

Love Hate Relationship

Chapter six

Michael parked in front of his parents mansion. He turned off the engine and sighed, he wanted so badly to talk to the woman beside him. He knew he had hurt her tonight and heaven knows he didn't want to, if she hadn't shout at him or talked back at him, he wouldn't have done it. He is used to shouting to people and they would stand there with their heads low, none of them dared to look at him, let to talk of to shout at him. But she did and it annoyed him.

He glanced at her and saw her sitting with her head bowed, obviously waiting for him to get out of the car first, he felt the impulse of reaching out to touch her and when his hands wanted to obey, he clenched it to stop himself, why should he console her? What he did tonight is not up to a quarter of what she did to him. The law of nature said that thou shall reap what thee sow and she is only reaping hers, so why should he feel bad? The main reason of marrying her was to get back at her, the pain she had made him live in for years, he only wanted her to have a taste of it and this night is just the beginning, thinking to that, he got out of the car and walked past all the servants there that greeting him.

Sasha followed after him and smiled at the servants that greeted her, no matter what, she has to act happy, she can't let anyone know what is happening in home and not just because she didn't want them to gossip but that she is now having an inkling fear that she maybe married to a monster. His attitude tonight had just proven that he is not the man she can afford to offend, seem like she is married to the devil himself.

She walked into the house seconds after Michael and Vanessa smiled to her before pulling her into a light hug. She kissed both her cheeks and looked at her with a beautiful smile evident in her eyes "how are you my dear?" She asked in her sweet and gentle voice. She really is a graceful woman.

Sasha felt an unspeakable amount of warm flush into her the moment Vanessa hugged her and kissed her, the fear and regret that was starting to build up in her heart immediately disappeared, she has a loving mother in-law "I'm fine, you?" She asked genuinely and Vanessa smiled.

She loop her hand in hers and gently pulled her into a walk with her "I'm great only that you and your husband abandoned us immediately you got married" she looked at Sasha with a smile "you can call me you know, I won't get angry over it. Since you haven't leave for your honeymoon, why don't you spend some time with me?" She helped her sit on the sofa before sitting beside her, her hand slowly caressed her hair.

Sasha couldn't help but feel like a fifteen year old who just got married and have her mother in-law spoiling her cause that's exactly what Vanessa was doing now, maybe she forgot that she is actually twenty six? She thought but that doesn't matter, having someone treat her with love in her new family filled half of the emptiness she feels inside "I will work on that" she answered.

Vanessa smiled and looked at her son, perhaps noticing that they are both dressed in red, her eyes sparkled, maybe they are getting along more than she expected, she have had this fear that things might take time before happening between them since she knows the kind of son she gave birth to, well, looks like she doesn't need to worry anymore "I have a tea party to attend with my friends next tomorrow, why don't you come along with me? I will introduce you to them, they are all dying to meet you anyway."

"I will look forward to it" Sasha replied with a smile.

"That's good. And don't you forget" Vanessa said looking from her to her son who was just sitting there with his eyes closed and his head resting on the sofa before looking at her again "if he does anything that you don't like, do not hesitate to tell me so that I will caution him for you or even punish him if necessary."

Michael's eyes snapped open at his mother's words and his eyes went to Sasha again who looked at him after hearing what his mother just said, she thought about complaining about his restriction on her from going to work and seeing her friends but when she saw the cold glint in his eyes, she couldn't get herself to utter a single word "I will keep that in mind mom."

Vanessa smiled at her before looking at her son with a raised eyebrow who looked away almost immediately. Joseph Brown walked down the stairs then and smiled at Sasha "you are looking beautiful my dear" he complimented and Sasha actually blushed.

"Thank you...Dad" she replied and Joseph smiled before looking at his son.

"Michael, what is this that I hear, that late this afternoon you canceled your contract with Mr. Whitehead?" He asked while taking a seat in the single sofa there.

"It's true" Michael blurted out.

