

## Chapter 5

My face heated up in embarrassment before looking at the tiled floor. He didn't say another word as I heard the sound of his boots fade away, letting me know he wasn't here anymore.

My head lifted up slightly just in time to see his silhouette leave the cafeteria doors, probably following Shelly.

The thought saddened me but I refused to let it show. Inhaling a much needed breath I straightened my posture and headed to the door.

I could still feel a few lingering stares on my back as I headed for exit doors.

My shorts were still soaked and clung to my skin uncomfortably. The food stuck on my face made me feel icky as I tried to wipe some off with my shirt.

I was too focused on cleaning off the food to realize that Shelly's friend Rebecca had stuck her foot out.

The action had me stumbling before planting myself face first on the tiled floor. I let out an audible pained gasp when my face came in contact with the hard cold floor.

No one could help me. Not like they would anyway. It was still lunch time and the hallways were empty. It was just us two and the bin to the left if you could count that.

I tried lifting myself up but a heeled clad foot prevented me. Her pointy heels dug painfully into the small of my back as she added more pressure. I gritted my teeth in pain as I felt the stabbing feeling.

My scalp burned when I felt hands grip my hair and pulled it with force. I was forced to lift up my head as she held my hair in her hands.

With a grunt and a whimper I tried digging my nails on her hands, an effort to try and let her loosen her grip on my strands. But that effort became fertile as she tugged harder.

"You little b!tch do you think just because Asher helped you out this once you think he changed and grew a soft spot for you? Then think again s|ut" she spat beside my left ear.

"I didn't tell Asher to defend me now did I?" I gasped out. My stomach churned uncomfortably when I realized my mistake of answering her back

" you have the nerve to answer me back?" She gritted out while tugging on my hair harder.

I let out a pained scream, tears leaking out and wetting the already dirty floor. My crying seemed to give her satisfaction because she pulled harder without remorse.

Rebecca finally let go of me but not without slamming my face on the floor as she laughed. With a kick to the side she left me. I lift my head to look at her walk away.

Her blonde hair that was set in a bob bounced with every step she took. Her legs were long and slim and her high heels only added to that height. Her nonexistent hips were swaying until she disappeared down the hallway.

I got off the cold floor, face burning from it being slammed hard. I could feel the stinging pain on my cheek and my vision became blurry as I struggled to stay conscious.

I took small steps to the bathroom. Every step I took made me let out a shaky gasp and silent whimper. I opened the bathroom door with a slam not caring if there was someone there.

I walked to the sink and mirrors on the left side of the bathroom. They were dirty and foggy barely making me see anything. But the red and swollen look on my cheek was prominent.

I touched it tenderly but winced when I touched a painful spot. My mouth set in a line as I opened the pipe and started washing off my face, being careful to not touch where it hurts.

I couldn't have done any justice for my clothes though. I didn't have any spare clothes anywhere. That thought made me let out a shaky laugh. I was mocking myself for being weak, for letting them take advantage of me.

I tried thinking back to when all of this started, it was just mostly Asher doing it in high school barely physically hurting me.

But then College came and I was rejoicing that I was leaving behind Asher, only to be disappointed when he attended the same college.

It seemed that it became worse when he met up with Shelly though and I always wondered what I had done to deserve this kind of treatment.

The water was still running while I cleaned up the food. I was left with a wet shirt and an even wetter shorts. I sighed as I looked at my reflection.

It would be useless to go to class looking like that. I turned off the faucet before giving myself a once over, coming to the conclusion that I'll be skipping the rest of the day.

I got out of the bathroom limping my way to the front doors of the school. The bell must've rang when I was inside the bathroom because the hallways were empty.

I walked out of the campus with my head held high even though I felt anything but confident right now. Fake it till you make it.

Thirty minutes later I reached my dorm room. I got a few stares from prying people but no one came up to me to ask what had happened. No one cares.

My muscles hurt and I still smelled of food so I decided it would be best to take a warm shower. I dumped my bag on my bed and started undressing right there, thanking god that Sonia isn't home and the door was locked.

I entered the shower, soaking in the feeling of utter bliss when the warm water washed away the remaining of the food.

My tensed muscles relaxed as I scrubbed away the grim, hoping I could scrub away the lingering feeling of Rebecca's nails.

I got out of the shower reluctantly, walking in the room soaking wet not caring in the moment and grabbed my towel from inside of the closet.

I was wiping myself dry when I heard my phone give a notification. I tightened the towel around me and walked towards my bag to retrieve it.

Looking at my phone I saw a text from Asher reminding me of our meet up at his house for the project. My eyebrows knitted in confusion

How did he get my number? I thought suspiciously. I answered him right away afraid that he'll be mad if I take my time to.

I dropped it back on the bed and made my way back to closet. I quickly got dressed not caring about what I wore which was sweats and jumped on my awaiting bed.

It was still a little early, two more hours and classes would be over, so I decided to kill off time by watching a movie on my laptop.

I laughed at the ending of the comedy movie and looked at the small clock on the bedside table.

It was now past five and my heart dropped in the pit of my stomach when I realized that it has already past two hours. Getting off the bed in a hurry, I put on my sneakers and headed right away to Asher's penthouse.

When I arrived I got really nervous to knock on the door. My feet rocked back and forth with nerves as I tried to have enough courage to knock.

With a silent curse I gathered all I could and knocked. It came out soft and I doubt he heard it. But then I heard heavy footsteps getting closer to the door, making me regret even knocking.

