

## **King of the Underworld Chapter 301 - 310**

### **Chapter 301**

Adrik

“I bet Mommy was a drug addict, hmm? I bet she neglected you because she was too busy h\*\*king for drug money and when she wasn’t f\*\*king random dudes, she was probably so high she forgot she had a kid. How close am I?” Stephen said, a small smile on his face. The great thing about Stephen was his understanding of psychology. He only used it as a weapon when he got pushed past his point, which was incredibly rare, but he was well past his point when it came to what Armando did to Sephie. He knew how to mindf\*\*k a person better than anyone else and he enjoyed doing it.

Armando started to struggle again, trying to get free, again to no avail.

“That’s why you pick the women you pick. Sephie was

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

only partially wrong when she said you had a savior complex. You do have a savior complex, but you're also trying to recreate your mother in every girl you f\*\*k. You get them h\*\*ked on drugs so you can be their savior. But she was dead on accurate about your superiority complex. When the initial high of f\*\*king a new woman wears off, you either kill them or leave them as addicts, completely broken, because they disgust you. Just like mommy dearest. No wonder you need help sleeping at night," Stephen said.

Armando was still struggling to get free, but now he began yelling in Italian incoherently as loud as he could. His face was a deep shade of red as his anger took over completely. Viktor didn't say a word, he just took a bandana out, rolled it up, walked behind Armando, and gagged him with it. Because Armando's arms were tied to the chair, he could do nothing but take it.

"G\*\*damn yelling. I can't stand yelling. They were right. Your mother taught you zero manners while she was f\*\*king the whole town," Viktor said, walking back to the door of the room. Armando was still yelling, but now it was muffled by the w\*d of cloth

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

shoved in his mouth, which admittedly was much nicer than having to listen to him screaming.

“Ricardo and Lorenzo probably knew all of this when they chose you,” I said. As soon as I said they had chosen him, he glared at me. “Oh, they definitely chose you, Mando. You see, you might still be under the impression that you were ‘choosing’ Sephie to be your next conquest, but it’s really been you all along. You’ve been a puppet your whole life. Sephie, on the other hand, well, not only has she survived every single horrid situation she’s been put in, she’s made the perpetrator pay with his life. Don’t worry, you’re going to find this out firsthand soon enough,” I said. “You might think you’re above her, but it won’t feel like that when you’re dead and nobody remembers your name. And Sephie? She’s just getting started. The whole world will know her name.” I stood and watched as Armando struggled, still yelling, still angry beyond belief. I knew we’d found his weakness and I was planning on exploiting it even more. I wanted him to suffer as much as possible.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

I turned to the guys, who were standing behind me. I said, in Russian, “I think we should leave him to his thoughts for the night.”

They nodded in agreement. It had only been a little over an hour, but I was already missing Sephie. I needed to make sure she was okay. Viktor opened the door and walked out first, giving instructions to the guards.

On the elevator back to the penthouse, Stephen couldn’t help but laugh.

“Well, that was way more informative than I thought it was going to be.” We all joined him in laughing, because what else could we do in that situation. While there was a tiny part of me that might’ve felt bad for Armando under different circumstances, he sealed his fate when he took part in grabbing Sephie.

He just made sure his death was going to be slow and painful when he decided to beat her.

We walked quietly back into the penthouse, assuming that Sephie would be asleep. The TV was on, which was a rare occurrence for us, and the three of them were somehow all lying on the couch together, with Sephie in the middle still wrapped

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

up like a burrito in a blanket. She was sound asleep, against Andrei, with his arm around her to keep her warm, with Misha laying in the opposite direction, holding onto her legs. I looked at them, clearly amused by the scene.

“She got really cold when you left. This was the only solution that kept her warm,” Andrei said. Misha slowly untangled himself from her legs. I watched him do it and still had no clue how he was lying the way he was and still able to watch the movie. Or how there was room on the couch for all three of them. Andrei and Misha were not small men.

“We offered to help her to bed when she started to get sleepy, but she didn’t want to be alone. She said she still didn’t trust that she wouldn’t start shaking,” Misha said.

“You don’t have to justify anything to me. That’s why I left you two with her,” I said, laughing quietly. I walked to the couch, looking down at her and Andrei, trying to weigh my options. It was not as easy to pick her up and carry her to bed now that she was hurt.

