

Four or Dead by G O A Chapter 13

Chapter 16

Emma...present...

“Emma Grace please report to the Vice Principal’s office.” My name came echoing out of the school loudspeaker in the middle of class.

Several people turned and looked at me, but I ignored their immature reactions.

I sighed and grabbed my stuff before heading toward my class door. Once outside though someone grabbed my arm and I turned to see Leo.

“What are you doing?” I asked him.

“I am not letting you go alone.” He said seriously and took my hand. 2

I didn’t bother arguing with him and turned to continue walking. When I arrive and pulled the door open I stopped to take in the scene. The Principal was sitting behind his desk with two men dressed in suits with no ties beside him.

“Miss Grace please come have a seat...Mr. Pierce, I am sure she can handle this conversation alone.” The principal said not bothering to be subtle in his attempt to get rid of Logan. (11)

“Not a chance,” Leo said walking in beside me.

We both took a seat across from the men and Leo reached over to take my hand and gave it a quick squeeze.

“Emma these men are detectives and they are investigating your claims toward your father.” The Principal explained with a tone of annoyance. “They have some questions for you.”

16

“Indeed we do and we do not require any more help so if you could please leave us to speak to Miss Grace alone that would be helpful.” One of the detectives said to the principal.

1

He started to object. “She is a student at my school and requires an advocate while being interviewed.” 2

"She is eighteen years old, a legal adult." The detectives reminded him. "She does not need anyone present to speak to us."

The principal gave me a look before standing and leaving the room muttering something under his breath. I turned my attention back to the detectives and swallowed nervously.

"Miss Grace we want to assure you that we are taking your case very seriously and do not wish to cause you any discomfort. However, if you are up to it we need a full account of what your father has done. He has strongly insisted on his innocence and although your documented injuries paint a picture of the amount of pain you endured, we can not prove he was behind them. You were not able to make a detailed statement at the hospital so we hoped you could now." One of the detectives said.

"So, you're saying that if she can't prove her father was the one who hurt her, you won't be able to charge him?" Leo asked.

"We take these cases very seriously but it is difficult to charge someone based on word alone. A history of

reported violence with physical proof would make her case stronger, but since there have been no

previous reports of abuse it is harder to make a case that will result in a long incarceration period." The detective admitted.

"And how do you expect her to make a better case? Send her back to him and film him beating the crap out of her? Would that be enough proof to appease the court? Or how about when he goes too far and kills her?" Leo's voice grew angry and I tried to calm him with a gentle squeeze of his hand but he was right.

"It's ok Leo," I said softly.

"No, it's not Emma! They are saying there is nothing they can do because it's your word against your father. They are going to let him go!" Leo all but yelled and turned his attention back to the detectives. with a look of disgust.

I turned to them as well. "Is that true? You're going to just let him go?"

The detectives lowered their eyes for a moment. "I'm sorry Miss Grace but without substantial evidence

and documented history, the case is weak. We can provide you with a restraining order but at this time there isn't much more we can do. We will continue investigating him but until we find something worth

charging.....yes we have to release him." The detective said with an apologetic look.

B

I let out a small laugh of disbelief. "So my father walks free and I have to watch over my shoulder until he comes for me."

I stood then. "Then there isn't any point telling you everything he has done since I can't prove any of it except for the injuries you already know about. Thank you for telling me, I'll be sure to watch my back. Come on Leo let's go."

Leo stood giving the detectives one last angry look before following me out of the office. He stopped me and pulled me into a hug when we were safe in the hall.

"I'm so sorry Emma, but you aren't alone anymore. We will protect you." He said confidently.

I wrapped my arms around him and hid my face in his shoulder. I missed his scent so much during our years apart and it was exactly the kind of comfort and familiarity I needed. After a few moments in silence, I pulled away.

"I know you guys will try but Leo there are no guarantees. My father is a powerful man and has a lot of connections. He will find a way to get to me." I told him.

"I won't let that happen, Emma! Never." Leo insisted.

I nod but I knew that if it came down to it, my father would kill them all to get me back. I didn't bother telling Leo this or why but he didn't need to know. If my father ever did find me I would finish what I started the day I put that gun to my head. There was no way I would fulfill the promises my father had made for my future. They would kill him for letting me go and I would be glad if they did, but then they

would come for me themselves.

There was nowhere I could run but it was sweet of Leo to offer. If for a moment the boys could be in danger though all bets were off. I would surrender before I let them get hurt because of me.

1

"Come on let's get back to class," Leo said grabbing my hand and threading our fingers together.

We walked silently back to class just as it was ending and the other boys stood quickly and surrounded me.

“What happened?” Logan asked glancing me up and down as if to check if I was hurt.

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I rested a hand on his arm. “I’m fine Logan. The police just wanted to talk to me.”

“They are letting her father go,” Leo growled through his clenched jaw.

I turned and gave him a pointed look as the others let out a string of curses and threats.

“Guys there is nothing that can be done. The police said as much.” I said turning to head to my next class.

1

Logan catches up to me and wraps his arm around me. “Babe I won’t let your father anywhere near you. I will kill him if he touches you again.”

I quirked a brow at him. “Babe?”

He flashed me his million-dollar smile. “Yeah! You’re our girl!”

2

I looked at him again with furrowed brows. “Your girl? What do you mean? How did asking for help mean I become your girl? Is that the price I have to pay for your help? Give you myself?”

He looked at me in confusion. “Wait Emma it’s not like that. I just meant...”

1

“What Logan? Is that the only reason you agreed to help me so you could pass me around? How does that make you guys any better than the men I need protection from?” My head was racing, and my heart hurt.

Had they planned to use me? How long would I have to give my body to them to pay for their help?

I looked at the others. Asher and Jayden both had unreadable expressions and Leo wouldn’t meet my eye.

I scoffed in disbelief and pushed past them.

“Emma!” Leo called out running up to me and grabbing my arm to stop me. “Come on that isn’t what

Logan meant.”

“No? Then how did he mean it? What does it mean to be The Dark Angel’s girl huh? I doubt that only includes protection. You guys want something from me, and I can’t believe after everything those men did to me you want me in the same way. You want to take from me the only thing I should have a choice to give, just like them. This was a mistake, I should have never asked for your help.” I didn’t wait for him to reply before walking away.

I had actually thought they had changed, that they cared about me now. I couldn’t have been more wrong.

