

## Chapter 41 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

Xander's POV

"Your wife is very enticing Adamos, very fitting that she's your wife... Feisty, I mean a man as powerful as you needs a strong woman like her. I am going to enjoy breaking her."

"You are a dead man walking Moretti." I said calmly even though I wanted to rip him apart.

"No one lives forever Adamos, at least I will go out knowing I took something from you like you took something from me. But I out smarted you. What I took from you is way more precious. And guess what I have planned for her in two days time? I am hosting a few business associates and she is going to be the entertainment of the night. I am also going use your sister... your wife battered and bruised her so I will have to wait two more days until she heals. Or else your wife will have to more than make up for those six gentlemen, I don't know if I should sample her first before I let them each get a taste."

It felt like my heart stopped beating. Everything in me wanted to tear this man apart limb for limb. The window to find her had just shortened.

"Moretti I am giving you a chance to walk away from this and I won't come after you. You defile my wife and I won't kill you, I will torture you for months. You will live in constant agony until I decide to give you mercy.

"You are not at a position to threaten me Adamos. You know what the problem with your kind is? You grew up with money, you come from generational wealth so you look at a self made business man like me and you think that I'm nothing and you think I can't sit at the table with you. Well look at me now Adamos, I'm bringing you to your knees. All I wanted from you was a piece of the action but you looked at me and regarded me like I was the scum under your shoe."

"So did you call me to gloat?" I scoffed at him.

"Yes I did and to tell you that I will make a deal with you, your life for your wife's life. You come alone to a set location and we make an exchange, she gets to live and you die in her place. Your sister I don't really need, I am going to send her to my whore house.

"Name a place and time."

“A little too eager are we? You really want to end your life for a bitch?” He chuckled.

“I will call you back with a time and place. I’m still going to whore her out before I return her.” He hung up.

I dialled Dorian’s number as I got into the car. He answered in the first ring.

“Dorian, tell me that picture had a geo tag on it? Or at least you could check from the towers where that message came from exactly.” I growled at him.

“Negative boss, but I caught one of the Cirillo boys, I’m am bringing him to the warehouse as we speak for questioning.”

“Good job.” I breathed out a sigh of relief. I was ready to release some pent up energy. “I’ll question him myself.” I hung up the call. I’d managed to stay calm for this long and I was getting tired of it.

A few moments later we were at the warehouse.

“Cirillo... You are the first one I’m going to torture out of all your brothers and guess what. I have gotten to a point where I will do just about anything to get the information that I need from you. You don’t talk, you don’t die, that’s too easy. I keep you here for a very long time making you bleed daily.

He was made to lie on his back over a chair with his abdomen exposed, I instructed the men to hold on to his legs and hands.

“Where’s Moretti, Cirillo?” I snarled at him. He didn’t respond.

“I’m going to break your ribs one by one.” I proceeded to beat him with two clubs on his chest. He yelled and screamed then I stopped. “Are you going to answer me or do you need me to continue? Where is Moretti? If I happen to puncture your lungs as well then too bad for you.

He stayed silent and I hammered at him again. A rib cracked as I used blunt force to beat into him. He screamed in agony. All the frustration I had felt since I found out that they had taken Soraya, i put into beating this guy up. I heard another rib crack as he kept screaming.

“And when I’m done i will move on to your kidney right on your back.” I yelled.

“Okay, okay. I will talk. This Moretti guy is not worth the trouble.” He could barely speak.

“He is supposed to vacate from one of our buildings today, we are flying him out to Libya with his five passengers.”

“What time are you supposed to fly out.

“In two hours.” He said.

“If you are lying to me Cirillo, I will do more than just break your ribs. Where is the building?”

He gave up all the information. Within 30 minutes we had arranged for a tactical team and we were headed out to the warehouse. I tried to steady my heart, if anything happened to Soraya I would not be able to forgive myself. I knew that Moretti was not joking about pimping her out or forcing himself on her.

On our way there I suddenly got an idea that would definitely give me an advantage over Moretti. I took out my phone and dialled Joud’s number.

“Joud, I am going to give you a chance to redeem yourself. Listen to me carefully, I need you to take the other private Jet and fly to New York...” I relayed the rest of the instructions to him. Hector looked at me and smiled.

“Now why did it take you so long to think of that. Moretti won’t see that coming at all.”

“He thinks I can’t get to him but he’s about to find out how well I know him.”

Sofija’s POV

I watched Soraya come out of the bathroom. Her face was pale and she looked like she had just thrown up again. At first I thought she had caught some sort of bug but I would have it too by now since we shared a space.

It wasn’t the food that was making her sick, or maybe it was but not for the reason I had thought before. When I had been pregnant with Ajana, I had thrown up like she was doing, gagging and puking at the smell of just about anything.

The news was not comforting to me, in fact it horrified me. Xander must know that she is pregnant, he would surely kill me. This was just like Hera’s situation except this time I had a hand in it. I watched her lay on her stomach on the bed.

“You are pregnant.” I said to her.

She didn’t say anything. She closed her eyes and took deep breaths.

“Does Xander know?” I asked her. She maintained her silence.

“Soraya!” I yelled at her.

“What?! Why do you wanna know? What’s it to you?” She opened her eyes and glared at me.

I couldn’t help but start crying. I regretted everything that I’d done. Joud would hate me, my entire family would hate me. I would lose Joud.

“Oh please! Cry me a river!” Selfish and narcissistic and crying?” She scoffed.

“I am so sorry, I really am. Yes I was selfish and greedy but...”

“But what? If you had know that I was pregnant? What?! You would have done things differently? I highly doubt that!” She yelled at me. “You are only sorry because you got caught, I never hated you Sofija. Not even when you hated me for no reason and kept doing everything in your power to aggravate me. I don’t want your sorry, I can take you trying to hurt me but I will never forgive you for putting Xander through the same thing that almost broke him.”

“It wasn’t for no reason, you reminded me of Hera. I got angry that he would go and try to replace her. She’s irreplaceable.” I said to her as I tried to remember Hera’s smile and the sound of her laugh.

“This isn’t just for Hera, there’s something else that you want. I might not know what but I know you.” She rolled her eyes at me.

The door opened and Nikolaj came in with that weird skinny girl who brought us food. This time instead of holding a tray in her hands. She had what looked like clothes. Nikolaj had a camera in his hands.

“Right ladies, the boss wants you to try these on.” He smiled. “Cupcake yours is the white one and little miss murder she wrote... yours is the red one, the devil spawn.” He laughed at his own joke.

The girl put the dresses on the bed and Nikolaj took the white one and held it up. He whistled as he did that.

“I’m not wearing that.” Soraya looked at the cheap material.

“It’s not a request.” He said quietly.

“You are going to have to drug me and put me in that dress because I’m not wearing it.”

“That definitely can be arranged.” He smirked at her.”

“I’m also not wearing that cheap thing.” I stepped in.

“Wait did you two make up? What’s this union thing that I sense? Listen here Moretti will throw you around if you don’t put these on or he will order me to do it and I definitely don’t want to beat you up cupcake, you on the other hand, I have no problem pummelling you.”

I was about to argue when Moretti came running into the room.

“Change of plans, we have to go now.” He yelled for a guy to join them in the room. “Grab her.” He pointed at me. “And Nikolaj you grab her and meet me up by the roof. The chopper is on its

way. He took off and the two men were man handling us. Soraya was kicking and screaming as Nikolaj put cuffs on her and threw her over his shoulder.

As we ran up the stairs, that's when I heard them. The gun shots coming from down the stairs.

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## Soraya's POV

Sofija and the other big guy had gone ahead. I could hear her yelling at him. I kept kicking and pummeling Nikolaj as he ran up the stairs with me over his shoulder.

"Let me go!!" I yelled at him. I could hear explosions and men screaming like they were on fire. It definitely smelled like fire.

Xander was here. My heart was racing, I knew that he would find me, I never doubted it. My eyes teared up. "Xander! Xander! Help!" I called out for him.

"Cupcake, if you don't stop this incessant kicking and screaming. I'm going to have to knock you out, stop it!"

"My husband is going to kill you, I told you he would come." I hissed at him. "If you let me go now, I will make sure he is merciful towards you."

"Your husband is not the merciful kind, I will take my chances running. Now stop kicking." He snarled at me.

We finally reached the top level of the building, we went through a door and found ourselves on the roof of the building, I was facing the floor and if I lifted my head just enough I could see the door we had just come out of but I could hear the sound of the rotter blades turning. Suddenly my hope felt like it was being sucked away right in front of me. If Xander didn't reach me on time, would he ever be able to find me again. I had to find a way to buy him some time.

I kicked my feet around wildly making sure I heaved all my weight down on Nikolaj, my cuffed hands smashing hard onto his back. I did it over and over again making him miss a step. He fell forward with me going down first. He fell to his knees using his his palms to steady himself on the ground.

I was in so much pain but there was no time to think about that. His face was right in front of me so I kicked hard and my foot landed on his face. He growled in pain and probably annoyance as he fell back. I struggled to get up but got on my knees and used my bound hands to steady myself onto my feet and I ran towards the door screaming out Xander's name over and over like a mad person.

I could hear Moretti in the back yelling for Nikolaj to catch me.

“Don't let her get away Nikolaj!”

I ran as fast as my legs would take me, it wasn't easy to run with my hands cuffed as I was going down the stairs. If I fell, I would have no way of steadying myself. I could hear Nikolaj gaining on me. My heart was racing and I started to cry. If he caught me then it would all be over. The gun shots were nearing and I could hear men shouting downstairs.

I heard Hector's voice, he was here too. He seemed to be calling out to Xander. “I hear her, she up there, go now!” He yelled.

I called out over and over. Then I heard Xander calling out to me. My chest started heaving as I started sobbing.

“Soraya, Angel, where are you? Soraya?”

“I'm up here Xander. Help” I cried out. Then I felt hands yank me backwards. Nikolaj grabbed me and shook my shoulders turning me around to face him. He had a murderous look on his face.

“I warned you.” He snarled at me and then threw a punch at me. Everything was hazy as I slumped over then suddenly a darkness engulfed me.

Xander's POV

I was taking the stairs two at a time. I could hear her voice, she was calling out my name and sobbing. I could hear the panic in her voice then all of a sudden I couldn't hear her anymore. I had to get to her fast.

As I reached the door to the roof, I saw the chopper as it took off from the ground. “Moretti!” I yelled in frustration as he looked at me with this ugly arrogant smirk on his face. I couldn't shoot at the chopper. I had been so close. “I will find you Moretti.” I yelled at him. He pointed at Soraya who was slumped over on one of Moretti's men.

Sofija was standing there with a bruised face, she was restricted and looked like she had been crying too. She looked at me and screamed my name.

“Xander, help!” I regarded her with so much hatred in me. How could my own sister orchestrate this. The chopper took off, I clenched my fist, I had been so close.

Hector came up behind me. He pointed his gun at the chopper. I gestured for him to stop.

“Damnit! Haaaaaah!” He snarled.

“We know where that chopper is headed towards, there’s not time to waste. Let’s go.” I yelled and we headed back down stairs.

Hector took out his phone and placed a call. “Dorian, ready the choppers. Get some more armoury and men, we are headed to Libya.”

I walked back down the stairs with Hector, one of our men had found the room where Soraya and Sofija had been kept. It was a small room with just a bed and side tables. To the left was a door leading to the bathroom. The men searched the room and found the clothes that the women had been wearing at the gala. Folded neatly with the shoes underneath the dress. I held out the dress and the neck piece that Soraya had been wearing that night fell out. Why did I keep failing her? I almost had her with me. I had promised my son that I would tuck him into bed tonight. I would make sure I kept that promise but I had to make sure that I got his mother back to him.

Moretti didn’t know that I knew exactly where he was flying to. The moment he thought he was safely hidden, my team would get to him.

Hector and I went all the way up to the rooftop to board the chopper that was waiting there.

