Chapter 0012

"Those bastards!" she yells.

"I knew they didn't approve of Ashley but to do something like that," Sandra says, shaking her head.

"I hate to tell you this but five years ago I told you that you would come to regret it but you didn't listen to me. You told me that it would never happen and look now."

"I was blinded by jealousy that I didn't give her or anyone else a chance. I was convinced that she was guilty. I'm sorry, I'm so sorry I didn't listen," I said between tears.

Nobody spoke for a long time. I stood up and kneeled in front of Sandra.

"Tell me, Sandra, tell me where I can find her, tell me how I can make it up to her."

"I'm sorry but I can't help you; you messed up big time. You broke her, Adrian, and now, after five years, she is finally putting the pieces back together. I won't allow you to hurt her again. I don't think there is anything you can do."

"I can't live without her."

Sandra snorts and looks at me sharply. "Of course you can. You did it for five years and you were about to get married," she mocked.

I looked at her with sad eyes and got up. I was always close to Sandra and Casady and now it seems like they hate me. I don't blame them; I hate myself.

"Babe," Brain said.

"What?" she snapped.

"I'm not wrong. He can't just walk back into her life, thinking everything will be fine now that he knows the truth and that after all the sh*t he has put her through,. You saw how she was the first time you met her so don't you babe me!" Sandra said to Brian angrily.

"I know I was wrong but everyone deserves a second chance."

Sandra looks at me as if I have lost my mind, then she starts laughing hard.

"Oh, my... A second... A second chance? Adrian, please don't make me laugh.

She walk up to me and starts poking my chest with her finger angrily, "Tell me, Adrian, did you give Ashley a second chance back then? Did you think twice before you slapped her and kicked her out of your house in the middle of the night? Did you listen to her when she tried to talk to you? Did you have any remorse after you got divorced?" she yelled at me angrily.

"I...."

"No, you listen to me now! You have no idea what she went through all those years, and you have no idea how much she has suffered because of you! You have broken her beyond repair so don't you dare come here and give me that bullshit of second chances because you sure as hell don't deserve it!

She is right I made a great mistake; I should have trusted her.

"I know what I did..."

She cut me off again.

"There is no excuse for what you have done, Adrian. I love you and you are my cousin but as Ashley's friend, I can't do this." Sandra sighed, "The only advice I could give you is to leave her alone, don't search for her; let her live her life in peace."

"I can't do that; I love her too much."

"If you loved her you would have listened to her but you decided to believe that slut and your family. Leave her alone, Adrian; she had enough heartaches to last her a lifetime."

I looked at Sandra and knew she wouldn't tell me where to find Ashley.

I nodded my head and walked out.

I took out my phone and dialed Harry's number. "Where are you, man?" he asked as soon as he picked up.

"I'm on my way over. I need you to start searching for Ashley,
" I say before hanging up.

I won't give up.

I will find her with or without Sandra's help.

I'm coming for you, Ashley.

Sandra...

"How dare that son of a bitch barge in here and ask me where she is?" I yelled out as soon as he left.

"Calm down, babe," Brian says, taking me by the shoulders.

"I can't calm down, Brian. You weren't there when he chased her away. I have never seen her smile again after that day. It was like something in her died that day. She is only half the person she was back then. It is all his fault. He is the reason she only lives from day to day and, to be honest, if it weren't for the twins, I don't think she would still be here breathing. She loved him so much that she would have done anything for him," I said as I sobbed.

I can still see the hurt and pain in her eyes every time I see her; she doesn't have that sparkle in her eyes like before and it's all his fault and I will be damp if I let him close to her again.