

An Understated Dominance by Marina Vittori Chapter 761

Chapter 761

Dahlia frowned deeply, her face full of worry.

"That won't do. I need to save him!"

She turned around as if ready to leave the party immediately.

"Dahlia!" Julie grabbed her arm and tried to reason with her, "Just how are you going to help? Azkaban has the tightest security there is. No one is able to leave after getting in. If you try anything recklessly, you might get into trouble yourself!"

"What should I do then? I can't just let him face those charges."

Dahlia was anxious. She was aware that Azkaban was a dangerous place. The longer someone stayed there, the more they would suffer.

"Don't worry just yet. Isn't Mr. Killian here?" Julie turned her attention toward Gavin and said, "Mr. Killian has wide connections and is a prominent figure. It should be easy for him to get someone released from Azkaban."

"Mr. Killian?" Dahlia's gaze landed on Gavin, full of hope.

"Azkaban is considered a no man's land. Even the military doesn't have a say in that area." Gavin rubbed his chin, looking troubled.

"Mr. Killian, I'll do anything as long as you can help!" Dahlia said seriously.

"Since you put it that way, I suppose I should try something,"

Gavin replied, putting on a hesitating front.

He then nodded. "Alright, I'll give it a shot, but I can't promise he'll be released. You know very well that Azkaban is no ordinary prison. Getting someone out is immensely challenging."

"I'll be forever thankful for your help, regardless of the outcome!" Dahlia was extremely grateful.

"No need to thank me. Just consider it a favor among friends." Gavin smiled and called for one of his men. He whispered something into the man's ear, and after a brief acknowledgement, the man swiftly departed.

"My men will talk to the warden. Even if he's not released, your friend will likely face less suffering with me backing him." Gavin appeared confident. Even though he knew he couldn't save Dustin, he wanted to gain some leverage to ask for a favor.

"Thank you so much, Mr. Killian!" Dahlia thanked him. She was very grateful.

"Don't mention it." Gavin quickly helped her up and smiled. "Ms. Nicholson, this song is beautiful. May I have the pleasure of this dance with you?"

"I... "Dahlia froze. She wasn't in the mood for a dance when Dustin was in danger. However, she found it hard to refuse when faced with his extended arm.

Since she had just asked for a favor, she was left with no choice and nodded reluctantly.

As the music swelled, more couples joined the dance floor. But all eyes were on Dahlia and Gavin.

They looked like a pair perfectly matched, their presence charming. Although many women in the room felt jealous, they had to admit that Dahlia's beauty perfectly complemented Gavin's handsome features.

Just as the atmosphere was getting livelier, the door was kicked open with a loud bang. Dustin strode in formidably. Although he didn't give off a domineering air, the crowd naturally made way

for him as he walked past.

"Huh?" Dahlia looked over. Her joy was evident upon seeing Dustin.

She suddenly felt conscious and let go of Gavin's hand, putting some distance between them. Dustin noticed her guilty movements and furrowed his brow.

Their gazes met. One radiated warmth, while the other emanated a cold intensity.

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Julian was surprised when he saw Dustin walking through the doors. "No way, they released him that early?"

Julian had thought Gavin was just joking. He didn't expect him to actually send someone to get

Dustin out.

The problem was Gavin had used his connections to send Dustin to prison. And now Dustin was somehow released. It seemed like some kind of joke.

Even if he wanted to impress the ladies, he didn't have to make it that complicated.

"That's weird. How did he get out?" Gavin frowned slightly, equally astonished. He knew very well that he never instructed his men to contact Azkaban's warden.

The timing didn't add up, either. Dustin must have been released much earlier. The most puzzling aspect was that Azkaban was notorious for being a one-way journey.

How could someone so insignificant manage to escape? Did a powerful figure help him out?

"Mr Killian, you're incredible! You got Dustin released with just a simple call." Julie gave him a thumbs up, her expression filled with respect. She realized she had underestimated his influence if he could get someone released that easily from Azkaban.

