hand to answer a question, she ignored me and moved on to someone else. When I didn't even know the answer to a question, I'd just put my hand up to irritate her, which clearly worked because she scowled throughout the entire lesson. I just wondered what she'd do if Silver were here with me. I'd have to test that out too. Other than my adventures with Professor Creepy, I studied pretty hard today. Spending my free hours in the library and focusing on upcoming pre-exams. It was o icially around 5 PM and I was currently dropped back home by one of my father's men. Hayden only had two classes today, so he went home to do

homework and other things. His reaction to my recent 24 hours was

He bombarded me with questions about the date, then panicked when I told him about the people who tried to take me. It was an emotional rollercoaster, but we both got through it in the end.

Moving on from that, he was excited that Silver felt the same way,

without him, and I was. I had more than enough security around so

When I finally made it back home from such a long day, I was relieved

Slowly heading up the stairs, I enter my room the next moment,

Flipping o my shoes in some corner, I slip my bag over my desk chair

Lana Del Rey begins to play so ly from my speakers, the bathroom

Extra hot baths were one of my many quirks. Nothing sounded better

My dirty clothes fall to the ground as I undress, strewn across a section of the bathroom. The music flows freely through the air,

I light a candle near the edge of the tub and pour rose-scented bath salts into the half-filled tub. Bubbles from the soap overflow the bath, and the water stops flowing. Pulling my hair into a messy bun, I place my phone on the counter beside me before slipping into the bathtub.

A contented sigh fills the room, li ing the weight on my shoulders and removing the stress from my mind for a brief moment. The heat

jolted my skin awake, but it gradually pulsated into a relaxed

I smile, reopening my eyes and li ing my hand to play with the

Sinking deeper into the water, my mind begins to think again.

My mind rings a tune, an expressive tune that goes on and on until I see him behind my closed eyes, at which point my thighs clench

My eyes widen and my body straightens in the bath as the sudden arousal shocks me back to reality. I look around the room, foolishly believing that someone could see my thoughts—even though the

I relax my arm onto the side of the bathtub and drop my other hand

Water enters me and suddenly my fingers were travelling down to my

I stare up at the ceiling, my chest heaving deeper and deeper with every skid down. Silver appears behind my eyesight, his gentle smile, his full lips caressing my neck—and then, he was suddenly sitting at

My fingertips pause between my folds; I bring them from the bottom to the top and gasp once more when all I felt was his fingers rather

Silver sat alongside me, his hand moving between my openings, each stroke taking him deeper inside of me. I whimper as a result of the

Spreading his long, ringed fingers over my flesh, the tip of his fingers going between my nipples and playing with them, gripping my

My back arches into the water, and the splashing sound mingles with the little gasps coming from my mouth. My two fingers finally fill

I let out a long moan, visualising Silver spreading his fingers and

Under his intense, blue stare, he watches me relish. He glides his thumb over the nub and extracts another moan from my mouth, his

The song falls deeper into harmony with my cadence. Silver explores his other hand over my body, his moist hand slipping and sliding over

I quicken the speed by rolling my hips, curling my fingers deeper and adding another one to the pattern. Knowing how large and hard his fingers were, my small fingers felt as if they were nothing inside of

I groan as I try to reach the spot, seeing myself being spurned.

With my free hand, I pick up the phone and answer it without

"Silver?" gulp, my heart rate picking up extremely.

However, as the music stops, all movement comes to a standstill, and the buzzing from my phone beside me jeopardises any illusion.

"Hayden, I can't talk right now.My voice was so, breathless even. I assumed that it was Hayden, nobody else would be calling me at this

"You at the gym?'His rich voice fires everything inside of me, and the fingers that were between my folds were feverishly inching down

"No. You know that I wouldn't be.I'respond so ly, licking my lips

I refrained from saying the truth. But my, oh, my, I needed a release.

Silver appeared to be in a noisy location, but wherever he was, it had quieted down, and I assumed he had gone to a quiet spot. I was surprised he called; I didn't expect a message or a call—though I'm

"I'm just in the bath, it's pretty hot J'opened my legs partially, flexing my foot into the air while also biting my bottom lip from the air that

"Oh, yeah?"His voice became impossibly deeper and lower.