“It should take us a little over two hours to get there? Xander we will get her back. He won’t have the time to harm her. By the time he lands we will be about forty minutes behind maximum.” He patted me on my shoulder.

“She was trying to get to me Hector, I heard her screaming and running down the stairs but I didn’t get to her fast enough.” I sighed.

“The most important thing right now is that she’s safe? Unharmmed? A few more hours and she will be home.”

Sofija’s POV

I tried to move my hands even though I knew the cuffs would not budge. The cuffs were linked to one of the helicopter seats. I was on the floor of the helicopter.

Soraya was passed out as she lay her head on Nikolaj’s shoulder. He had one of his hands against her to make sure that she didn’t slump over. He looked worried, he kept looking at her like he was worried she was dead.

“Boss what if I punched her too hard, I hit her quite hard on the side of the head.” He said to Moretti.

“Then you will have to find another woman to replace her for tonight and the other nights.” Moretti dismissed him.

“You all are stupid! Do you think that my brother will not find you again?”

“It might have been easy for him to find us in Athens because that’s his territory but he doesn’t know that we have left the country.”

“Now I see why he never wanted to work with you. You keep underestimating him and that’s going to get you killed.” I said in frustration.

“You suddenly care about our well-being princess?” Nicolaj scoffed.

“No! I care about my own well being. I can’t afford for my brother to find us because you ran your mouth to her..” I pointed at Soraya. “..about my involvement in all this. He is going to kill me too. You keep me alive, I can tell you about all his businesses, his dealings... everything you need to know to stay ahead. Only if you let me go.”

Moretti laughed out loud. “Adamos is surrounded by women who just want to betray him left right and center... except for his wife that is. That reminds me... we do have one woman we definitely can use, Leticia. She is supposed to meet me in Libya this evening.” He had an evil glimmer in his eye.

Whoever this Leticia woman was, she had no idea what she would be walking into. I had to get myself out of here. Xander would come for Soraya, it was time for me to look out for myself. Judging by the way Xander had looked at me on that rooftop, would never forgive me, he knew what I had done. Joud was loyal to one person and one person only and that was my brother so he would not help me get out of this one. As soon as we landed I would bolt and make a run for it.

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Hector’s POV

As soon as we landed, Dorian had organised transport from a contact that he had in Libya. Within minutes we were being transported by a convoy of cars to Moretti’s hide out in Tripoli.



I looked at Xander who seemed to be checking his weapons every five minutes. “We are going to get her back this time Xander. He’s not expecting us at all.” I assured him.

“I won’t be satisfied until Soraya is back at home and Moretti is in a deep dark hole, bleeding out every day for the rest of his life.

“Dorian says that Moretti and his entourage arrived about 30 minutes ago. They had with them two women and a third woman joined them.”

“We have to do this quickly and as quietly as possible and be out of here. We don’t own the local authorities. Xander said.

“Don’t worry about that, Dorian has taken care of that. They will look the other way and report this as a drug related crime with no witnesses.” I informed him. “Dorian is getting very good at this, he is cultivating very good alliances. Remember a few years ago when we were saving him every other month because he would get himself in a bind.” I tried to crack a joke but Xander was too tense.

Xander’s phone rang and he put it on loud speaker. “There’s a private entrance around the back of the building. Three guards, a silencer should take care of them. I have two snipers on the roof of the building across from where Moretti is incase he thinks he can get away again. My men are in position. How far are you?”

“We are ten minutes away, wait for my signal Dorian, don’t fire until I get there.” I instructed.

“Copy that.” He hung up.

Soraya’s POV.

My head was pounding and my vision was blurry. I could hear a woman yelling and Moretti laughing like a psychopath. I tried to focus my vision. I was laying on a bed with my hands still cuffed. Sofija was nowhere near me. I could remember what had happened so that probably meant I didn’t have a concussion even though my head hurt like crazy.

I tried to sit up but my head felt so heavy and it was a little hard to do so with my hands behind my back. The yelling woman’s voice sounded so familiar, it wasn’t Sofija’s. But I had heard it before, I couldn’t remember where.

“You lying son of a bitch! You told me you would care for me and that we were together!” The voice cried out. “I am not going to be a whore for your your friends, I would rather go back to California.

It was coming from outside this room I was in.

“How are you going to get there? You belong to me now, you sold your soul to me sweetheart and I own you now.” Moretti was enjoying himself. His tone was so cocky but he was laughing arrogantly as well. “If I say you sleep with these men then you do it now put on that dress.”

I heard someone walk into the room, luckily I was facing the opposite direction of the door. I closed my eyes and pretended that I was still passed out.

“She’s still passed out.” I could hear Nikolaj’s voice but he wasn’t alone.

“The boss says if she’s not up in the next three hours or so then we might have to toss her. He’s planning on putting a bullet in her and just dumping her body somewhere.” This other man said.

My blood ran cold. How long would it take for Xander to find me this time, I was running out of time.

“You think she’s brain dead or something? I mean I hit her pretty hard. Way harder than I meant to.” Nikolaj sounded very concerned it was actually shocking.

“What’s wrong with you man, so now you are growing a conscience of some sort? She’s just another bitch.” The other man commented.

“A nice bitch, she’s not like the other broads we take care off. You know if I had a hon, I’d want her to be like this one. Pretty and tough.”

“You are acting funny and the boss better not hear you say that.” His friend chastised him.

“Anyway if I were her I’d also not wake up, I mean if she does we are going to drug her up and put her on a bed for those men to lay with her.” He said.

I didn’t expect for anyone to touch me, I felt a cold hand caress my cheek and I flinched. I opened my eyes Nikolaj was looking at me.

“Welcome back to the land of the living, I was starting to think you were brain dead.” He looked disappointed but also relieved. He walked up to a bag that was on a corner table and took out a dress. He threw it at me. “Put this on cupcake, don’t make me drug you and strip you myself. You don’t need shoes.” He took off the handcuffs.

He left the room with the other man. Tears started to run down my face. ‘Xander? I put up a fight as long as I could. Where are you?’ I couldn’t stop the tears from running down my face.

I would rather he beat me up to death, I would not put on that dress willingly. I would not serve myself up to those men willingly.

A few moments later Sofija was pushed into the room with another woman, it was Leticia. They both had on short revealing dresses. Sofija looked like she had been drugged because she was

smiling weirdly and she could barely stand up straight. Leticia looked at me and had the gall to look embarrassed. She had been the first one to betray Xander by running to Moretti.

I laughed out loud. “This is so pitiful. You put yourself in this situation. How does that saying go? Cutting off ones nose to spite the face? I wiped my tears as I laughed. “Gosh Leticia! Isn’t this funny?”

“Shut up!! I don’t know why you are laughing because those men are about to force themselves on us.” She yelled.

“Cupcake I said put on the dress!” Nikolaj came back and yelled out.

“You are going to have to drug me.” I continued laughing.

“She’s crazy, she’s lost her mind” Leticia stammered.

He left then a few minutes later he came back with a syringe that had some liquid in it and walked up to me.

I ducked as he extended his hand to grab me. “You are irritating me cupcake.”

“Stop calling me that! I’m not your cupcake.” I hissed at him.

He got ahold of me and managed to inject me with the liquid. Before I knew it my body was slumping to the ground and I didn’t feel like myself.

Xander’s POV

As soon as I gave the signal, the snipers silently shot the three men by the entrance. We went into the building, charging at anyone that came towards us. We used silencers as we shot our way in. This place looked like it used to be a club, it was three stories high and Dorian had informed us that they were probably holding the woman on the second floor where the VIP rooms used to be.

As the bodies of Moretti’s men fell to the ground I searched the place thoroughly with Hector right next to me. We went up the stairs with more men noticing us and running down to shoot at us. That’s when the commotion started. I let Hector and the team take care of them as I ran up the stairs shooting anyone in my way.

There was a door a few steps away from the stairs, it seemed that the place was sound proof, when I opened it, that’s when everyone inside heard the commotion coming from down stairs. There were seven men in the room including Moretti and they all were circled around what looked like a king size bed with three women on it. They looked shocked when they saw me and fearful when they registered what was going on downstairs.

The women looked like they were incoherent. Soraya was one of those women. They were dressed in skimpy dresses.

Hector came in and stood next to me.

“If you know what’s good for you, you will step away from that bed.” I snarled at them.

Moretti quickly yanked Soraya off the bed and held her up in front of him and then suddenly he pulled out a knife from his pocket. He placed it on her throat.

“You come any closer and I will slit her throat. I swear I will.” Moretti growled at us. Soraya’s head lolled forward. The bastards had drugged her. She looked so disorientated, she could barely focus on anything.

“I told you I would find you Moretti, I told you what I’d do to you if you dared defile my wife.” The other men looked shocked and frightened. It was like it was only registering in their minds at that point who I was.

“You don’t scare me Adamos.” He smiled.

“It’s easy for you to say that when you have a helpless woman to shield you. This is why I could never do business with you, a big talker but really you are a coward. Anyway I don’t want to kill you, I have a big surprise for you. It’s back in Greece.” I smiled back at him.

I noticed Sofija slowly move to a sitting position, she was drugged too but she wasn’t as bad as Soraya.

She had tears on her face as she looked at me. She got off the bed, stumbling a bit. She stood next to Moretti. He smiled. “Looks like your sister is still on my side.” He chuckled. But as he chuckled she launched herself at him and Soraya fell to the bed. Hector started to shoot at the the men there. I followed suit. We each shot three in succession. I was about to turn my attention to Moretti when I noticed Sofija’s body slump to the ground.

I ran towards Soraya as Moretti backed away. Hector held the gun at him. He shot him on the leg and he fell to his knees, the knife falling out of his hand, Hector went forward and knocked him out by hitting him on the head with the gun. He ran towards Sofija as I was about to carry Soraya. A man rushed into the room and fired some shots, two landed on the woman who was next to Soraya on the bed and the other hit me on my chest as I tried to cover Soraya. I groaned out.

Dorian came in and shot the man from behind and he slumped over and fell to the ground.

“We need to get you out of here, Sofija doesn’t look too good, I think he might have punctured one of her organs or something. Hector yelled. I’m going to try and stabilise her. Dorian make sure Xander doesn’t bleed out.” I looked around me, that’s when I noticed that the third woman

was Leticia. The bullets had landed on her head and chest. There was no way that she survived that.

“Soraya, Angel I’m here.” I groaned. “I’m fine, let’s get her out of here. I carried her and walked out.

A few moments later, we were headed to the choppers that were waiting to take us back to Greece. Hector managed to stabilise Sofija for a bit. “I’m sorry.” She said as tears ran down her cheeks. “I’m truly sorry Xander.” I ignored her.

I wanted to make sure Soraya was fine, that’s all I wanted. To get her home.

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Xander’s POV

“Get a doctor to meet us by the chopper now! Soraya doesn’t look too good. She’s hyperventilating.” I instructed Dorian.

“We also need him too look at your shoulder, I don’t see an exit wound from the gun shot and you wouldn’t let Dorian wrap it up.” Hector looked at me.

“I am fine. I don’t care about me, I have to make sure she’s okay.” I remarked as I covered her with my arms. She looked like she was freezing. “I think her blood pressure has dropped, I can barely get a pulse. You have to hang in there for a little longer baby, you are safe now my angel.” I whispered in her ear and kissed her forehead.

We got to the chopper where a team of doctors were waiting.

“She’s pregnant and she’s been drugged, I’m not sure what it is that they gave to her.” I told one of them.

“We are going to give her Naloxone to counter act whatever might have been given to her then in an hour we will have to flush out her system using IV therapy.” He explained thoroughly as he moved his stethoscope on her chest and also checked the reading of her BP on a little machine that the nurse provided. “Her blood pressure has dropped significantly but the IV should help with that. Unfortunately there is no way of checking right now if the baby was affected by the drugs but let’s be hopeful.”

“Can you take a look at his shoulder?” Hector asked, as he spoke my vision became blurry. We were boarding the chopper now.