Dahlia was overjoyed. "Thank you, Mr. Killian!"

"I-It's nothing. It took no effort." Gavin forced a smile. Even though he was confused, he wasn't about to contradict himself.

"Dustin, I heard you were sent to Azkaban. How are you? You aren't hurt, are you?" After thanking Gavin, Dahlia rushed up to Dustin.

"Seems like you got word." Dustin looked stoic.

"I just found out too. Thankfully, Mr. Killian helped out and had you released. Otherwise, you would still have been inside," Dahlia said, looking happy.

"Mr. Killian helped out?" Dustin laughed. Gavin was the one who sent him inside, yet he had turned into his savior? It was absolutely laughable.

"Dustin, hurry up and come with me. We need to go and thank Mr. Killian." Dahlia quickly walked up to Gavin. She pulled Dustin behind her.

Dustin raised his head slightly, giving off an air of arrogance.

"Dustin, congratulations on your release. Feel free to eat your fill here tonight. Take it as my congratulatory meal for you." Gavin said with a smirk.

"What are you doing still standing there?" Dahlia signaled Dustin, trying to get him to

acknowledge Gavin's efforts.

"Dustin, it wasn't easy for Gavin to get you released. You're so rude for staying silent." Julie was upset.

"That's right. You would have died in there if it wasn't for Mr. Killian. You should at least show

some gratitude." Julian gave him a look of disdain.

"You want me to show some gratitude? Sure..." Dustin nodded and raised his hand. He delivered a sharp, resounding slap across Gavin's face.

Gavin wasn't the only person stunned. Dahlia, Julie, and Julian were all stunned. Even the guests present were stunned.

Nobody expected Dustin to resort to violence. The incident happened without provocation, and the sudden slap left everyone dumbfounded.

"Dustin! Have you gone mad? Why did you hit him?" It took Dahlia a while to register shock. She intended for Dustin to thank Gavin, but who would have thought he would slap Gavin instead? He was too much!

"Fuck! Is there something wrong with this guy? How dare he hit Mr. Killian?" Julian widened his eyes in disbelief.

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Gavin Killian was the young master of the Killians from Oakvale. He was also a military general who had an enormous influence in Millsburg. Dustin could lose his life for raising a hand against such a prominent figure.

"Dustin, you ungrateful brat! Mr. Killian should have just let you rot in Azkaban!" Julie was furious at Dustin for repaying Gavin's kindness with enmity.

"How bold. Do you know the consequences of hitting me?" Gavin rubbed his burning cheek as his expression grew dark. He had never been slapped in public, ever.

"So what if I hit you? You imprisoned me. That was a well-deserved slap," Dustin spat out coldly. Dahlia frowned. "Nonsense. It was clearly Mr. Killian who saved you!"

"He saved me? Hah!" Dustin scoffed. "He was the one who put me in there. I wouldn't have ended up inside if it wasn't for his scheming."

"I don't understand what you mean." Gavin narrowed his eyes.

"Do you not understand, or are you pretending not to?" Dustin sneered. "Did you think your plan would succeed just by sending me to Azkaban? Well, sorry to disappoint, but I'm out now. And I'm going to make you pay for it."

"Are you even worthy of that?" Gavin's expression was frosty. "Out of courtesy toward Ms. Nicholson, I won't make a big deal out of this. Apologize right now. And I might just let you go."

Dahlia was moved by his speech. It was rare for someone to be benevolent after being slapped for

no reason.

"Dustin, stop it. Hurry up and apologize!" Dahlia said sternly.

"You want me to apologize to him for sending me to Azkaban? Dream on," Dustin said with a frosty tone.

"I don't know where you heard those rumors. But I believe Mr. Killian is not that type of person!" Dahlia was serious.

"He's not that kind of person?" Dustin snorted. "You just met him. Do you really know him? How would you know what he's really thinking?"