The door opened slowly revealing a freshly showered Asher. I could tell by his still wet hair that was slightly dripping on his shirt. His eyes roamed my face before turning dark with rage

"Who did this to you? " he asked murderously

## **Chapter 6**

My eyes widen in fear as his fury filled eyes settled on my bruises. I quickly lift my hand to block the bruised spot from his eyes. But it only seemed to fuel his anger more, his rage filled eyes now glared into mine.

It took awhile to realize that he was now towering over me with his 6'1 form over my 5'1. I crane my neck to look at him. His face was settled in displeasure now a few inches from my own.

" I'm going to ask this only once again, who did this to you? " He said slowly as if talking to a child who didn't have understanding. His eyes now turned accusing as I didn't answer.

This seemed to fuel my own anger. I stepped back a little to create space between. It seems that I can't think straight when I'm near him.

Like you care!

" I think you know well who did this to me so don't pretend you don't know!" I said harshly shocking the both of us.

He staggered back at my words not expecting the harshness in my voice. My words must've reddened him speechless, his now blue orbs were filled with bewilderment.

I cleared my throat to ease the tension that was settling in between us. He finally regained his composure and mumbled something incoherent.

"Well aren't you going to let me in or not because I have somewhere else to be." I lied through my teeth, hoping he'll take the hint and drop the subject.

He sighed before nodding "come in "and moved out of the way to let me in.

I gave him a skeptical look before entering his penthouse. The scent of peppermint was prominent in the air making the inside smell lovely.

I looked at the white plain walls, they were barely covered with any interior designs. Everything was plain, a huge contrast to the owner who was anything but.

I felt Asher side step me to walk ahead. He was heading to some stairs that looked like they went on for ages and disappeared behind two huge walls.

" Come with me." He muttered walking away

I followed him up, holding the clean glass railings to steady myself. He looked back at me once to make sure I was following until we reached a huge wooden door with a sign DO NOT ENTER.

Asher opened it and ushered me to enter inside. With a skeptical look I entered slowly. My stomach settled with unease when I realized it was his room.

I could tell by the bag and shoes that were settled by his bed in a messy way. There were posters of models who were barely clothed on his grey walls.

Clothes were scattered on his desk in a pile and I was tempted to clean up for him. I can't help it I'm a clean freak.

Did he bring me up here to \*\*\*\* then kill me?

He closed the door with a bang which startled me. I walked backwards and collided with his broad body. The collision had us both stumbling until I righted myself and turned around to face him.

"What's wrong?" he asked his brows knitted in confusion

"I'm really sorry for answering you the way I did, please don't \*\*\*\* and kill me it'll never happen again!" I rushed out while panicking. My hands were raised up in front of me as a protective barrier

I'm too young to die, I haven't even kissed a guy yet.

His blue eyes looked back at me dumbfounded before he burst out laughing while clutching his stomach.

What is he laughing at, am I that ridiculous?

"you..haha..you thought I would touch you out of all people?" He laughed while trying to catch his breath. Tears were leaking out at the corner of his eyes.

When he stopped having his laughing fit, he got serious, his face barely held an emotion as he looked at me

"I rather die than ever look at you like that. You're not pretty and I'm sure you would be a boring lay anyway. And I'm not a f\*cking rapist" He said in a bored voice, giving me a once over he turned around and headed for his bed.

His words hurt me more than it should and I scold myself silently for it. His damp hair plastered on his forehead as he lied back on his huge king size bed. It must've annoyed him because he moved the soft looking strands back.

"Whatever lets just do the project." I muttered embarrassed and looked around his messy room

He turned his head slightly to look at me before diverting his attention back to the white ceiling.

"About the project...you're the one who is going to do it alone, I'm too busy for this shit." He said and took out his phone to scroll over it.

"But what was the point of me coming here?" I asked him in exaggeration. I was beyond mad right now, I was seething in fact. If only I knew it would of been pointless to come here I would of stayed in my room.

"Well to supervise you duh, so you wouldn't mess up and not put my name on the paper." He answered with an eyeroll still scrolling at something that seemed to interest him on the phone.

At a lost for words I just stared at him shocked. He raised an eyebrow while looking expectantly at me. What was he expecting? A thank you for your consideration? He pointed at the desk that was beside his unmade bed then looked at me and gestured me to go there.

"You can do the project here." He stated and got up in a sitting position

I sighed and walked towards the long wooden desk that was filled with crunched up papers and dirty tissues. I picked up one of the dirty tissue and held it between my index and thumb. I looked at Asher in disgust and flew it at him.

He looked at me with a menacing glare before rolling his eyes in annoyance. He got off the bed and walked towards me and looked at the desk. With an irritated sigh he threw all the dirty stuff with one hand.

"Happy now?" He asked me

I nodded before sitting down on one of the chairs that were available. I removed the sling bag that was on my shoulder and placed it on the desk. Rummaging through the items that were in the bag I was suddenly aware of the presence that was looming over my small body.

I froze not knowing what to do as I felt the hairs on my neck stand up. Ashers's head was a breath away from my exposed neck and my nerves prickled as he got closer.

His breathing was rough against my ear and I gulped when my stomach clenched. He tucked some of my strands behind my ears making me shiver at the contact. I turned my head to face his only to be startled at our close proximity. It felt like his face was getting closer and I did nothing to stop it until I felt the soft brush of his lips on mine.

" Asher baby!!" Shelly screeched while slamming the front door closed