“Mr Adamos are you okay?” The doctor asked. It felt like he’s voice was coming from so far away. I tried to steady my eyes but I found myself collapsing to the ground.

Hector’s POV.

“Fuck! he’s lost a lot of blood.”

“We don’t have any blood supply.” The doctor said.

You can use a drip to do a transfusion right? I have the same blood type as him. Get the blood from me.” I instructed the doctor.

“Sofia is not looking good as well.” Dorian yelled over the sound of the blades of the chopper. “She has internal injuries.”

“The medical team is coming with us. Let’s get going.” I responded.

Within two and a half hours we were back in Athens, rushing everyone to the hospital.

The rest of our team took our prisoners to the warehouse.

They had managed to get the bullet out of Xander, he was stable. Soraya’s blood pressure improved even though she was still unconscious.

Sofija was rushed into surgery, they needed to stop her internal bleeding.

I watched the hospital staff scrambling to make sure that the Adamos family were comfortable. After all my family was one of the biggest donors at this private hospital.

Soraya’s POV

Opening my eyes felt like I just woke up from a deep slumber, I could hear sounds of machines beeping and lightly buzzing around me.

I was in a hospital, did this mean that Xander had found me? There was no way that Moretti would send me to a hospital, the last thing I remembered was Nikolaj drugging me. I turned my head around trying to look around the large room, I was alone. IV needle stuck inside my arm and all these other machines that were monitoring my heart rate and BP. My mouth felt very dry and I wanted to sit up but I felt like everything was in the way.

I started pulling at the cables as a wave of nausea hit me. The machines started to beep loudly as I heaved. A nurse ran into the room followed by a doctor.

“Mrs Adamos you are awake.” The doctor said.

“She’s going to be sick.” The nurse grabbed the empty bin that sat next to the bed and handed it to me. I threw up continuously until there was nothing to throw up while she held back my hair. As I lifted my head, she put the bin on the floor then slowly guided me out of the bed.

“She held up the IV bag and walked beside me. I rinsed my mouth by the basin then stood up straight to look in the mirror. I looked so pale and I had actually lost weight from all the throwing up, the hospital dressing gown I had on looked too big. My hands instinctively went to caress my lower belly.

“Am I still pregnant?” I asked the nurse.

“The doctor should be able to give you all the answers. Come let’s go back and I will get maintenance to come and clean up.”

“Mrs Adamos, how are you feeling?” The doctor asked.

“Am I still pregnant?” I asked him not bothering to answer his question.

“Yes you are, we have been clearing the toxins out of your body, there’s no way of knowing right now how the drugs have affected the fetus. The fetus is highly vulnerable to birth defects between third week and eighth week after fertilization; which is the period of organogenesis. I will make an appointment with the OBGYN in a few weeks time and we’ll take it from there.” He said.

“Where’s my husband.” I asked gingerly. I found it very strange that he was not sitting in my room.

“Mrs Adamos, I think you should return to bed…” he started but didn’t get to finish his sentence as I glared at him.

“I’m not in the mood for this, answer me?”

“Yes ma’am, he is in the next room, your husband came in with a gun shot wound, he’s recuperating.”

The shock made me feel like the ground was moving, I turned to the nurse and grabbed the IV bag out of her hand and I quickly walked out of the door.

I could hear the doctor and nurse following right behind me as I walked. I looked through the glass of the door of the room to my right and I saw him laying on the bed with Hector sitting on a chair by his side.

I slowly opened the door and walked in. Hector looked up.

“Raya, you are up.” He smiled and got up to walk towards me. He hugged me and kissed me on both cheeks. Tears started to run down my face.

“Don’t worry love, he’s okay. This is the first time he’s actually slept since you were taken. He’s had a blood transfusion and he’s really okay.” Hector smiled.

He pulled me into his arms again. “Stacy will be so happy to see you, she’s not been herself at all. I’m so glad you are okay.”

“Thank you Hector.” I couldn’t help but cry, he led me to the chair he’d been sitting on.

“You both have been out since yesterday evening but he should be waking up soon. I’ll leave you with him.” He said.

“Where’s Sofija?” I asked him.

“ICU, I doubt you remember but she fought Moretti, he had a knife on you and she put herself between you and him.” He looked sad, I just nodded then turned my head to look at Xander. Hector walked out, closing the door behind him. I didn’t want to think about Sofija right now.

Xander lay there so peacefully. I caressed his jawline. Then I got up to place kisses on his face. When I was kidnapped I had refused to let my mind think of my last fight with Xander, I didn’t want it to be the last thing I ever carried with me if I didn’t see him again even though I had been hopeful.

Sitting right here next to him, I felt like that argument felt so futile right now. Considering the fact that this man had risked his own life to go looking for me. I loved him so much, I didn’t know if what he felt for me was love but I was choosing to believe that his actions these past few days were out of love.

I lay my head on the side of the bed and caressed his arm.

“Why are you crying angel.” A gruff voice shocked me. I looked up and his eyes were opened.

“Xander?” My eyes clouded with tears again.

“Hey, no tears..” he gently scowled at me. I couldn’t help but start crying. His one hand took my arm and he gently gestured for me to get on the bed.

“I don’t want to hurt you.” I sobbed.

“I need you.” He looked at me. He scooted over and I lay next to him.

“Why are you crying?” He asked.

“Because I’m so relieved that it’s all over but you are hurt because of me.”



“You look like Kai when you cry.” He chuckled then he coughed and winced in pain. “I guess that serves me right for cracking jokes.

I wrapped my hand around his abdomen which made him sigh.

“Don’t ever let go.” He said.

“Never.” I whispered.

“You promise?” He planted a kiss on the top of me head. “I love you Soraya, God help me I always have.” He said hoarsely.

I raised my head to look at him and he smiled. “As much as we argue, I know you love me too. We were both too stubborn to say it but I’m saying it now. I love you Angel.”

He pulled me to him tightly. “I love you too Xander. All the fear that I felt for the past few days just melted away, I felt safe in his arms as I allowed myself to be held by him.

“I love you too.” I said again. We stayed like that until a nurse came bustling in, she saw he was awake and she walked out and came back with a doctor, I unwillingly pulled myself away from him.

“Mr Adamos, how are you feeling?” The doctor smiled at him.

“Like I am ready to go home, I would like to take my wife home today.” He smiled at me.

“I think it would be best if you stayed one more night for observations...” The doctor spoke but he quickly stopped when Xander looked at him with a little annoyance on his face.

“We can have a medical team come to your house to monitor you there.” The doctor said nervously.

“Now leave us please, don’t disturb us.” He said to them and they walked out.

“Did you just bully a whole hospital doctor?” I laughed.

He coughed as he chuckled. I got up to pour him a glass of water then helped him to sit up. He took small sips. “He rudely interrupted us. I want to be alone with you.”

I got on top of the bed, trying to be careful not to disturb the IV’s and cables. I straddled him and he smiled.

“Mrs Adamos, I think I might need a new term of endearment for you. Angels don’t try to solicit sex from patients in a hospital ward.”

I giggled naughtily as I leaned towards him to kiss him.

“I told you to call me fallen Angel.” I laughed. I could feel my cheeks warming up. I kissed him again and he smiled into the kiss.

“Tempress! HmMMM. I definitely want to take you home right now.” He growled softly.

“What happened to a little spontaneity... I could just lock the door.” I volunteered and he threw his head back and laughed.

I put my hands around his neck. “I missed your laugh.” I looked into his eyes.

I heard the door open and Hector clear his throat.

“Well, it’s nice to know that you are both feeling better.” We turned to look at him, he had a goofy smile on his face that made the both of us laugh.

“There are some people here to see you both, you should probably look decent.” He grinned. “That means back to your places children. Soraya chair, Xander stay on the bed.” He ordered us.

“I thought I was the one that gave the orders.” Xander scowled at him.

“You are on sick leave and I so happen to be the deputy. I will be right back.” He said as I got off the bed and sat on the chair.

When he came back, he had Ajana on his arm, Kai and Jovan ran into the room pushing right from behind with Stacy following.

“Mommy!” Kai smiled and jumped on me. “You can’t go away again.” His hands snaked around my arm and he hugged me tightly. My arms went around his little body and I held on to him tightly. Jovan and Ajana came closer and I placed Kai on the floor to hug them too.

“Is my mommy here also...?” Ajana shyly asked and I looked up at Hector then Xander.

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Hey my lovelies... it’s nearly time for Sofija to face what she has done. Will Xander and Soraya forgive her? She did help save Soraya in the end after all. Do you think she deserves forgiveness? What does Xander have planned for Moretti? Will Soraya’s baby be okay? All these questions... keep reading to find out.

I would also like to apologise for the past couple of chapters not being edited very well. I have been writing these from a hospital bed. I will be out soon and will edit the chapters. Thank you

soo much for your support. It is because of your lovely support that my book has become PTR. I appreciate it.

## Chapter 44

# Chapter 45 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

### Joud's POV

I darted across the street and held on to the buzzer gate that was about to close. A resident had just walked out of the residential building's security gate. I was in little Italy in New York, here at Xander's orders.

I went to where the mailboxes were and searched thoroughly for the surname I was looking for, apartment number six hundred and forty one.

As I rode the elevator to the sixth floor, I looked at a message that Dorian had sent. It was a picture of Sofija on a hospital bed. Anger coursed through me, I wanted to feel some sort of sympathy for her but all I felt was anger. I knew that Sofija loved me and I loved her too but it didn't change the fact that my own wife had betrayed me.

She used the excuse that it was for us but was it really? Sofija had always been selfish and Sofija looked out for Sofija. Why would I want to betray the one family... the one man that had seen so much potential in me and moulded me into the person I was today.

Even though my father had his own organisation, he was nowhere near as powerful as the Adamos family, I had been reminded over and over by my four brothers that I no chance of heading the family business and I didn't want to. My father was a hard man who believed that he had to kill his way up, not to mention the fact that my brothers were failing dismally.

Xander Adamos however was not only lethal or ruthless but he was a strategic thinker with a heart even though he hid that very well. He was a man who knew how to build a powerhouse, yes he had inherited this family business from his father and uncle but he had taken it to a higher level. He valued family more than anything and that's what made him indestructible, charity truly began at home... that's what he had taught me. Of course he had learned that from his father and his uncle, they had taken their entire family and taught them about the family business and how to defend it. No one was ever left behind, Xander made sure of that. Everyone got a piece of the pie.

I got off the elevator and walked to the apartment I was looking for. I pressed my ear to the door for a while, I could hear the sound of a tv show playing in there.

There were only two people in the world that Moretti cared about, he thought he had kept them well hidden but what he didn't know was that Xander conducted thorough research of anyone that he potentially could work with as well as his enemies. Moretti acted like his entire family had been killed in a crossfire between him and another mob but the truth of the matter was that he had taken the opportunity to use that attack to hide his ailing mother and his pregnant sixteen years old daughter in little Italy, New York unprotected which was not the smartest of ideas.

"Take them both..." Xander had ordered.

I knocked on the door and Moretti's daughter opened it.

"Can I help you mister?" Her round belly was contradicting her baby face and tiny body. If I hadn't seen her birth certificate information, I would have never believed that she was sixteen. She looked much younger than that.

"Yes, is your grandmother home? Your father sent me." I smiled at her. "My name is Tommy Cartwright, I work for him.

"My father? Uhm... how do I know that you are telling the truth?" She looked at me wearily.

I gave her my sweetest smile. "Listen Isabella, I don't have time to explain. You are in danger, both you and your grandmother. He sent me here so that I could fly you out of the country to him."

"He would have sent Nikolaj to do that." She stammered.

"Yes true but Nikolaj is in Athens with him. I was sent here."

"Let me call him just to confirm, she said as she walked inside the house to get her phone I presumed.

"I highly doubt that he will answer his phone because he is staying under the raider right now. Listen..." I started to recite information about her that only someone who knew her personally would recite thanks to social media and the birth certificate.