Moving her was painful. I hated to wake her up, but I didn’t see a way around it given the way she’d fallen asleep against Andrei.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

I looked at him, saying, “tighten your grip just a little so she doesn’t move when she starts to wake up.” He nodded and I could see his arm flex around her. I knelt down in front of her, my hand against her cheek. “Sephie, I need you to wake up,” I said softly, my thumb rubbing her cheek lightly. She mumbled in her sleep and started to move, but Andrei stopped her. Her eyes opened, seeing me in front of her. I was immediately hit with her warmth, causing me to smile at her.

“You’re back,” she said, quietly, lazily blinking away the sleep.

“Come on, let’s get you to bed. I didn’t want to hurt you by moving you in your sleep,” I said. “I still don’t understand how the three of you could fit on that couch.”

Her gorgeous smile made my heart threaten to stop. “It’s simple, really.

Magic,” she said as she started to try and unwrap herself

from the blanket. Andrei helped her and then kept hold of her as he sat up slowly while I moved her legs so she was sitting. She

was able to stand up almost on her own, with only a little bit of help from me this time. “How long have you been gone? What

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

time is it?" she asked. Ivan answered her, telling her we'd only been gone a little under two hours. "I can take more superprofen before I go back to bed, then," she said, walking slowly toward the kitchen. I caught her, steering her toward the bedroom instead.

"I'll get it, love. It'll be faster this way," I said, grinning at her.

"Solid logic," she said, walking toward the bedroom.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**  
<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>

## Chapter 302

### Chapter Three Hundred Two

#### Sephie

I managed to sleep through the entire night. I'm not even sure I moved at all once I went back to bed. I was so happy to be in our bed, with Adrik next to me. I was warm, I was comfortable, it was Heaven. Instead of trying to position me to lay on his chest, I slept on my good side, my back pressed against him, and under the covers. It helped me stay warm, which helped me sleep the whole night.

I felt him start to stir and felt his grip on me tighten slightly as he tried to wake me up, but made sure I wouldn't move too suddenly. I opened my eyes, but was disappointed that I couldn't see him right away. "I like it much better when I can see you first thing when I open my eyes," I said, still feeling very sleepy. I felt the vibration in his chest as he laughed quietly at me. He moved so his cheek was against my neck, brushing his facial hair against my neck softly. I felt his lips on my neck, kissing me

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



softly. "I also like it much better when I can respond without completely killing the pleasure," I said.

He laughed again, but pulled his arm from under my head. He got up and moved so he was lying in front of me, his boyish grin on his face. "Better?" he asked as he lied down in front of me, his hand on my cheek.

"Much," I said, feeling the warmth that I always felt when I thought about just how much I loved him.

"You slept the whole night. I'm surprised," he said.

"I was happy to be back in this bed, apparently. With you," I said, loving the feel of his hand running lightly over my face and neck. "You weren't gone very long last night. I expected it to be later when you got back." I closed my eyes again, concentrating on the feeling of his touch.

"We got unexpected information from Armando that made it clear he needed to have to sit with it overnight," he said. I opened my eyes, curious as to what information they could've found out that would've prolonged things. Adrik laughed. "As Stephen put it, he has mommy issues," he said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Does he now? What kind of mommy issues?” I asked.

“Stephen nailed it. That guy will use psychology as a weapon when he wants to. He’s just as good as you about figuring people

out, he just doesn’t want to until he wants to destroy the person,” he said.

I smiled. “Stephen is much like Ivan, but instead of not wanting anyone to know how wise he is to protect his peace, Stephen

doesn’t want anyone to know how wise he is because he’s insecure about his knowledge. I’m guessing his parents were hard on

him or he had a sibling that told him he was stupid a lot as a kid. He’s still not over it, which is hilarious because he’s seriously

one of the smartest people I know.”

Adrik just grinned at me. “You two should start working together. No secret is safe.”

I laughed weakly, trying to not cause pain in my ribs. “What did he say about Armando?”

“I’m still not sure if he was guessing or if he knew for sure, but he said

Armando’s mom was probably an addict and h\*\*ked to get

money for drugs. He said she likely neglected him because she was always either whoring or so high she forgot she even had a

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

son.”

1/3

It suddenly all made sense. My eyes went wide as I said, “that’s why he chooses the women he does and why he gets them addicted. He’s trying to be their savior, but then he’s disgusted that they become addicts like his mom so he disposes of them.”

Adrik just laughed at me. “I’m going to have to start paying Vinny more. You and Stephen both are going to need more sandwiches. That’s exactly what he said, too.”