In response, I hum and rub my palm up and down my bare, moist

"Miss me already? I wasn't expecting a call..I'tease as I move my

The deep sound of his chuckle echoed over the speakers and I had to bite back a pompous gasp and shamefully grasped firmly onto one of

I breathe out a messy laugh and shake my head, staring at the ceiling.

When it was his turn to hum, my breathing got more rapid as the sound pierced my ears. In my head, it seemed like a never-ending

My heart races, my free fingers nearly a stroke away from thrusting

"I told you, I'm in the bath.I'recoil back, straightening my back.

"And what were you doing before I called you, Serenity?"

"I think you know what, Silver. His name slides through its

"Not even close," admit, continuing my slow thrusts.

thrusting faster. I feel him all over me.

previous build-up returns even stronger.

my fingers bending and deepening.

trembling with each push of my body.

over the brink.

"I'm close, Silver."

straight into my ear.

"You're okay, Flower?"

unplugged it, releasing all of the water.

wiping my body with a towel.

tangled up in knots.

were a er you."

my question.

frustration.

stronzo it is."

me. Someone was a er me.

keep my legs from giving out on me.

moths. Not butterflies but moths.

down my thighs slowly.

into my heart.

business here."

louder.

wouldn't say a word about whom he owed."

"You're safe where you are. Don't stress, my love."

friend who is also a lover and the Don of the Italian Mafia.

"Wanted to check up on you."

my underwear, followed by my pyjamas.

my curiosity more. "He called you?"

"And?" nervously stare down at my feet,

done.

Silver."

"What?" I breathe into the phone.

thick silence.

Gulping, I look down between my divided legs and glide my fingers between my folds, my head instantly returning to the desired realm it

tantalising flicker on my tongue, my body sensing every timbre of his.

"Did you finish?'He asks next, adjusting his deep tone to a demand.

"Then you know what I'd do if I was with you right now?"

The phone nearly slips between my sweaty fingers, my other fingers

A stillness falls through the phone, my heavy pants welcoming the

"My lips would be on yours. He says slowly, "Your wet body against my own and I'd have my fingers between your thighs."

I moan into the phone, my hips li ing and moving against my hand.

"Yes?" I murmur, breathing quickly as my stomach twists and the

"Those pretty legs would be wrapped around me, your cries as I repeatedly drive my fingers into you on top of the counter. HIS deep voice was gru, my fingers were moving at a frenetic pace.

I whisper his name into the phone, my thumb caressing my clit and

"I love it when you beg, Fiore. He chuckles into the phone, but I don't have time to welcome it because all it does is push the build

"Finger yourself as if it were me inside of you, babyAthother maddening moan fills the room, my legs on the bath's sides

"That's it, Serenity,!'whimper again, calling his name. "Such a

I was right at the edge. My pulse was as quick as it was, and I came undone with those last words, thoughts of him plunging his fingers into me, kissing me all over, and speaking every dirty word he'd said

Cries of satisfaction reverberate across the room, through the phone. He continues to hum in approval, knowing exactly what I had just

My legs sink into the tub, unmoving beneath the floating bubbles, as breathless as ever. I take advantage of the silence to regain my

"I am," I respond, slowly adjusting my body in the tub. "Thank you,

"My pleasure." giggle a little at the absurdity of his response.

I slipped out of the bath, feeling more relaxed than before, and

"Why did you call me?" questioned, putting him on speaker while

I bite my bottom lip, trying not to let out a ridiculous girlie squeal.