"Okay fine, let me talk to my Nonna, come in. We need to pack." She said looking very nervous.

"Pack light." I smiled at her.

Soraya's POV

I had asked Stacy to stay with Kai and Jovan while I took Ajana up to see her mother. I held Ajana's hand and led her to the ICU, I could tell that she was trying to be brave but her little hand was shaking.

"Are you okay sweetie?" I went in a squat position so that I could be at the same height level as her.

"The nannies were talking about how a bad man took you and mommy away and how you wouldn't be coming back. Did the bad man hurt my mommy?" Her eyes were brimming with tears.

"Awww sweetheart, yes that's what happened but we are back now." I pulled her closer to me for a hug.

"Will my mommy be okay?" She asked.

"The doctors are going to do everything they can to heal her. Do you want to pass by the gift shop so that we can get her some flowers and a card?" I asked.

She nodded. "Mommy isn't nice to me but I love her." Her tears ran down her cheeks. "I want my mommy to get better." She sobbed and I held her tightly, rubbing her back gently.

This made me feel so much anger towards Sofija, how could she not see the wonderful blessings that she had in front of her. I still didn't know her reasons as to why she had wanted me gone but that didn't matter. Why was she being a bad mother? This little girl had so much love for her mother even though Sofija gave her every reason not to.

"It's okay sweetie, let's go to the gift store." I couldn't promise that she would get better when I didn't know that she would but I had to do everything I could to comfort this little girl. "I'm sure she will pull through." I said to her.

We took a detour to the gift shop, Simon was walking right behind us to make sure we were fine. I could tell he felt so guilty about what had happened, Xander must have given him a hard time. What was worse was that Cassius was his brother. "Why don't you go and pick out a card honey and I will wait right here." I smiled at Ajana.

"Simon, I forgot that I don't have a wallet with me." I walked up to him.

"Don't worry about it, i will take care of it." He smiled slightly.

"Simon, can we talk?" I asked and he nodded.

"What happened was not your fault you know." I lightly touched his arm.

"I am the head of security, I failed at that and I put so many peoples lives in danger." His voice broke but he took a deep breath and steadied himself.

“You could not have known that someone would betray us. You can’t let this weigh down on you. It’s not your fault.” I said and I pulled him in for a hug.

“And I am so sorry about Cassius. I’m really sorry.” My eyes teared up.

“Thank you Mrs Adamos, this means a lot. Thanks.” I pulled away and he smiled then walked to the counter where Ajana was waiting with a bouquet of flowers and a card.

As we walked to the ICU, I made a mental note to have Xander talk to him. The man didn’t need to carry this guilt with him, he had just lost his brother. Another sin that Sofija should be paying for.

We got into Sofija’s room and the nurse who was just checking her vitals smiled at us. “Wow, those are so pretty! I bet she will like them, let me get you a vase.” She beamed at Ajana.

I walked up to the bed and looked down at Sofija. Her face looked so different from when she was her usual self. Devoid of make up and looking peaceful.

I sat by the chair that was close to the bed. “Hi Sofija, I don’t know what to say to you... Hector says you put yourself between me and Moretti. It’s hard for me to say thank you when you are the reason why I was there in the first place. I want to hate you Sofija but you are Ajana’s mom. She is too young to understand the kind of person her mom is. I just want to say that if you get a second chance at life, I hope you change for her sake. She deserves better.” I sighed and looked at the door. Ajana and the nurse walked back in with a vase where they had placed the flowers. The nurse helped her put them on the side table.

“Hey mommy, I miss you and love you. Get better soon” I let her sit by the side of the bed. She leaned over and kissed Sofija on the cheek and stroked her hair.

We sat there for some time then Simon cleared his throat.

“The boss wants you to get back to where he is. They are discharging him.”

“Ajana, it’s time to go.” I said and picked her up from the bed to set her down. As I got up, Simons’s face changed to confusion as he looked at me. He was looking directly at my hospital gown.

“Mrs Adamos, uhhh... you are bleeding.” He said. I grabbed my gown and twisted it so I could look at the back and sure enough there was blood on it. For a few seconds I couldn’t move, I was so shocked that my entire body felt numb. Then suddenly I started to hyperventilate, I couldn’t stop the shaking. It felt like my chest was so tight and I couldn’t breathe. My hand came to my chest as I shook violently.

“I need a nurse! Get me a nurse right now.” Simon yelled. Ajana’s face went white with fear and she began to cry.

Finally I began to say something, the only word that would come out of my mouth. “No, no, no no...”

Chapter 45

## Chapter 46 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

Soraya's POV

We were back at home and Xander had tucked me into bed. As I lay there all I could think about was how Ajana had been so frightened. Xander had said that Gaia had given her something to help her sleep, I had refused to be sedated. The last thing I wanted was to sleep this away, even though I felt numb right now... I knew that the pain would kick in at some point.

Back at the hospital, I'd been in such a state until Xander got there and put his arms around me. I couldn't afford to fall apart right now, the kids needed to know that I was okay and my parents would be so relieved when they saw me in the morning. The truth of the matter was that I blamed myself, Stacy had told me to take prenatal vitamins and I was the one that refused to wear that damned dress when Nikolaj told me to. It was my own fault that I got drugged.

I felt the bed dip and Xander sit next to me. “Angel...” he looked so defeated. I hadn't even told him, he had to hear it from Stacy.

“I don't want to talk about it Xander...” I closed my eyes.

“I know you are really angry right now, I just want to hold you.”

“Xander we are not talking about this!” I snapped at him.

“Okay fine, come with me.” He said and pulled me to sit up.

“Where are we going?” I looked at him strangely.

“You have to come in order to find out.” He had this deep hard look on his face.

I got dressed in blue skinny jeans and a black hoodie and black Balenciaga track sneakers then followed him to the car. The entire ride there we were both quiet. He held my hand the entire time but looked forward.

The car slowed down and we got out, we were at some sort of warehouse. Dorian walked up to us and looked at Xander with confusion on his face.

“I thought you would only come here once your shoulder had healed... alone.” He said to Xander. “Hey Soraya, good to have you back.”

“Thanks Dorian, Xander what is this place.” I turned around to face him.

“Follow me, we are going to the basement.” He said to me then gestured to Dorian to follow us.

“You wanted to know who I am Soraya, I’m going to show you. I don’t let people mess with me and think they can get away with it.” The look on his face had become deadly as he looked at me. Something in me felt so freaked out but not for myself because I knew whatever he was feeling was not directed at me.

I looked at Dorian then looked back at Xander. He took my hand and led me into a door then there was a long dimly lit passage that led to a door that had stairs that went down. It was 5 flights going down and each flight we took had sensor lights that only switched on when we got to that area. Dorian was behind us, I could tell he wanted to say something but he looked like he knew not to say anything to Xander when he looked like this. We finally got to the lower level. We walked into another door, a room that was dimly lit. It looked more like a prison ward with stalls more than anything else.

I suddenly got a chill. Xander turned to look at me. “This is what I do to my enemies.”

Each stall had a man in it, they were all bound in chains. Some of the men in there looked like they had been locked up for a long time, they seemed to be out of bounds with what was happening around them.

Xander looked at me like he was assessing my reaction. I couldn’t help but be shocked.

“These men deserve to be in here Soraya, death would be nothing to them, it would be a merciful release. As I walked around looking at them, I saw a man who looked familiar. He was sitting on a vintage looking shelf prison bed hanging on chains. The background or the walls rather were gray concrete stucco walls, they gave of a cold feeling. I went closer to the bars and he looked up, it was Nikolaj... I gasped as my hand automatically went to cover my mouth. “Nikolaj?”

“I told you cupcake, your husband doesn’t do mercy.” He said in a low raspy voice like he had been yelling for his life. His clothes were stained with blood. “Tell him I looked out for you.”

“Looked out for me?” I was seething with anger. “You are worried about him? You should be more worried about what I’m going to do to you for taking something so precious from me you piece of filth!” I snarled at him. “I am his wife after all.” I glowered at him. My breath suddenly became laboured as tears threatened to fall but I blinked them away. “I was pregnant when you drugged me and now I’m not.”



Nikolaj's face went white with shock as he realised that I wasn't there to ease his suffering but to add on to it.

"When I found you, you were laying on a bed drugged up you could barely stand. You couldn't recognise anything around you. There were sexual paraphernalia on that bed with about four cameras on tripod stands. Some of those men got shot and died in the crossfire but the ones who survived are in here." Xander explained "If Leticia was still alive.. she would be in here too.

"These men were about to defile you, that's not something I can forgive Angel, I will torture them and won't feel sorry for it." His voice was scary but it comforted me.

"This one is mine." I growled. "Teach me how you do it." I shocked myself. I knew that I was about to cross a line that I could not return from and something in me didn't care. I had so much anger in me and I felt like these men had taken away my power. I felt like this was the only way I could reclaim it back.

"I knew that this was the only thing that would make you feel better." He said.

I looked back at Nikolaj. "If you thought that was all the fight I had back there, I'm about to show you my worst." I'd be his worst nightmare. He covered his face with his hands in despair.

Xander walked further into this dungeon looking place and I followed him. Moretti was in the next room.

"Aaah, husband and wife are reunited." He beamed even though he looked like he was in pain. "How does it feel?"

"You just wait Moretti, I'm going to reunite you with the dead." Xander smiled at him dangerously.

"There's nothing you can do to me that I'm not anticipating Adamos. Physical torture, psychological torture... I am prepared for this.

Xander smiled at him deviously and chuckled. Like I said, you just wait Moretti.

For the first time since I met the man, I actually saw a flash of panic on his face. He tried so hard to hide it but it was there.

I didn't know what it was that Xander had planned for him but I knew it definitely wasn't going to be good at all for him.

Xander's POV

I watched Soraya look around her, I didn't know how she was going to react, I had not planned to ever show her this side of me but watching her lay on that bed looking like she had been

stripped of everything including her control and power... I knew that this was exactly what she needed.

I would deal with the consequences later. I watched her reel with shock as she looked at one of the men. She recognised him, he was the one that had drugged her. I had to control everything in me to stop myself from opening that bar'd door and beating the shit out of him. When he called her cupcake, I clenched my fists. It turned out I didn't have to show any kind of reaction. She threatened him herself and judging by the look on his face, he knew that she meant business.

As we walked away from Moretti's cell, Dorian looked at me questioningly. "Do you think this is a good idea Xander?"

"Don't talk about me like I'm not here Dorian." Soraya snapped at him.

"I'm sorry Soraya I didn't mean to, it's just that... once you cross that line, you can never unsee or go back. Some of the things we do in here will haunt you." He explained.

"I'm already haunted by my loss, I'm haunted by the fact that I couldn't do anything about it. I was weak in there." She said.

"Then let us teach you how to fire a gun and how to fight but not this." He said.

"She gets to decide what it is she wants to do." I said to him. He nodded then looked at her.

"I'll do both, learn how to protect myself and get my revenge." She said coldly at him.

Was I creating a monster...?

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Hello my lovelies, here is my second chapter for today. What do you think? Has Xander really thought this through? Do you think Soraya will go through with torturing Nikolaj? Has Xander really created a monster?

What does Xander plan to do with Moretti's family? Is Sofija ever going to wake up? Keep reading.

Don't forget to follow me and share the story as well as comment. Ps, I love reading all your comments.

Chapter 46

# Chapter 47 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

Soraya's POV

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“So when do we start?” I looked at Xander who was eyeing me with amusement on his face.

“In two days, you have something to look forward to.” He still looked at me like he was trying to gauge what was going on in my head.

“Can you stop that?!” I snapped at him.

“Stop what?” He smiled slightly.

“Looking at me like you are trying to figure me out.” I frowned at him then walked up to him. He grabbed me by my waist and pulled me closer to him.

“I have already figured you out, I am just wondering how come it took me this long to see it.” His smile widened.

“To see what?” I looked at him curiously, biting my bottom lip. My head tilted slightly to the side as I regarded his words.