"I know it's true, I'm asking why?"

"His son did something against me."

"And what would that be?"

Michael swallowed and kept quiet, he can't tell them he canceled the contract just because the son touched his wife and again not in her presence. He can't have her know he went to that length just because of her. When Joseph noticed his son is not going to tell him the reason he canceled the contract. he sighed.

"You are a business man, you should know the result of any decision you make. That contract has been going on for six months now and since you canceled it when it's just two months to the end, I believe it must be a very good reason?"

"Yes" Michael answered and Joseph sighed. He really don't understand this son of he's, not only is he hard to read or to make up what he might be thinking at the moment but he also acts as if he is possessed at times, he shook his head with a low sigh and decided to drop the topic, no matter what he said now, he is not going to get him to speak up.

He looked at his daughter in law and noticing that they are in uniform, he raised his eyebrow in surprise, well at least, he is treating his wife well, he thought "you two are trying to make me feel jealous and wonder why I'm not in uniform with my wife isn't?" He asked.

Sasha blushed really hard and Michael looked at her in shock before looking at himself, he is just noticing now that they are both dressed in red, his heart fluttered in happiness but he didn't let it show on his face. How many times have he dreamt of being in uniform with her? He can't even remember.

"Oh come on Joseph, we have had our time when we are young. Let them enjoy the early times of their marriage" Vanessa shunned.

"Oh I'm not complaining, I'm just saying they are making me jealous, that's all. I mean I'm glad there are getting along well" he smiled.

"Dinner is served" a servant announced to them before turning and walking back into the kitchen.

"Well, it's about time" Joseph commented while getting up "I'm famished" he reached out his hand to his wife who got up and took it while they both made their way to the dining.

"You will eat soon" Sasha heard Vanessa say and marveled at the love that they both still have for each other and not hesitating to show it off. She looked at her own husband and he was looking at her and then he did the thing that she never expected. He repeated the action his dad did to his mother and Sasha was frozen before putting her hand in his. His hand was so soft and he helped her stand up gently. Sasha was awestruck at this new behaviour of his and couldn't help glancing at him from time to time.

Michael pulled out a chair for her and help her sit before settling on another chair beside her and all this did not escape his parents eagle eyes. He smiled faintly when he noticed how they were watching him and found it difficult to avoid laughing out loud when he saw the way his wife kept looking at him or stealing glances at him. Just what is wrong with them? He can be a gentleman for crying out loud, he thought.

They discussed more after dinner before Michael bid goodbye to his parents with the excuse that he has meeting early tomorrow. Joseph and Vanessa walked them outside where the chauffeur had their car already waiting for them, he handed the keys to Michael with a bow "don't forget Sasha, we have tea party next tomorrow" Vanessa reminded and Sasha nodded.

"I will keep that in mind" she replied with a smile. They bid goodbye and to keep face in the presence of his parents, Michael opened the door for her and shut it after she was seated. He walked to the driver's side and got in the car. Joseph and Vanessa watched them leave before walking back into the house with a big smile on their lips.

They got home and Michael parked the car, got down and walked into the house. Sasha sighed as she watched him, of course he was only putting on front for his parents, did I think he actually cared? Like he is gonna change in a minute, she thought before getting down from the car too. She went up the stairs to their room to see him undressing. She walked to her dressing table

and dropped her purse before turning to face him, he already has his shirt unbuttoned "I'm sorry...I'm sorry for walking into your closet and taking something from it without your permission. I will have the dress washed and returned just the way I saw it."

Michael snorted as he removed his shirt before reaching for his singlet, he pulled that off too and feasting his well built body to her eyes to which she gulped "return it just the way you saw it. How do you think that is possible?"

"It's possible, I will just have it washed."

"When you took it out of there" he pointed at the walk-in closet "was it washed? Have it been worn? You can't return it the way you saw it because you have already worn it, so it's not the way you saw it!"