"Stop being unreasonable!" Dahlia was getting upset. She saw how Gavin had instructed his men to help with Dustin's release from Azkaban. However, instead of being grateful, Dustin bit the hand that fed him. He was absolutely clueless!

"I'm being unreasonable?" Dustin's expression grew colder by the second. "Dahlia, I'm saying this again. Gavin was the one who sent me to Azkaban. He's a total hypocrite!"

"Nonsense!" Dahlia was simmering in anger as she yelled, "It's fine if you won't be grateful. But why accuse him of something he's not?"

Dustin's brows furrowed slightly. "I'm accusing him? You think I'm lying? You'd rather believe him and not me?"

They went through so much together. He couldn't understand how their three-year relationship

was reduced to nothing before an outsider.

"I only believe what I see!" Dahlia retorted.

"And what you see is the absolute truth?"

"Of course!"

"Fine, then answer me. What were you doing being so chummy with Gavin?"

"We were just dancing."

"Dancing? Hah! You only met him today, yet you're already that close to him? I guess you'll be in his bed in a few more days of getting to know him!" Dustin mocked.

"You-" Dahlia was exasperated. She only agreed to the dance because Gavin agreed to save him. Why else would she subject herself to such a situation?.

"Enough. I'm not going to argue with you. We'll discuss this another time. But today, I'm going to beat him up!" Dustin took two steps forward before landing a forceful kick to Gavin's stomach.

Gavin groaned as he crumpled to the ground.

"Stop it!" Dahlia's expression shifted. She quickly stood in front of Gavin. "Dustin! Are you crazy? Do you know what you just did?"

"Move!" Dustin pushed Dahlia away before aiming another kick at Gavin.

"I told you to stop!" Dahlia turned anxious and slapped Dustin hard on the face. It left him stunned in place.

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"What?" Dustin touched his burning cheek. He looked at Dahlia in disbelief. He never imagined she would slap him in public for the sake of someone she had just met. It felt like a stab to his heart.

"I ..." Dahlia was at a loss for words as she looked at her hand. Regret had filled her immediately after the act.

The situation was urgent, and she had acted on impulse. Gavin was a powerful general in the army, and Dustin would have faced dire consequences if he had hurt him.

"You actually hit me?" Dustin furrowed his brow. "You hit me for a stranger?"

"Dustin, calm down. I did it for your own good," Dahlia tried to explain.

"Calm down?" Dustin's lips formed into a wry smile. His disappointment was evident in his eyes.

"Dahlia Nicholson, how am I supposed to calm down? I made myself very clear. Gavin set me up and is playing the good guy in front of you. Can you please open up your eyes and look clearly?" Dahlia's frown deepened. "Enough! Mr. Killian is a righteous person. He couldn't possibly do such a thing!"

Gavin saved her when she was ambushed this morning. He also gifted her a precious Panax root when he found out Regulus was sick. He even ordered his men to get Dustin released after he was sent to Azkaban.

With such a warm and caring nature, how could he possibly be a bad person?

"So, you still don't believe me." Dustin chuckled. "It has always been like this. You've never fully trusted me. I thought you changed, but I realize now that I was too naive."

"Dustin, we'll discuss this when we get back. But don't do anything foolish today!" Dahlia's expression was solemn.

"We aren't going back." Dustin shook his head, and his gaze grew frosty. "Dahlia, I don't think we are meant for each other. You've climbed up the social ladder anyway, and you don't need to bother with someone like me anymore. Let's part ways amicably. I wish you happiness."

With that, he turned around and left. His heart had been torn apart too many times now.

Gavin's lips curled up into an amusing smile. He didn't retaliate earlier just to watch the unfolding drama. It was far more entertaining than getting into a fight with Dustin.

"Dustin, let me explain..." Dahlia panicked after she returned to her senses. She was about to go after him when Julie held her back.

"Dahlia, why bother with him? He's clearly an ungrateful brat. He even resorted to violence. We shouldn't indulge him!"