He lifted my chin and lightly kissed my lips. He didn't speak right away, he looked into my eyes then planted another kiss on me. “You are just like me, you are fire, a force to be reckoned with Mrs Adamos. I thought I had to protect you from my world but you don't need me to hover around you like you are a helpless little bird. You were meant to be my wife.”

I could feel my face turning red. “Let's go home.” He said.

While we were in the car he closed the partition that divided the front and back of the car then pulled me up to his lap, my hands automatically went around his neck.

“We still have to talk you know.” He said as his hand massaged my back, kneading it as he slowly traced his fingers up and down.

“I told you, I don't want to talk.” I said stubbornly and looked ahead.

“In order to do this, you have to clear your mind. We don’t go into the dungeons clinging on to our emotions. Nikolaj will sense that and play in your head.” He pointed out.

“Why don’t you talk about your emotions then?” I countered back.

“I have been doing this for years...All I care about is yours and Kai’s wellbeing. Soraya I know you are angry but I also know that you are hurting. You don’t have to pretend to stay strong around me. I want you to tell me that you are distraught. I heard you this morning in the shower...crying. Angel talk to me, don’t shut me out. Please.”

Tears ran down my face, I couldn’t stop them now. A sob that felt like it had been trapped in my chest for a long time escaped my lips and then another and another... and just like that I was crying, He pulled me into him so that I was laying on his chest.

“Sometimes I want to hate you Xander, before you, I never knew this life, I never thought of kidnappings and enemies and bodyguards and getting drugged. Part of me wants to blame you but I can’t. A part of me blames myself, if I had done what Nikolaj asked, I wouldn’t have been drugged, if I had told you that I was pregnant before the gala maybe you would have refused for us to go there. If I had listened to Stacy and actually taken my prenatals maybe the baby would have survived.” I sniffed and he took out his pocket square. He slowly dabbed it on my face.

“Keep going.” He encouraged me.

“I feel so guilty because in the beginning I didn’t want the baby, I felt like it was tying me more and more into your world like it was a trap but then when I was taken I feared not for my life but yours and my baby’s, I didn’t do enough to ensure it’s safety.” I finally said it. The guilt that gnawed at me, I loathed myself for even crying or feeling this pain because I didn’t deserve to grieve the loss. I held my chest as I continued to cry like my heart was constricted and taking a breath actually hurt.

“I want my baby back, I want her back so badly and I can’t have her back and for that I want to set them all on fire and watch them burn! I’m burning and it feels so unfair that I’m burning alone! I want them to hurt more than I’m hurting!”

“I know you do sweetheart, I am so sorry. All your feelings are valid. I don’t want you to hold back what you are feeling from me. I understand all of it.”

“I also feel selfish because you are hurting too, it’s your loss too.” I could see his eyes were glistening with unshed tears.

“I don’t care about how I’m feeling.” He said. “All I care about is you being okay. It’s my job to make sure that you are okay.” He looked into the distance. I calmed myself and took his hand and placed it on my chest.

“Xander your feelings are valid too, you must be angry that I didn’t tell you about the baby. You had to hear it from Stacy.” I pointed out.

“I was hurt that you didn’t tell me, but we were arguing then so I understood. I didn’t have time to be upset, I needed to make sure you returned home safely.” He kissed my forehead. “If I had lost you, I don’t think I would have survived this time around.” He held on to me and rocked me. Before I knew it my eyes were closing and I fell asleep.

Xander’s POV

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As I lay Soraya on the bed she stirred. Her eyes opened and she pulled me to her. She placed her lips on mine gently and I returned her kiss.

“I want you.” She said sweetly. Her startling blue eyes looking at me like she was frightened that I’d leave her to lay on the bed alone. She kicked off her shoes and unbuttoned her jeans, slowly sliding them down her sensual shapely hips. I was aroused instantly.

“Are you sure?” I asked her. I thought it might take time for her to want to be intimate since the loss of the baby. I didn’t want to rush her into anything.

She took my hand and guided it in between her legs, parting her thighs and trapping my hand in there.

“Touch me.” She whispered. “I want you to touch me down here.”

I’d never in my entire life met a woman that could make me lose control like Soraya.

“Make me feel better.” She moaned out. She wasn’t afraid to move my hands to any part of her body that required my attention, she used verbal and non verbal communication which turned me on. Her eyes looking into mine as my fingers rubbed above her lace thong, not moving it out of place. She looked so innocent yet she looked so naughty like she knew a secret and she was about to share it with me.

She took off her hoodie and all she had underneath it was a ruby red lace bra that matched her thong, it looked gorgeous against the colour of her skin.

I peeled the thong of slowly, allowing my fingers to rake her skin. My nails lightly clawing at it. She clutched hands full of the bed covers on her sides and arched her back, my hand found it’s way in between her thighs again sliding them all the way in between. I rubbed the top folds of her flower then my fingers slid in. She was already soaking wet, my own erection pressed hard against my pants as I rubbed her clit, she whimpered.

I pushed in two fingers inside her and she gasped, lifting her bum up to let me know she wanted me to go further in. I chuckled lightly and leaned over her. I pushed my fingers further inside and worked them around. Her moaning made me groan.

I had to give her her release first before I could get mine. My fingers moved in and out skilfully, rubbing her clit as I moved them. She cried out and her hands came to hold onto the front of my shirt.

“More, I want more.” She could barely speak as I worked. She wouldn’t stay still, her toes clenched and her eyes closed. Her breathing became laboured. She was close to her orgasm. I moved faster and faster until she clenched her bum. As she was trying to catch her breath, I took of my own clothes and joined her on the bed. She unclipped her bra and pulled me so that I was on top of her.

“Tell me you love me...” she looked into my eyes like she really needed to hear it.

“I love you, Angel.” I placed kisses all over her face then kissed her on the mouth. She opened up to let my tongue in as her arms snaked around my neck. Her fingers raking through my hair.

I slowly entered her, I couldn’t contain myself as I began to thrust realising that I needed her as much as she needed me. She whimpered and held on tightly to me.

“I don’t want to be without you Angel, I love you, I need you.” I assured her over and over. She started to cry but she moved with me, our movement was in sync as she met my thrusts with her own.

Her moaning encouraging me to keep going until we both found our release. I lay next to her and pulled her into my arms.

“Don’t ever doubt my love for you.” I said into her ear and kissed her on top of her head. She tangled her legs to mine as I wiped her tears with my hands. A few moments later she was fast asleep, I allowed myself to fall asleep as I listened to her heartbeat.

Hector’s POV

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“Xander this right here is crossing the line! You know it is!” I didn’t know how to react to what Dorian had told me over the phone this morning. Soraya didn’t need to be involved in any of our dirty dealings at all.

“Are you questioning me? He barked out at me. His presence was so large and threatening it made me feel like his office couldn’t contain it. He was sitting by his desk but he stood up as he said this, his expression so impassive.

“For the first time in my life, yes I am questioning you brother. We never ever let them see that side of us.” I was so frustrated trying to maintain the level of respect I had for him and still showing him how angry and serious I was. I had no delusions what so ever that Xander was stronger than I was physically but I wanted to punch him.

“She’s my wife, are you implying that I don’t know what’s good for her? You don’t know what it’s like to feel helpless Hector. You have no idea what it’s like to have your wife taken, heck you have never had your wife killed brutally.” He sat back down with a cold stare in his eyes. “Two children that I have lost...” he indicated with his fingers before he banged his fists on the table. “ and I can’t break down because I’m the head of this family but do you know what that loss does to me? If it wasn’t for me Soraya wouldn’t have gone through what she did. She needs this.”

“But Xander have you thought about how this will affect her in the future? We keep them far away from all this. What we do... it’s not for the faint hearted. I understand that she is traumatised but I can’t let you do this.” I tried to reason with him.

He laughed sarcastically. “Can’t? Hector this is not a family discussion or a business proposal, it’s between my wife and I. Can’t or won’t... it’s not up to you and you don’t know Soraya, stop comparing her to Stacy and Sasha. Now leave me! I need to work!”

I retreated from his office but I couldn’t help but punch his door as I walked out. I took the stairs two at a time as I went to find Stacy.

She was getting dressed for the day, I needed to find away to get Soraya not to go through with this. In reality we had all failed her, I felt just as guilty as Xander did because Soraya was family, like a sister to Stacy.

I understood Xander more than he thought I did, if Stacy was to be taken from me right now... pregnant and vulnerable, I would lose my mind. Xander had handled it better than any of us would have but I couldn’t in good conscience let Soraya go through with this.

Stacy watched me from the mirror with a frown on her face. “If I say you look tense, that would be an understatement.” She tried to joke.

“Babe, I need your help.” I said to her.

She turned around and walked towards me. “Okay but you have to calm down first baby.” Her arms went around my neck and she drew me in close to her for a kiss. I breathed in the scent of her perfume then my lips slowly went to her neck.

“I’m calm.” I said lowly.

“No you are not. This must be bad.” Stacy could always sense my moods and anticipate what it is I would need and how I would respond to it. She led me to the dressing chair and made me sit down then she straddled me.

“Stacy baby you will be upset too when I tell you what I need to tell you.” I said gruffly.

“It can wait, can’t it?” She whispered in my ear.

“I want to so badly baby but not now. Where is Soraya?” I asked her.

“She’s with her parents.” She looked at me in a confused way. “What’s going on?”

“Xander is going to let her torture her kidnappers.” I said to her. Stacy’s face paled.

“You need to convince her that its not a good idea because it’s not. There’s a reason why I never let you get involved with the business.” I continued.

“I will kill Xander! What is wrong with him?!”

“You need to be calm when you approach her Stace.”

“Calm my ass! What is he trying to do? Traumatise her even further?!” She had a determined look on her face. “I will wait for her to return from her parents.”

Soraya’s’ POV

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“I really am fine mom, this small bruise is barely visible.” My mom assessed my face thoroughly moving to my arms and my legs. I was wearing a short floral strapless summer dress. Gaia had come with me, she smiled at me but I could see the worry on her face as well as she sat by the kitchen counter with a cup of tea in front of her.

“Sweetheart you should be resting, your body has been through so much with the loss and the kidnapping.” My mom continued. “But you do know that this too shall pass right? I know it’s painful but I’m just glad that you are alive. I don’t know what I would have done if we had lost you.” Her eyes were brimming with tears as she caressed my face. We were standing in front of the counter, I hugged her tightly.

“Mom I promise I’m okay, I know that it will get better.” I smiled at her. I honestly didn’t want to talk about the miscarriage, I wasn’t ready to talk about it with anyone else.

My dad came into the kitchen as well and he held his arms up. I willingly went into them. “I’d rather let the cancer take me than die from losing you.” He said quietly.

“Daddy don’t speak like that, I am back home and I’m safe.” I smiled at him.

“I’m going to keep quiet for now but you and I and your husband have a lot to talk about okay?” He raised his brow.

The only thing I could do was nod. I knew exactly what he wanted to talk about. The fact that Xander was a Mafia boss.



We sat down and made small talk as Gaia and I finished our tea then I made an excuse to leave. They walked us out of the house and I gave them both hugs.

As Gaia and I took a stroll back to the house, she stopped walking, took my hands in hers and made me face her.

“I am so sorry that Sofija put you through this Soraya. I am not going to excuse what she did. When Xander brought you to Athens you became one of my children, I was embarrassed and heartbroken that she could do something like that.”

“Gaia I don’t want to talk about Sofija, I can’t say all the things you might want me to say because I can’t forgive her. Don’t make me talk about her.”

“I am not going to ask any of that, I love my daughter but she brought whatever punishment her brother has for her on herself. The thought of Xander losing you gave me sleepless nights. To have you standing right here next to me... it feels like a miracle after...” she couldn’t finish her sentence.

“After the outcome Hera had.” I finished it for her. “Gaia, how come there are no pictures of Hera in the house?”

“Xander had them all removed. He wanted them destroyed but I kept them in the family storage.”

“Why would he want them destroyed?” I asked quietly.