I suddenly remembered my extra sandwich from the day before that I hadn’t eaten yet. My stomach also remembered. Adrik just laughed. “I had to bring up Vinny’s,” he said, shaking his head as he got up to help me out of bed.

“What else did you find out last night?” I asked as I stood up slowly to walk to the bathroom.

“Not much.” Adrik said as he walked to the closet. He could talk loud enough that he kept talking to me while I was in the bathroom and he was grabbing me clothes in the closet. “He said he thinks that he and I are a lot alike, which i found amusing.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

And I think he's still under the impression that he thinks Ricardo and Lorenzo are coming to save him."

I felt momentary panic at his last sentence. When I didn't respond right away, Adrik poked his head in the bathroom. His face softened as he walked to me, frozen in place in front of the sink. "They're not coming to save him, love. He's outlived his usefulness to them now. They don't care about him. Besides, Lorenzo is dead. So is Anthony. I still don't know that much about Ricardo, but he's at least smarter than Armando. He knows he can't do anything against me. Especially not without Lorenzo."

"They're dead? When did that happen?" I asked. He started to help me with the shirt of his I'd worn to bed last night. He walked to the shower, turning the water on, then back to me to help me finish getting completely undressed. I held my braid up, asking, "can you tie this up for me? Then I don't have to wash it. Viktor can redo it later. I don't want to be in the shower that long this time."

"Of course, solnishko," he said as he tried to figure out how to do it. He'd watched me put my hair up a million times, but it's one

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

thing to watch and another to do. He answered my first question as he worked on my hair. “Trino took care of Tony and Enzo the same time we came to get you and Ivan. We still weren’t completely sure who else took you, but we were hoping Sal was involved and would be at the building so we could take care of him at the same time.”

“But what’s Sal going to do when he finds out?” I asked.

“He doesn’t know, yet. I called Trino from the hospital and asked him to keep it quiet until you were out of the hospital. I need to call him later today. Once he’s had time to wake up,” he said. He had managed to take the braid out and put my hair up in a very messy bun. It was out of my way and it meant I could be in the shower for a shorter time, so I was very happy with the results.

“Trino knows I was taken?” I asked as he started to take my arm out of my sling. I held onto it with my right arm as much as I could. It didn’t hurt quite as much today, but it was still extremely painful.

“Trino knew you were taken a few hours after it happened. Gus and Oscar called him to tell him about the warehouses. They told

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

him then.” He helped me into the shower. The warm water did help me relax, but only slightly. My shoulder was still more painful than I would’ve liked. “I’ll hurry,” he said. I knew he felt my pain,

2.3

so I didn’t even bother to try and hide it from him.

“How is Trino going to tell Sal?” I asked, trying to focus more on Adrik’s hands on me instead of the pain in my side and shoulder.

“I’m not sure. I just asked him to wait. I didn’t ask for details. I called him right after I got into bed with you in the hospital. I was more worried about you than anything else so I didn’t really even think to ask for details.” He stood in front of me, his s\*xy smirk on his face. I felt the pull in my chest that I knew was from him as he leaned down to kiss me. Suddenly the pain in my side and shoulder were now in the background. His desire for me was the strongest feeling I could feel. I moaned quietly in his mouth as I relished the break from pain that he offered. He kissed me harder, his desire for me growing. I wanted him to be able to pull me close, but I also knew it would likely cause me extreme pain. I couldn’t even use my one good hand to touch him right now

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

without risking extreme pain when I let go of my cast. He pulled back slightly, so he could see me, both of his hands on either side of my face still. I saw the familiar look in his eyes that said mine were dark. He was both incredibly aroused, but also perplexed.

“I’m frustrated. I can’t touch you without pain right now and you can’t hold me like I want you to without pain right now. It’s very frustrating,” I said. He leaned down and kissed me once more, gently, then turned the water off.

“Let’s get your arm strapped down again. At least that will take care of one thing on your list,” he said as he grabbed a towel for me.

“What do you wanna bet Trino comes up with some amazing scheme to announce to Sal that Tony and Enzo are dead? Like he has their heads delivered to Sal. First class, of course,” I said, trying not to laugh too hard as Adrik helped me get dressed.

“I’ll make sure to ask him when I call him today. I’m sure he’ll want to talk to you, too. He was worried about you. Everyone was

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

worried about you,” he said, helping me get my arm strapped back down. I took in as deep of a breath as I could manage once my arm was secured and mostly weightless on my shoulder again.