Sasha bit her lip, so that's it then, she took in a deep breath and let it out slowly "I will replace it then. I will look for something exactly like it and replace it..." She was saying when he suddenly started laughing, but you can tell it was a mocking laughter directed to her.

"Replace it?" He laughed again "I'm sorry, but all your wealth and that of your parents can not buy this dress and move over, there is only of it, you can't see it anywhere. So how are you going to replace it?" He asked staring at her with humour in his eyes and his hands on his waist.

Sasha tried to swallow his insult but she just can't "what do you mean by all my wealth and my parents? I am not poor. I can understand if you say there is only one piece of it but not that I can't afford it!"

"Really? Then how about I call my designer to make it, will you buy it from him?" He asked with a raised eyebrow.

"Yes, how much is the cost?" She asked.

"If I'm correct, I think it's five or six million dollars" he looks thoughtful.

Sasha eyes reached her forehead "what! Just for a dress?" She shouted and that brought him out of his thought.

Michael stood staring at her, amused at her outburst " I told you, you can't afford it, do you believe me now?"

"Why will it cost so much?"

"Because it's a rare piece, someone like you won't understand quality" he mocked.

Sasha sighed and closed her eyes "you are insulting me."

"I'm I? Wow, I didn't know. I didn't know you will see it as an insult after all, you agreed to marry me because of a hundred million dollars. I assumed that you were already making it obvious that you are poor. I mean, you didn't come with anything here, all the dresses that filled your wardrobe was provided by my mom, so I thought you already know of your condition" he smiled and picked up his shirt and singlet before walking to the walk-in closet "you can keep the dress, I don't want it to seem like I'm a bad husband, at least you can brag that you have a dress that is only a piece in the world."

He turned and looked at her again "that reminds me, aren't you going to a tea party with mom next tomorrow? You can wear it, at least the ladies there understands quality, they will know what you are putting on with just a glance, unlike you who didn't" he smiled and walked into the closet without looking back at her again.

Sasha couldn't keep the tears from falling then, she sat on the bed as it poured from her eyes like river, this is the highest insult in her life and to think she has to get it from her so called husband. She stood up and rushed to her wardrobe immediately and threw it open, she packed all the dresses there and dumped on the bed, she sat in the now empty wardrobe and cried her eyes out.

Michael walked out of the closet with a towel around his waist, he looked at the dresses on the bed and then at the crying Sasha and chuckled before walking into the bathroom like he had seen nothing. He came out minutes later to see everything just like it was before, he walked into the closet and dressed in his pyjamas before walking out again. He packed all the dresses and dumped it on Sasha's side in the bed before lying down and going to sleep.

Sasha stared at him with her tear filled eyes and wondered why she ever fell in love with him. She sat there for what felt like hours before getting up and undressing, she walked into the bathroom and took a shower. She packed the dresses and dumped them on the chair in the room, she will take care of them

tomorrow. She laid on her own side on the bed and watched the sleeping Michael for some time before turning off her bed lamp and going to sleep.

Waking up the next day, Sasha realized she was alone in the room, well that's it, he has left before she woke up...again, she thought and got up and dressed the bed. She stared at the pile of dresses on the chair and the events of last night flashed in her mind, well, she hate to do away with the dresses but she can't afford to have her husband thinking she is poor and only married him for his money. His statement last night really hurt her and it's not helping that he had to make comparison with the contract which truth be told was the reason she accepted the marriage but not the reason she married him. Will he believe her if she should tell him that? She doubts.

She started folding the dresses one after the other, she brought a big box and packed them inside before lifting it and placing on top the wardrobe. She walked into the bathroom after and took a long shower. Sasha walked into the kitchen and thought of what to take as breakfast but she was so lazy to cook and so settled for a bowl of cereal, after all, there is no one to cook for and even if there is, what's the guarantee that he will eat it?