“As a mother it’s very hard to watch your son try to maintain control but see him driving down a slippery slope you know is going to kill him. Xander wanted to to end his own existence when Hera died, looking at her pictures and paintings, his drinking was excessive. The entire staff was terrified of him. He would rage after drinking, and completely lose it, breaking everything in sight. One day, a year after her passing... he told the housekeepers to destroy everything that belonged to her including the pictures and paintings.”

“So that’s basically what would have happened with me if I had not come back? Kai would have been forced to forget about me.” I asked a little shocked.

“I don’t think so, Xander is different with you. He loved Hera but I think you are his first love, his true love.”

“You don’t have to say that to make me feel good Gaia.”

“You should know me better than that child, I don’t say things I don’t mean.” She said sternly.

“How can you tell?” I asked her curiously.

“A mother always knows these things. You are a mother, you will notice when Kai starts dating.” She smiled at me with so much affection. “I am just glad he found the one that is meant for him. You are fated, that’s why you were given Kai, to bring you back to your fated.

We walked in silence for a while then she stopped and looked at me again. “What’s wrong Gaia?” I sighed.

“Like any other concerned mother, I have to ask. Dorian mentioned to Hector and myself that Xander took you to one of the warehouses. Soraya you need to grieve your loss my sweet girl. I don’t think revenge is the way to do it.” She looked sad.

“I wish everyone would stop telling me how to feel or what to do or how to do it and what not to do. I am fine.” I said in a low tone.

As I said this I noticed Stacy walking towards us.

“Exactly the person I’m looking for.” She said.

“Stop right there! I know what you are going to say. Stop it! All of you! I am grieving in my own way okay. I don’t want to talk about it and I don’t want to be told that I can’t cross a line. This is not Xander’s decision or yours Stacy or anybody’s for that matter. It’s mine!” I said angrily. “You wanted me to accept what the family does, you know what I have accepted that this is part of it, we torture our enemies and guess what! I can’t wait to torture mine! If this is leading me towards the dark then I totally embrace it!” I raised my hands up to gesture that I didn’t want them to follow me then I took off running towards the stables.

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Hello my lovelies. I apologise for not posting yesterday. I was heavily sedated lol but I am getting better. Thank you for your patience and thank you for the well wishes.

Clearly Soraya is not backing down from her choice! She will not be stopped!

I’d like to say hello to my new readers and don’t forget to follow and share.

Chapter 47

## **Chapter 48 - The Greek Billionaire’s Indecent Proposal**

## Joud's POV

As I looked at Moretti's daughter and her ailing mother, I could understand why he had decided to hide them and pretend that they were dead. They were vulnerable and a dangerous vulnerability and liability for him as well. He should have hidden them well enough though, but like Xander loved to say... there was no place in the world you could hide where an Adamos couldn't and would not find you.

I didn't know what Xander had planned for them but in the line of business that we were in, family members were always caught in the cross fires of wars and revenge...just like Ajana and I were at this point, what Sofija had done would affect my daughter and I. We were just about to land, it had been very easy to convince Isabella that this private jet belonged to a friend of her father's since she didn't seem to know much about him.

Xander had asked that I take them to a secure apartment building that we owned in town. As we drove there, my mind wondered to Sofija, I also had no idea what Xander had planned for her. I was so angry with her, she was laying in the ICU and I couldn't bring myself to go and visit her.

What would make her think that I could ever go along with her betrayal. Because of her Xander and Soraya had lost their baby and she had put the entire family through so much. I had hoped that my love for her would be enough to love her through her childhood insecurities of always feeling like she wasn't good enough or couldn't do much, I had also tried to involve her in some of the things I did just to show her that she was capable and strong but all it ever seemed to do was make her greedy.

It wasn't like I didn't know that she had no maternal instincts for our daughter, from the moment the doctor had told us that we were having a girl I had seen her lose interest in her pregnancy so fast. When Ajana was born and placed in her arms, she had been quick to shift the little bundle into my arms and say that the next baby would definitely be a boy. She didn't understand that for me all this was enough, Ajana represented so much love and happiness. Something I hadn't gotten from my own family, what I had with Sofija meant more than anything to me. Watching Ajana's light dim just because she could not get the affection she needed from her mother had slowly gotten to me.

When we reached the apartment building, I walked Isabella and her grandmother up to a fully stocked apartment then I took out a video camera and asked them to stand in the lounge for me.

"Isabella I need you to speak into the camera and tell your father that you are safe so that I can show this to him." I smiled at her.

"Well when is he going to come and see us?" She regarded me warily.

“I don’t know Isabella, I just do what I am told. I’m sure he will come soon.” There are guards outside so you are safe but you can’t leave until he comes. The place is fully stocked with anything you may need.”

“Well what about my doctor’s appointments, I’m going to need to see a OBGYN you know.” She said with so much attitude, rolling her eyes and folding her hands above her chest. I was not in the mood.

“I’m sure your father has thought of all that my dear, let’s just wait and be patient. Let’s do what the man says.” The old lady looked at me and smiled.

“There you go, listen to your nonna girly.” I smiled at her but I knew the smile didn’t quite reach my eyes.

She stood in front of the camera with the old lady and smiled then started to speak into it.

“Hi daddy, we are here at your request. Nonna and I are doing okay, just waiting for you to come and see us. Love you.” She finished off then I stopped recording.

After double checking that all the windows were bar’d and there was no way to escape out of the apartment, I took off, letting the guards know that they had to keep an eye on them.

After a lot of deliberation, I finally decided it was best to go to the hospital. Ajana had been to see her mom, if she could do it then what was stopping me from doing it.

As I walked out of the elevator, Simon was standing there with some guards, I presumed they were there to keep an eye on Sofija.

“Simon, hi. I didn’t expect to see you here.” I said to him.

“I’m here with Xander, he’s in the room with Sofija.” He explained.

“Oh, is she awake yet?” I wondered if Xander had changed his mind about punishing her. Was he going to forgive her? From what Dorian had told me, Sofija had tried to help Soraya in the end. Knowing my wife it had probably been for self preservation but maybe it would count towards her favour.

“No, still unconscious. It’s been almost a week now.” He said. He didn’t have a look of sympathy in his eyes at all. In fact he looked loathsome like just talking about her disgusted him. I understood how he felt, Sofija’s little stunt had put him in quite a predicament. He had almost taken all the blame for the security breach and he had lost his brother.

“I’m going to go in... get a word in with Xander. Simon, for what it’s worth I’m really sorry for what happened.” I smiled grimly at him.

“I’m sorry too, you are caught in the middle of all this.” He looked at me like he understood but how could he. His wife hadn’t betrayed the entire family and put the life of the Don’s wife at risk and used her own husband to do it. I just nodded and walked in the direction of Sofija’s room. I was about to enter the slightly opened door when I heard Xander speaking to Sofija.

“I don’t give a fuck whether you wake up or you don’t but let me promise you this little sister, I don’t care what every one thinks or says. In my book, you are as good as dead to me!” He snarled out silently like it was just between him and her. “Sleep peacefully in this state for now knowing that when you finally wake up I have worse waiting for you Sofija. You were willing to take something so precious away from me, you were willing to let Moretti harm my wife and for that I will never forgive you Sofija! You of all people should have understood my loss with Hera and what it did to me! She was your best friend. You knew what losing Soraya would do to me and you went ahead with your plotting and scheming.”

My heart sank as he spoke, she was my wife at the end of the day. I loved her and it pained me. I knew Xander meant every word that was coming out of his mouth, he would make sure she didn’t get away with what she did.

“Xander, ehmm.” I cleared my throat and he turned his cold eyes towards me. There was a shift and then he was fine, the deadly look was gone.

“Joud, you’re back. How did it go?” He asked in his business tone.

“I didn’t experience any trouble, they are at the apartment and are well guarded.” I tried to maintain some sort of composure but he could see I was struggling.

“You want to ask me to forgive her?” He asked quietly.

“I know you won’t, Xander this is difficult for me. Just like you love your wife, I love mine. She didn’t just betray you, she betrayed me too but I can’t shut down my feelings as easy as you do.” I said.

“You think this is easy for me?!” He barked out. “My own family! This isn’t even about saving face Joud! I’m way past that, I’m wondering how she could want something so greedily that she would be willing to sacrifice my happiness. Have I not given Sofija everything that she ever wanted?”

All I could do was just stand there because I knew he was right.

“You are still apart of this family, that won’t ever change. Ajana will grow up with Kai and Jovan and all the other kids in this family and I will punish anyone who might think it’s their duty to tell her of her mother’s sins. She is innocent and I won’t let this taint her. But you cannot expect me to ignore this betrayal.

I couldn’t help but let the tears in my eyes fall.

“I’ll leave you with her. From what I hear from the doctors, she’s going to take some time to heal.” He said and he walked out.

I walked towards the bed and looked around the room. There were flowers and a card on the one side of the bed. I walked there and took the card to read it. They were from Ajana, she didn’t deserve a mother like Sofija, she deserved way better. There was only one thing left to do... I turned to look at Sofija, at that moment her eyes opened. She blinked a few times then her eyes settled on me.

“I told you Sofija, your greed got in the way and now look what you have gotten yourself... into. I can’t protect you. There’s nowhere in the world I could hide you where Xander won’t find you eventually. In fact he would know what I was trying to do the moment I tried to get you out of this hospital.” I said to her in frustration.

She reached out for my hand but it looked like the effort was too painful for her. She still had on an oxygen mask, I removed it from her face.

“Joud, I’m sorry.” Her voice was barely audible.

“You heard every word that Xander said didn’t you?” I asked her. She nodded as tears started to run down her eyes.

I switched off the machines that displayed her vitals. “I’m sorry too, I love you. I’m sorry Ajana and I were not enough for you.” I said as I pinched her nose and covered her mouth. “Ajana deserves better, I deserve better.” Her body started to writhe as I held on tight. I couldn’t think of any other solutions to save her, to save Ajana, to save myself from watching her suffer. Heavy sobs escaped my body, I couldn’t let my emotions get in the way. She kept her eyes open the entire time and I forced myself to look into them. After a while she stopped moving. It was done, she was gone.

I placed the mask back on her face and switched the machines back on. The monitors started beeping. Nurses and doctors rushed in as I allowed myself to breakdown. I had killed my own wife, when I turned around to walk out...Xander stood there looking at me with so much sympathy in his eyes. He knew what I’d just done.

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Joud thinks this was the lesser of two evils, it was really difficult for him. How will poor Ajana react to the passing of her mother? This was a difficult decision for me as a writer. I can’t wait to read your thoughts...

# Chapter 48 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

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"You heard every word that Xander said didn't you?" I asked her. She nodded as tears started to run down her eyes.

I switched off the machines that displayed her vitals. "I'm sorry too, I love you. I'm sorry Ajana and I were not enough for you." I said as I pinched her nose and covered her mouth. "Ajana deserves better, I deserve better." Her body started to writhe as I held on tight. I couldn't think of any other solutions to save her, to save Ajana, to save myself from watching her suffer. Heavy sobs escaped my body, I couldn't let my emotions get in the way. She kept her eyes opened the entire time and I forced myself to look into them. After a while she stopped moving. It was done, she was gone.

I placed the mask back on her face and switched the machines back on. The monitors started beeping. Nurses and doctors rushed in as I allowed myself to breakdown. I had killed my own wife, when I turned around to walk out...Xander stood there looking at me with so much sympathy in his eyes. He knew what I'd just done.

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Joud thinks this was the lesser of two evils, it was really difficult for him. How will poor Ajana react to the passing of her mother? This was a difficult decision for me as a writer. I can't wait to read your thoughts...

## Chapter 49 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

Soraya's POV

"Kai, please put on your clothes, why are you walking around in your underwear? It is not that hot today." I eyed him and gave him a warning look. Stacy chuckled as she sat on the bean bag with Ajana wrapped in her arms, Jovan was off visiting his mother's family.