A er leaving the restroom, I return to my room and begin putting on

"I told my father about last night. I've got bodyguards up my ass now," grumbled, releasing my hair from its messy bun that's now

"I know. He called me a er you le for school.'Silver's words taint

He hums and continues. "Si. We've got a meeting tomorrow about new recruits. He just wanted information about the men who

Silver is silent for a minute, evidently distracted by the sound of another male voice from the other side. But, once again, Silver

replied in a language I didn't recognise and then pretended to answer

"Some idiot who claims to own you. He grumbles angrily, I could practically see him running his hand through his inky locks in

"What do you mean? My voice strays slightly as the realisation hits

"A Mafia is a er me, making smaller gangs do the work in finding me?"I repeated aloud, now taking a seat on the edge of my bed to

"Yes, wanting to conceal their identity. The man last night

Listening to this information, my stomach was in a transformation of

Closing my eyes, I let his reassuring words sink in. He's right. I have two lethal assassins as my parents and a gay best friend that could equally punch and kill a guy at the same time. Finally, a childhood

"Thank you, D'argento, I'mumble into the phone, my hands sliding

We fall silent. I use this time to sink into the depths of my bed and gaze up at the starry ceiling. Silver Ceraso has o icially made his way

"I'll see you this weekend? Our families are having some **dinner...** He trails o, the sound of the background noise growing

finger "Where are you right now?" ask out of curiosity.

"Oh okay, sounds good. I'noted and begin to twirl a curl around my

"Underground club. It's under the old train tracks. We do

I let out a little laugh and flip over onto my stomach, tracing the

Silver's sco ru les through the phone. "You're telling me."

I picture his cold face, and the obvious annoyance in his clear, blue eyes. "I guess I'll let you get to it then. Have fun, but not too much

His ominous chuckle thunders into my ears and I could almost see

"Call if you need anything, Sí? Or if anything happens..."

"I will." assure, biting the inside of my cheek at the thought of not

He hangs up, and I remove my phone from my ear, my gaze was drawn to the photo of Butterscotch on my lock screen. I sat up in my bed, almost in astonishment, and reflect on everything that had

And I'm having dinner with the Ceraso's this weekend.

AUTHORS NOTE

this was entirely new I'm not even sure if I like it 📦

erm let me know your thoughts???

I'm always super uncomfortable writing smut, it's something I'll eventually have to get over but it's never been something I'm keen on + I'm not that good at writing it lol.

I hope you all like this chapter and the next! I'll see you next week <3

- lei

Which all happened in the span of forty minutes.

outline of my white duvet. "Bit cliche, don't you think?"

fun." joke, smiling through the phone.

hearing from him again until the weekend.

the smile he embraced too.

"Bye, Serenity."

"Goodbye, Silver."

happened.

Silver called me

Someone is a er me.

What the fuck.

I masturbated to Silver's voice.

"A new gang from the east of Manhattan has taken up deals with a larger Mafia. They want you. We're just trying to figure out which

breath, my eyes were foggy from seeing so many stars.

Smiling lightly, I hum. Briefly unable to talk for that second.

good girl, hm? Get your fingers dirty for me, flower."

fingertips from my thigh to the side of my stomach.

moving them in and out of my body.

speed with me only gets faster.

my tummy and up against my breasts.

His hand cups the back of my neck, travelling down my body.

Sparks fly onto the spot my hand had reached, and the pulsing between my thighs resumes, making me uneasy. I shi in the water, lowering my body into it, and my thighs part slightly, allowing a small

doors were locked and I was the only one inside.

into the water, resting it on my stomach, while thinking.

accompanied by my humming voice in the background.

that I admitted that I liked him andthat he had finally met

exactly equivalent to that of my family.

there wasn't a worry in the world.

I just needed a moment by myself for a minute.

door closed and the bathtub filling with hot water.

shutting the door quietly and locking it.

and proceed to the bathroom.

to me than a bubbly, steamy bath.

sensation.

together.

Silver, Silver, Silver.

gasp to leave my lips.

the edge of the bathtub.

arousal.

than mine.

breast.

inside me.

me.

time.

Holy fuck.

my stomach.

thigh.

my breasts.

glancing at the caller.

"Wrong person, beautiful."

and lowering my body into the water.

"Then what's got you so breathless, Fiore?"

getting the impression he's not much of a texter.

spread through my separated folds.

"I should be asking you that."

"I did miss you, in fact."

song with the same rhythm.

"What are you doing now?"

back inside me. I am so horny

had previously been in.

agonising contact.

when the house was silent.