She sat in the living room later and watched the news, when she got bored, she switched to action movies and after two movies, she got tired of it and switched to cartoons. After watching Barbie starlight adventure, she couldn't get herself to watch another, she has never been a fan of cartoons anyway. She looked at the time and it was almost three pm, she sighed, she is bored to death, is this how her life is going to be everyday? Sitting here and doing absolutely nothing?

She doubts if she can do this, perhaps when Michael gets back, she will talk to him about allowing her to start working again or else he should just kill her than make her stay in this lonely house everyday. She got up to fix a late lunch but decided against it, she will rather eat outside, at least that will be a reason to get out of this boring house. She walked up to their room and opened her wardrobe only to see it empty.

What the? She thought and then remembered she had removed all the dresses her mother in law gifted her and that means she has to get her own dresses. Well, at least that will make her not to return home early. New plan, have lunch outside and then go shopping, she decided but what is she going to wear now? Perhaps she should pick from the one her mother in law gave her? No, she is not going to give Michael more reasons to insult her. She reached for one of the boxes she brought from her old resident.

She picked out one of her old clothes and put on, got her car key and left the house. Two minutes after she drove off, another black car with tinted glasses followed after. The driver of the car made a phone call before dropping the phone and following Sasha's car.

A young man ended his call and left his office, he walked to the door of another office and knocked before entering "boss, there is news, she left the house five minutes ago" Gary reported.

Michael looked up from the document he was working on "where to?" He asked.

"I can't tell yet, Fish is still on her tail, said he will call once she settles."

"Good, he should continue then. Report to me when you know where she went to."

"Yes boss" Gary replied and left the office.

Michael stared at the close door and the corner of his lips lift up in a faint smile "where are you going now love?" He whispered.

Sasha pulled over at the parking lot of her favourite diner, she got out of the car and walked into the restaurant. The black car parked a few blocks away and made another phone call.

Sasha made her self comfortable in her favourite booth, she picked up the menu and ordered for something crispy and a juice. The juice arrived first and she opened it and poured in a glass, she sipped from it and savoured the taste in her tongue before swallowing, the first sweet thing she had tasted after last night, she thought and it made her love the juice more.

Her food arrived minutes later and she enjoyed every minute of it. She rested for more minutes before deciding it's time to go shopping. She paid her bills and left the restaurant, she got to her car, got in and drove off. The driver of the black car made another phone call before following her.

Sasha stopped in front of the first cloth shop she saw, she parked the car and got out, look around her, she don't know why she kept having the feeling that she is been followed but there is absolutely no one looking her way, she sighed and walked into the shop. The black car parked just opposite the shop and was about to make another phone call when he saw a car parked right

beside Sasha's car, the driver of the car got down and opened the backdoor, a beautiful lady stepped down, she looked around her before walking into the shop too.

The driver of the black hastily made his phone call while he kept staring at the shop, wishing he could see what was going on in there. Gary rushed out of his office and knocked at the door of another office before walking in "news sir."

"Go on" Michael said.

"Mistress already left the restaurant but she didn't go home."

Michael looked at him then with a slight frown "where did she go to then?"

"She went to Diva's Beauty" Gary replied.

Michael looked at him as his mind processed his words, why will she go to Diva's Beauty? He thought and then remembered she had removed all the clothes his mother bought for her, his lips curled up in a smile, why, she is trying to prove her self to him, he thought. He knew he should be angered by her attitude but he is actually enjoying it, he always love a lady that can take care of herself, but why did she choose his shop? "Okay then, have Fish wait for her till she finish shopping."

"Yes boss but there is only one slight problem."

"What is that?" Michael asked.

"Fish reported that not long after mistress walked in, Miss Hertz walked in."

Michael frowned "Kira Hertz?"

"Yes boss."

"Damn" Michael groaned, he got up and picked his car key and threw it to Gary "guess we are going shopping then" he added and picked up his phone before walking out of the office, followed by Gary.