"It's time for my nap." He said nonchalantly walking towards his bed.

"Since when do you sleep in just your undies mister." I asked.

"Everybody calls me Master, not mister...mommy." He corrected me.

"Boy I am your mother, I'm not calling you that." I rolled my eyes at him. "Put your clothes back on." I made a mental note to speak to Xander and Gaia about how the employees addressed the kids.

"But you and daddy sleep naked, I wanna sleep naked too." He looked at me and sulked.

"Huh? What...? I felt my face go red as I looked at him then Stacy who burst into fits of laughter.

"You and daddy. You sleep with no clothes on, I did see you. I came to cuddle last night and you were sleeping with daddy and you had nothing to wear." He said thoughtfully but so innocently.

"Wow Raya, I thought you were supposed to keep the door locked or something when you have kids. Is this what I have to look forward to?" Stacy kept laughing.

"Honey I think you need to knock on the door when you come to mommy and daddy's room." I searched for words quickly to try and explain why we were naked. What did you say to a five years old about this.

"My mommy and daddy sleep with no clothes on too." Ajana added. "Daddy says only grown ups can do it." She said as a matter of fact.

"Okay... no more talk about being naked, does anybody want ice cream?" I asked. Stacy giggled.

“What about our nap time mommy?” Kai asked and frowned.

“No nap today.” I looked at Stacy who was enjoying this a little too much.

“Yaayyy!” They both chorused. Kai rushed to put his clothes back on. I would deal with this a little later.

Stacy requested for the nannies to take the kids downstairs for some ice cream. I walked out to the den with her when we saw Joud coming in. He looked at us and then smiled slightly, his eyes were red though.

“Hello ladies, Soraya can I talk to you?” He asked as he walked towards us.

“Uhhh sure, but Joud I don’t want to talk about Sofija please.” I said sternly.

“Sofija is dead.” He said with no emotion in his voice. I heard Stacy gasp right next to me, I also had no emotion or reaction to share. I just looked at Joud until his resolve broke...I could tell that he was heartbroken.

“I’m sorry Joud.” I said quietly.

“You don’t have to say that, I know you are not. I don’t blame you, I have a request for you as my Dona.”

“I’m not a Dona.” I said quietly.

“Oh but you are, I hear you are about to join the family business.”

“Joud, watch yourself.” Xander’s dominant voice came from just outside the door. Xander, Hector and Dorian walked in.

“Im not here to cause trouble I just have a request Xander.” His eyes watered.

“It’s okay Joud, speak.” I said to him.

“The head of the family is more than a formidable fighter, his dona is yet to be more feared, you yield so much power and you don’t even know it.” Joud smiled.“ I have to go away for a while, Xander I hope you will give me some time to take off to grieve the loss of my wife...” he continued. “...I can’t take Ajana with me, I don’t even think I can be what she needs right now. Soraya you are good for her, she needs a mother.” Tears started running down his face.

I walked up to him and hugged him. His body was wrecked with sobs as I held him. “I’m a man, I need to stay strong.” He said but I held him even tighter as he broke down.

“A strong man has a right to mourn when he has lost something very important to him.” I rubbed his back.

“She was horrible Soraya but I loved her with all my heart, I’m sorry she caused you pain. Please raise Ajana as your daughter while I’m away, I have watched her with you. She trusts you completely and you love her without any resentment or reservations or thinking about the fact that she comes from Sofija.”

“Joud...” Xander’s commanding voice tried to get his attention but I looked at him and shook my head.

“You don’t even have to ask me, Ajana, Kai and Jovan are siblings. It will always be that way.” I said quietly.

“Stacy I think we should take him upstairs. Ajana shouldn’t see him like this.” I said as I led him out gently.

“But I need to tell her that her mother is dead.” He said as he carried on sobbing.

“Not like this Joud, she needs you to be calm. Stacy, I think one of your sedatives will come in handy right now.” She took off to get one as I led Joud to his room.

I made him take off his shoes and he laid on the bed. He looked at me with so much pain in his eyes. He looked like he was oblivious to his surroundings.

“I killed her you know.” He whispered. “I killed my wife.”

I frowned, what did he mean he killed her. I heard footsteps coming into the room. It was Stacy and Xander right behind her.

“I had to kill her.” He mumbled incoherently.

Stacy’s face went white with shock. I looked at Xander who’s face was emotionless. I took the pill and water from Stacy and gave them to him, he was like a baby, not thinking just performing actions that were directed towards him.

“Xander he’s going to need help.” I looked at my husband who’s face was still devoid of any kind of reaction.

“Gaia will sort it out.” He said.

“Don’t you think your mother will be broken up about this too? She will be mourning her daughter.” I argued.

He looked like he didn’t care, I gestured for Stacy to sit with Joud then I pulled Xander away to the dressing room.

“This is not about Sofija! I hate her for doing this to him and Ajana, even in death she causes pain but Xander Joud needs us, Ajana needs us. Your mother needs to be allowed to grieve her

daughter. I'm going to arrange for a funeral. She doesn't deserve it but it will bring comfort to her husband, daughter and mother... they need this." I tried to explain to him.

"Do what you must, after all you are the madam of this estate. I won't attend that funeral." He said stubbornly. "I will not grieve for a traitor, I disowned that bitch...she's not my family." He was about to walk off.

"Xander!" I hissed at him. "Don't you dare walk away from me like that." He turned around and looked at me like I'd just lost my mind for talking to him like that.

"You will do it for Gaia and Ajana, you will do it for me... I need my closure." For some reason I was raging at his lack of compassion for Joud's pain.

"Angel... stop it." He looked uncomfortable suddenly with the fact that I'd emotionally black mailed him but the steely look in his face started to disappear.

"No, I need you to let go of your anger towards her for the sake of the family. She's gone. We won't ever get our revenge but you can't take it out on Joud." I felt his stubbornness shifting. I walked towards him and hugged him. His hands snaked around my waist and he pulled me close to him, his lips on my throat.

"You are going to be the death of me woman." He sighed.

"No, I'm your strength and your anchor." I whispered and kissed him. "I love you." Then I let him walk out.

By the time I returned to Stacy and Joud, he was out like a light. Stacy looked at me and slightly frowned. "This is what revenge does." She said quietly.

"Stacy don't start please." I said. "Nobody asked Sofija to do those terrible things. She brought it all on herself and her family and we are left picking up the pieces."

When I went to find Gaia, she was sitting on the bed in her room staring into space.

"Gaia?" I approached her.

"Joud did the right thing." She said. "Xander would have brought himself bad luck torturing his own sister, Joud did the right thing."

"Gaia I don't know what to say." I said quietly.

"There's nothing to say my dear, sit with me please. I just need some time to process this." I sat next to her and pulled her into my arms. She started humming a song for a few seconds then she began to cry. I had never seen her like this. Gaia represented strength to the family. To see her break down, I felt like she would never be the same again.

Xander's POV.

It was during bed time that Joud and Soraya decided to break the news about Sofija to Ajana. I watched her cry out as she hugged Joud's neck. Soraya had sent Kai to her parents for the night.

I didn't like the fact that it upset Soraya, it was unfair that she had to plan a funeral for someone who had played a part in taking the life of our baby. Someone who had betrayed our trust but watching my little niece cry for her rotten mother shifted something in me. I knew that just like my own son I would do anything to protect Ajana, I would make sure she never knew what a terrible mother, daughter and sister Sofija had been.

Ajana turned around to look at Soraya who had tears in her eyes. She reached out her arms for the little girl and she ran into them.

"I'm so sorry sweetheart." she rubbed the child's back affectionately. I didn't think it was a good idea that after losing her mother, her father would disappear on her for however long Joud planned to disappear for but I was not very good at dealing with other peoples emotions. Either that or I didn't want to really deal with them, it came with the territory of being ruthless.

The way Soraya handled me in the afternoon and the situation proved even more to me that she had the character of a Don's wife. She had a little bit of my mother in her but also had so much affection. Joud had needed that affection today, without it he would have fallen apart the way I had when I lost Hera. She knew exactly what to do, It made me think how come I didn't notice her strong character all those years ago. I'd just seen a shy girl that had been so eager to lose her virginity to a man she hardly knew.

Had she always been so fierce, had falling pregnant forced her into this strong role. I remembered the way she talked about her passions and it hit me that she had always been this feisty woman she was today, I had just been the bastard Xander.

I couldn't allow myself to feel sorry though, that would mean that I regretted my decision and I didn't regret it one bit. If Joud hadn't done what he did I would have tortured Sofija myself without even thinking twice.

(Three hours later)

"Where are we going?" Soraya asked me quietly as I took her hand and led her to the car.

"One of our other warehouses, I'm going to teach you how to shoot a gun." I turned around to look at her letting my eyes travel up and down her body then grabbed her by her waist. "You look sexy in your outfit, like a secret spy or agent, all black everything." I drawled and kissed her deeply. "I'm a little jealous of how those jeans are clinging on to your hips... your thighs, I want to rip them off. My God woman you were perfectly sculpted."

She had on tight black skinny jeans with black female combat boots. A skin tight black t shirt and a black leather jacket. The thought that other men had the privilege of admiring her made me feel pride and irritation at the same time.

She blushed as my hands traveled up and down her hips and ass. I grabbed at her ass and squeezed then bent down to kiss her deeply again. It looked like this had a dizzying effect on her. She closed her eyes and clung onto my neck like the world was spinning.

When she opened them I was still looking right at her, I let my fingers run up and down her spine. "I'm having second thoughts." I said, my voice heavy with lust. Her own eyes were glowing as her pupils dilated. She chuckled.

"We can have both. The teacher needs his reward after all." She said shyly making me throw my head back to laugh.

I opened the car door for her and she walked in with her eyes still on me.

When we got to the warehouse, I took her to a retro style modernised elevator, pressing my thumb to the finger print scanner then punching in a number. The elevator led us to a basement that was just full of tactical weapons in bullet resistant hammer glass cases and secure steel cases, her eyes grew wide with shock and curiosity.

"So many weapons..." she whispered.

"Culture generally tends to think of shooting guns and hunting as a "male" activity but the truth is both men and women can be taught to shoot with equal skill." I explained to her. "So far you have shown inherent qualities and abilities in so many other things so I think you will excel at this as well."

She smiled as she walked towards one of the secure steel casings. "I'm ready." She whispered.

"Rule number one, treat each gun as if it were loaded even if you think it isn't. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sight is on the target, that's rule number two. You are going to need this." I gave her ear muffs.

"That loud huh?" She took them from my hands as she looked at me.

"You will get used to the sound. If at any point you feel uncomfortable, tell me and we stop.. okay?" She nodded her head.

"I'm going to start you on a light-recoiling 22 caliber rifle or pellet rifle." I took out the guns and the ammunition then led her to another room where we practised with stalls and a target sheet. I taught her how to load the guns, how to lock and unlock the safety feature then I stood behind her assisting her with her stance.

"I'm shaking a little..." she said.



“Hey, calm down. Check the safety, it’s off right?” She nodded. “Put that down here and turn to face me.”

I pulled her closer to me by her waist. “You can do this, you have proven to me how capable you are in a lot of things.”

She kissed me deeply then she opened her eyes, turned around and grabbed the gun. She assumed her stance then I pressed the button that brought up the target. She had forgotten to put her ear muffs on but I didn’t interrupt her as she turned off the safety catch and aimed at the target, looking into the scope. Her finger went to the trigger and she took a breath and pressed without even flinching. A loud bang sounded, she quickly put the safety back on and put the gun on the counter and started to jump up and down.

Right in the middle of the target paper.

“Oh my gosh I did it, did you see that I did it Xander!” She smiled.

“You’re a natural Angel, I don’t know if I should be happy or worried about that.” I chuckled and hugged her.

We kept practicing, I removed the scope and I let her practice without it. After the rifles I went to fetch the automated hand guns, she struggled a little with those but after a few tries she hit number six and seven on the target paper.