"But..." Dahlia hesitated, feeling distressed and confused. She was at a loss for a moment.

She never expected things to escalate to this point. Dustin's gaze as he left sent a chill down her spine. It was as if the distance between them was growing wider.

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"Stop right there! Do you think you can just walk away after hitting someone?" Just before Dustin stepped out the door, a few security guards blocked his way. They glared at him fiercely.

Naturally, they couldn't ignore the situation after they witnessed Gavin being attacked.

"Get lost," Dustin spat out.

"How dare you!"

"Take him down!" The security guards got angry and brandished their batons, ready to strike. "I said, get lost!" Dustin raised a palm and delivered a series of slaps, sending the security personnel sprawling on the ground. They bled from their mouths and noses, unable to get up. "Just look at that, Dahlia! This guy is a violent maniac, resorting to violence without a second thought. He's gone too far!" Julie added fuel to the fire.

"Hmph! He's nothing but a mad dog that bites anyone he sees." Julian sneered.

Dahlia furrowed her brows deeply, her heart in turmoil.

"You insolent bastard!"

"Arrest him!"

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At that moment, a group of heavily armed soldiers stormed into the hall. They carried loaded guns and exuded a menacing posture.

They had Dustin surrounded as soon as they entered, pointing their barrels directly at him. Ready to shoot on command.

"Mr. Killian, don't hurt him!" Dahlia cried out.

"Since Ms. Nicholson has spoken, naturally, I'd have to give in." Gavin smiled as he wiped the blood off the corners of his lips. He waved dismissively. "Back off, let him go."

"Yes, sir!" The soldiers answered and dispersed into two teams. Their movements were organized, and they were clearly well-trained.

Dustin turned around and glanced coldly at them before walking straight out the door. When he left the hotel, a light drizzle started to fall. The cold wind brought a chill, mirroring his current emotions.

At that moment, a silver Bentley screeched to a stop at the entrance. Natasha got out of the car, her expression evident with joy.

"Dear, are you all right? I was so scared when I heard you were sent to Azkaban. I contacted all my connections to get you out. I even asked my grandpa for help. When he called the warden, he was told you were already released."

"Why didn't you tell me you were out already? You left me worried for so long. How are you? Are you injured? Should we go to the hospital?" As soon as they met, Natasha released a torrent of words filled with worry and concern.

"I'm fine. I just went in for a walk." Dustin forced a smile.

"That's a relief..." Natasha smiled back. She was about to relax when she noticed the

unmistakable red handprint on Dustin's cheek.

"Who did this?" Natasha's expression darkened instantly.

"Dustin-" Suddenly, Dahlia was seen rushing out after Dustin. She was about to explain when she noticed Natasha beside him and swallowed back her words.

"Why did you come out? Go back to Mr. Killian," Dustin spat out coldly.

"Dustin, can we sit down and talk?" Dahlia had a troubled expression.

"I don't think there's anything for us to talk about. I've already said my piece. Since you don't

believe me, then forget it." Dustin said no more and got in the car.

"Dustin!" Dahlia instinctively tried to follow after him but was stopped by Natasha.

She questioned her coldly, "Were you the one who gave him the red mark?"

"The situation was complicated..." Dahlia tried to explain, but Natasha cut her off coldly.

She yelled, "Cut the crap. Did you hit him or not?"

"Yes." Dahlia nodded.

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Without another word, Natasha slapped Dahlia hard on the cheek. Even Dustin was taken aback as Dahlia staggered back from the force.

“Dahlia Nicholson! I’m warning you, this is the last time! You don’t have to like him, but you can’t hurt him! You know deep down how well he’s treated you all these years. Isn’t it enough? He just hasn’t ripped his heart out for you.

“If you won’t cherish him, I will! If you won’t like him, I will! From now on, Dustin is my man! I don’t care how stubborn you are normally, but if you hit my man again, I won’t let you get away

with it!” Natasha had an imposing presence, and her words were aggressive. She appeared like a domineering queen.