Sasha walked around, looking at different dresses, the shop attendant followed behind her with a sweet smile, introducing any new dress they pass. Sasha couldn't get herself to choose anything yet, all the clothe that the attendant showed her are all top notch, if she should buy one of them then she won't have much left for other clothes but she don't know how to walk

away or tell the attendant that the clothes are all too expensive for her, just why did she choose this shop?

"If my eyes are not deceiving me, I would have said that this looks like Michael's new bride but how can it be possible, Michael won't let his wife go shopping wearing nothing but that" Sasha heard a lady say and turned to see a beautiful woman dress in a gown which was on par with all the ones she had been seeing here.

"Hello miss Kira, I didn't know you will be coming today" the shop attendant quickly walked to her, abandoning Sasha without blinking an eye, of course she will choose miss Kira who she knows very well and will always live a tip for her over a woman she doesn't even know and have just been walking around without picking a single dress.

"I didn't know I will be coming, I was just passing by when I saw this lady, I thought she was your boss's wife" Kira looked at Sasha lowly "but I see now that I'm wrong."

Sasha tried to ignore her but her words made her stop "wait, what do you say? Michael owns this place?" She asked shocked.

"Well looks like I'm not wrong, and not just that, you don't even know your husband's properties" Kira snorted.

Sasha rolled her eyes, how is she to know his properties when she hasn't even gotten a hug from him. She turned to walk away but was stopped by Kira again.

"When I saw you two at the alter, I already know that it was just an arranged marriage and he feels nothing for you. I can know better because I went to the same school with Michael but not once have I seen him with a girl" she was looking Sasha up and down now "but what I still don't seem to understand is why he rejected marrying me but married you."

"Obviously is because he saw something better in me than you" Sasha replied, there is no way she is going to allow her insult her, Michael might insult her and she will do nothing, but that doesn't mean she will take that from anybody else.

Kira felt insulted by her words and sneered "yea I can see that" she looked at her dressing and chuckled "obviously he married you just in name. The

Michael I know will never let his wife dress so poorly, he is a sucker for quality and fashion and only purchases rare clothes, you will hardly see a cloth he is putting on anywhere else and I'm sure and not just me but everybody else knows that his wife is going to be wearing a rare piece but look at you" she chuckled "I don't think its happening like that."

Sasha sighed, just where did this woman come from? Did she come here to shop or just to insult her? "I have the right to choose what I want to wear and my darling husband is understanding because he knows that I don't need to dress in a gown worth millions before my beauty will be seen. He knows that I look good in whatever I wear unlike some who depends on dresses and makeup to look good" she smiled.

Kira grinded her teeth, she looked at the face of the woman challenging her and can't help but admit that she is right, even without the makeup and fancy dress, she still looked stunning unlike her that must put on a makeup to conceal the ugly scare on her cheek, noticing this, she can't help but hate the lady more.

Sasha smirked and turned to continue her shopping, out of anger because of the woman, she picked any dress her hand touched and walked to the counter, she offered her credit card and waited for the beautiful girl to pack her dress for her, she knows she will spend more than she expected and couldn't help but blame Michael, its all his fault, if he hadn't insulted her last night of being poor, she wouldn't have come to shop and if it wasn't for his high taste in clothes, she wouldn't have been insulted for her simple dressing.

If it wasn't for him being too handsome that the lady Kira has a crush on him, she wouldn't have had to face the woman let to talk of exchanging words with her, so it's all his fault, it's always his fault. She was called out of her blaming by the girl at the counter "excuse me, what?" She asked since she didn't hear what she said.

"I said I'm sorry but you don't have sufficient balance to pay for the clothes" the girl replied with a smile.

What? Not enough balance? She collected her card from the girl and looked at it only to discover it was just her little saving account that owns it, of course, she had came in with this card because she didn't want to spend much "please hold on, let me get my other card in my car" she smiled.

"Of course ma'am, take your time" the girl replied and just then Sasha heard a mocking laughter, she don't know why but it pierced her heart just like how Michael's own had did last night.