“Okay now that you are getting comfortable with the gun, you need to get comfortable with our next task. Dorian is interrogating one of the Cirillo brothers, I want you to come with me to watch.” I watched her reaction closely.

She didn’t seem to have an issue. “Where?” She asked like we were talking about locations for dinner.

“Another warehouse. Im taking you there right now. If you can stomach what happen tonight then I will continue to teach you.” I explained and she suddenly got this determined look on her face.

“Let’s go.” She said

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Hello my lovelies, i hope you are all doing okay. Soraya seems to be growing into her role as the wife of a mafia boss. Will she be able to handle Dorian torturing the Cirillo brother? Will this change her mind? Keep reading.. wink! Thank you all for the well wishes.

## Chapter 50 - The Greek Billionaire's Indecent Proposal

Soraya's POV

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Xander and I walked into the second warehouse, my hand in his as his men quietly greeted him and acknowledged me. We made quite a congruent pair, he had on black casual suit pants, a black male dress shirt with Versace Oxford lace up shoes. He's style different from mine but some how we just worked.

I had enjoyed my time at the shooting range room. Holding a gun in my hands had been so exciting. The adrenaline pumping through me every time I fired and heard the bang. Looking at the many different guns as Xander showed me how to disassemble and assemble them, how to load them and aim.

I kept thinking about how I never wanted to be caught not ready should anyone of our enemies try anything one day. I was going to protect my family at all costs.

Xander took me to a office and turned around to lock the door then pulled me to him. "At any point if you feel uncomfortable you tell me and we leave." He said.

"I'm ready Xander, I never want to feel helpless I will take my power back." I whispered as he leaned in for a kiss, but instead of kissing me he turned me so that my back was towards the door then he pushed me against it.

"You have no idea how much all this is turning me on but I have to be honest with you that a little part of me is worried that this might traumatise you Angel." He nuzzled his face against mine.

"I promise I am okay." I said silently.

"My world is dark and it's ruthless." He said. "I don't have time to hesitate as the head of the family and that's what I teach all the men in the family."

"You are more worried that this will affect the way I see you, the way I love you." I led his one hand to my neck and he enclosed his hand like he was choking me then my hands lowered his

head by the nape of his neck. “You are not getting rid of me that easily unless you decide you don’t want me anymore more, I am here to stay.”

“That’s never going happening.” He smiled. I kissed him then led him to the the table. My hands worked on his belt and and the button of his pants.

“You surprise me every day with your spontaneity.” He chuckled.

“I want you inside me, no space between us.” I found myself saying. It shocked me as it came out of my mouth. I had gone from the girl who had fallen pregnant from having sex just once, going years with no intimacy to this bold woman who wanted to take her pleasure. I unbuttoned my jeans and pulled them down to my knees. I had on a white lace thong, Xander laughed at the contrast between the white and the black. I also peeled it off all the way to my knees. I turned to face the table, putting both my hands on it I bent down making him groan.

He swiftly moved behind me, I could hear his pants and Calvin Klein trunks sliding down then his erection was pressed up against me, I caught my breath. His hands came around my tiny waist.

“I think you have bewitched me Angel.” His voice was hoarse, I moaned as he slipped inside of me from behind. My hands gripped the table as he filled me... the feeling in my stomach slowly crept into my palms, spreading all over my body. One of Xander’s hands moved into my jacket and up and down the length my back. I moaned out loud as he slowly began to thrust, it was a primal need type of thrust that had me feeling like he was possessing me instead, staking his claim on my body.

I started to feel like I was floating on a cloud, his groans sounded like chants that were part of the possession as he kept going. I found myself winding and grinding my waist as my back rubbed up against him, he groaned again. I banged the table as I tried to conceal a loud moan, I finally reached my climax. I loved how he was more of a giver than a taker when it came to making love, he never came until he made sure that I had reached my orgasm. He spasmed as he came inside me then we were both trying to catch our breath, he turned my head slightly to the side and kissed me. I couldn’t help but smile into the kiss.

A few minutes later he was guiding me to the office toilet and helping me to clean myself up. Then there was a knock on the office door.

“I’m about to start boss.” Dorian called out.

Xander let him know that we would be out soon. When we were done he looked at me and gave me a long deep kiss. “I’m here, remember just tell me if you want to leave.” He said gently as we left the office.

We went down to the basement, there was a man there placed on a gurney. His hands and feet were restricted by leather belts. He looked terrified for his life as he spoke rapidly in Greek.

At his head, next to the gurney there were two men that looked identical that were standing there. One moved to his feet and the other remained at his head.

“Everyone that works in the family business is family.” Xander said in a low voice. “These are my cousins Yannis and Leon.” The men both nodded at me and chorused “Dona” at the same time. I acknowledged them.

Everyone seemed to be oblivious to the man on the gurney and his incessant pleas. I could feel Xander’s eyes on me as I assessed this man. I didn’t know what to feel, what was coursing through me definitely wasn’t fear or anxiety or pity for the man.

“This man and his brothers...” Xander sighed before he carried on speaking. “...they helped to get Moretti and his associates in and out of Greece. They kidnap women and children, transport them in shipping containers to countries where they sell them into prostitution, one of the reasons why I refused to work with them or Moretti. These women and kids are drugged and beaten, if they die their bodies are disposed off at sea. That’s exactly what Moretti was planning to do with you Angel, so if you are feeling sorry for him... don’t. He would have not thought twice about doing the same thing to you.”

I didn’t feel anything for the man, I wondered if that was normal, I looked at Xander. “I don’t feel anything.”

He looked at me with confusion in his eyes and then nodded his head. Dorian walked into the room and smiled.

“Cirillo for the sake of my guests I am going to require you to answer me in English.” He said to the man as he smirked, his voice didn’t sound like the usual voice I was used to hearing coming from Dorian. It was ruthless, it was menacing. His eyes looked soulless and flat. “If you do not comply I will hurt you, you do know that don’t you?”

I think my eyes must have grown wide with shock because I felt Xander grab my hand and I looked up at him. “Dorian is supposed to be the empathetic one out of all of us but I think he’s decided to put on a show to scare you.” He whispered in my ear, there was a little amusement on his face.

Dorian was probably still trying to convince me that I didn’t belong in the dungeons with the men. I let go of Xander’s hand and walked forward. “So you get off on selling children for pleasure.” I snarled at Cirillo.

He looked at me and spat at me but missed, “Moretti should have killed you bitch or he should have let me sell you, you would be in some whore house right now with men fucking you left right and center!” He growled at me with spittle running down the side of his mouth. Anger started to course through me.

“When he’s done with you I’m going to have my turn with you just for fun, let’s see if you are still talking like that in the end. How do you plan to torture him?” I turned to Dorian who was looking at Xander a little surprised at my reaction to Cirillo’s rant.

“Dorian! Pretend Xander is not here.” I ordered him. “I don’t need you to treat me like an egg.”

“Yes Dona, I’m going to flay parts of his body.” He said.

I was shocked but I maintained a poker face. “Well then do it.” I said trying not to sound hesitant.

One of the twins disappeared and came back with a little trolley and on it was a brown leather knife roll bag, he rolled it open to reveal the carving knives in there. My stomach started to churn.

“Cirillo, where are your brothers hiding?” Dorian’s weird deadly voice was back.

“Fuck you and fuck Adamos and his bitch!” The man spat out.

Dorian’s smile looked purely evil as he put on some gloves then pulled out a blade from the leather bag. He used it to remove several layers of the man’s skin, exposing nerve and muscle tissue as the twins held the man down to stop him from writhing and moving. I forced myself to watch, the man looked like he was in perpetual agony as he screamed.

“I don’t know where they are...please I don’t know!” The man yelled out, suddenly there was a smell of pee in the air. The man had lost control of his bladder function and peed on himself from pain.

“You smell pretty terrible Cirillo.” Dorian laughed. “That’s too bad that you don’t know because you know what they say... a man has a lot of secrets but a flayed one has none. I’m going to do this until your memory is jogged.” Dorian kept smiling. He wasn’t lying when he said he would do it until it jogged his memory, Cirillo finally gave up his own brothers as Dorian passed a blow torch flame over the exposed skin. Cirillo’s bloodied body was shaking.

Dorian turned to me and switched off the blow torch, he handed it to me but Xander stepped forward and grabbed it from my hands. “I think that’s enough for today. The man gave up the information.” He looked at me.

“You always teach us that when we hand out a threat, we need to deliver on it, she said she wanted a turn.” Dorian looked at me. “The man was going to sell you to a whorehouse after Moretti had his fill of you.” He taunted me, I didn’t bat my eyelashes as we stared at each other.

“Dorian!” Xander gave him a warning.

“If you think I’m going to back away from all this! You are wrong Dorian.” I snarled at him. I took the blow torch from Xander’s hand and walked towards Cirillo.

“You are filth! This is for all the women and children you ever sold, drugged and beat up!” I switched it on and ran it down one of his exposed arms. His booming screams reverberated around the room. The smell of burnt flesh and burning blood filled the air. It didn’t stop me from moving the blow torch to his hip, running it down the flayed parts of his leg.

“How does it feel to have your power taken away just like when you take helpless children and women and you strip them of their safety and power!” I growled at him. I felt someone stand behind me and grab my hand with the blow torch. It was Xander, he took it from me and switched it off.

“That’s enough for today, let’s go.” He put the blow torch on the tray and led me out to the car. When we were inside he pulled me to him and he let me break down. I don’t know why I was crying but I couldn’t stop myself. The car started to move, he pulled me into his lap and held on tight until my sobs subsided but my body was shaking almost like I was feeling cold.

“Did I fail my test?” I hiccupped out.

“You did way better than I thought you would, way better than I did my first time. I threw up in front of my father and begged him to let me walk out and not continue. I got punished just for that.” He smiled at me gently.

“Really?” I looked at him as he rubbed my back. My shakes were subsiding

“Angel, you don’t have to do this, I can do this for the both of us.” He nuzzled me. “I can teach you the fighting and the handling of weapons but you don’t need to torture them.”

Tears ran down my face and he took out his pocket square using it to wipe them off. “I can handle it.” I said as I sniffed. “I want to be feared just like you are.” I said with conviction.

“Says the woman who is not terrified of me, I’m already scared of you.” He chuckled. “You are nothing like I have ever seen.” He smiled and kissed my forehead. We stayed silent the entire drive back home.

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Xander’s POV

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I led Soraya back into the house but instead of taking her to our room, I walked towards the children’s room, I thought taking a peek at a sleeping Kai might make her feel better. She seemed not to notice as I led her there. We walked into Kai’s room and what I saw made my heart lurch, Kai had Ajana cradled to him. Her little head on his chest as he held on to her.

Soraya took note of her surroundings and then her eyes darted to the bed. The night lamp was on so we could see the kids peaceful faces as they slept. Ajana had her thumb in her mouth. Soraya

looked up at me and smiled, tears ran down her cheeks. “This is why I need to be strong and feared, for them.” She whispered. “Can we take them to our room?” She asked.

I nodded my head as she walked towards the bed to pick up Ajana, I carried Kai. The kids didn’t stir as we walked with them to our bedroom. We placed them on our bed then quickly changed, Soraya went into the bed and Ajana inched towards her in her sleep. I joined them in bed right next to Kai. I watched Soraya fall asleep just like that and it dawned on me that she was right, maybe one day there would come a time when I couldn’t protect them anymore because I was dead or sick or for whatever reason but if I equipped her, she would fight before she let anyone hurt the kids or our family.

I would teach her all that I knew, when my father and uncle died, my mother was the only one who could carry on guiding me until I grew into my role as the head of the family. Even though her teachings were more of the running of the legit businesses, she was just as ruthless as my father had been. Soraya would be even better, she had the heart and definitely the motivation for it.

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Hello my lovelies, Soraya definitely has made her choice. She is ready for this. Next she will have to practice her newly taught torturing skills on Nikolaj. How do you think that will go? Keep reading to find out...Don’t forget to share the story. Wink!