"Well well well, looks like you don't have enough money" Kira sneered "ouch, it must hurt, I mean, you are married to one of the richest man in Los Angeles but you can't even pay for a few dresses. That's too bad" she pouted.

Sasha bit her lower lip, she really want to get out of her and it's not helping that her earlier dispute with Kira had got the other shoppers to now monitor her, of course, Kira hadn't lowered her voice when she mentioned of her being Michael's wife and now everybody is looking at her. Although as it is her husband shop, she can just walk away with the clothes and offer to pay later but that will damage her image in all this women's eyes, Sasha cursed Michael to hell and back.

"Not only does he not give you money, you didn't even know he is the owner of this place, just what kind of a wife are you?" Kira asked sarcastically.

Sasha could already hear the other women whispering and wished the ground will just open and swallow her "I have told you many times, stop leaving your credit card at home, you don't know where you will find yourself" she heard and boy does she know that voice, she turned to the door and saw him walking up to her, he hugged her and kissed her forehead "just when will you start listening to me? You and this your simple life style" he smiled, a smile that Sasha has never seen on his face before.

Not only Sasha but everybody in the shop was surprised to see him, why is he here? Was the question in everybody's mind.

"Welcome Mr Brown" the attendants all greeted including the girl at the counter.

Michael pretended not to hear them and acted as if Sasha was the only one there "you were going shopping and you didn't tell me? Why?" He asked feigning to be hurt.

"I'm sorry?" Sasha said and he laughed.

"Why should you be sorry? Anyway, since you are already here, I must have you know that I own this place. I understand that you said you don't want to

know my properties yet since we are newly married but you are standing on one baby" he smiled and tucked a lock of her hair behind her ear.

"Oh" Sasha was speechless, duh, she is not used to this loving side of his.

Michael looked at the clothes on the counter and frown "is this the ones you chose?"

Sasha broke away from looking at him and looked at the clothes on the counter "yes" she confirmed.

Michael looked at the attendant standing beside Kira "where is your manager?"

"She is in her office Sir" she replied immediately.

"Get her for me" he ordered and she scurried away to the manager's office. She returned later with a tall woman following after her.

"Good afternoon Sir" she greeted before reaching him.

"May I know the reason my wife has to shop alone here?" He demanded.

Wife? The woman was shocked before she noticed Sasha that was in his arms, she remembered her after all she attended their wedding "I am so sorry sir, I didn't know she was here, nobody informed me" she tried to defend herself immediately. The rest of the attendant cursed her, why do she want to put the blame on them, how were they supposed to know the lady is his wife.

"Enough bullshit, I heard there is new stock?" Michael asked.

"Yes sir" the woman nodded.

"Then why aren't you showing them to her?" He demanded.

"I'm sorry" she looked at Sasha "please come with me Mrs. Brown" she smiled. Sasha was still in shock until she heard Mrs. Brown, just why is Michael so loving and protective today? She just couldn't say.

"Here you go love" he put a black credit card in her hand "don't forget this one like you always do, hmm?" He smiled "I would have love to stay with you but I have a meeting to attend. Don't worry, Bella here will take good care of you, won't you Bella?" He looked at the woman.

"Of course I will Sir, you have my word" she readily agreed.

Michael smiled and looked at Sasha again "I will see you at home tonight" he kissed her forehead again and walked right past Kira without even acknowledging her and walked out of the shop. Gary sighed before following after him, his boss should have been actor because he has not seen anyone that could act like him, just look at how he settled the issue and made them appear like a loving couple when in truth they are not. Anyways, he understand his boss personality very well, just because he maltreats his wife, doesn't mean anybody else will.

Sasha followed the woman called Bella blindly into another room, lost in thought about Michael's behavior just now but she still saw from the corner of her eyes as Kira stomped her foot and walked away angrily, she can also feel that the way the other women sees her has change too, well, guess she can thank her husband this time for saving her image but that will wait till she gets home then.