“They don’t know I’m hard to kill,” I said, grinning at him.

“I think we should keep it that way,” he said.

Sarah A\*bott

she so strong and I’m still in love with this boo

anyone else wondering where the hell Giana is now? absolutely no mention of her for ages now

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



## Chapter 303

### Chapter Three Hundred Three

#### Sephie

The guys were already in the penthouse when we walked out. “What time do you psychos wake up every morning? You’re always faster than us,” I said walking up to Ivan, who I knew for a fact woke up at st\*pid hours of the morning, putting my good arm around his shoulders. I loved that he was so tall, I didn’t have to lean down to reach him even when he was sitting at the kitchen island.

He looked up at me, his face softening. “You look better this morning, princess. You must’ve slept better last night,” he said.

“She slept the entire night. We both needed it,” Adrik said. He immediately looked at me, with a stern look. He knew I was going to feel guilty for that. I just stuck my tongue out at him, holding my ribs so I could laugh. Stephen was next to Ivan, so I moved to him. “I heard you left Armando vulnerably diagnosed last night. What else did you learn while you were reading his thoughts, my favorite vampire?” I asked as I slid my arm around his shoulders.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

He grabbed my wrist and held onto it gently as he laughed. "I hope he didn't get any sleep last night. He has no one to blame but himself," he said.

"The guys that are on him said he didn't sleep. He was quiet for long enough that they tried to take the gag out. He started yelling again almost immediately, so they put it back in," Viktor said, laughing his deep belly laugh.

"You guys had to gag him? I didn't know that part," I said, somewhat surprised.

"He might've started yelling in Italian at some point. I can't stand yelling. So, I shut him up," Viktor said, still laughing.

"Do you have a camera on him? Do you want to know what he said?" I asked, walking back toward Adrik.

Adrik walked the rest of the way to me, pulling me against him gently. "I don't want you to ever have to see him again, love. It's not important," he said, kissing my cheek, then rubbing his cheek gently against mine.

"But how do you know it's not important if you don't know what he said," I said, leaning into him.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“He started yelling after I vulnerably diagnosed him, as you say,” Stephen said. “I would think he was likely telling me off and trying to disprove my theory. You saw him once the polished exterior began to c\*ack. He lost control of his anger quickly. I would bet good money that’s what happened last night. It happened again when Boss told him he’d been chosen specifically for that reason.”

“Wait, what reason?” I asked.

“Boss told him that Ricardo and Lorenzo had picked Armando because he was easy to control and likely because they knew he had issues,” Viktor said.

“Mommy issues,” Ivan said, giving me his most mischievous grin.

“Definite mommy issues,” I agreed. “What happened after that?” I asked.

“That’s when we left him. I want to break him before he dies,” Adrik said, very matter-of-factly. Instead of being shocked at his admission, like some part of me knew I should be, I found myself agreeing with him. I fully supported him breaking Armando before he killed him. For me, there was no question that I wanted that to happen. I don’t know how I feel about this.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

Adrik had cleared his schedule, except for Armando, until I got more mobile. He still wasn't comfortable with having any conversations in his office for the time being. It wasn't that it wasn't secure, but there were plenty of people in the office during the day. It was too much of a risk, regardless of whether we were speaking Russian or not. He would deal with Armando at night, once everyone in the office went home. Since Armando was loud, he wouldn't risk anyone in the office hearing him. They kept him gagged during the day, just in case.

I also knew that he simply didn't want to be apart from me. We hadn't discussed it yet, but I could feel his unease at the thought of having to leave me just for the short time last night. I knew he would struggle to come to terms with this incident, much like he struggled after the ball.

That's the funny thing about life. You find something that you think you can't live without and life has a way of showing you that you can. It might seem cruel to some, but the universe, G\*d, whatever you want to believe in just wants you to know how

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

powerful you are. Nothing more. It's not out to get you. It's just out to show you what you can handle.

The day passed much like the day before, with me translating in between naps. The acupuncturist came back again in the early afternoon, which helped my pain levels. My appetite was beginning to normalize, as well. Misha ended up eating my extra sandwich that Andrei made sure to get for me, despite Andrei's protests. After the acupuncturist left, Adrik called Trino to fill him in. He put the call on speaker so we could all hear.

"Jefe, how's your sweet angel?" Trino asked when he answered the call.

"She's home now, Trino. She's still in a lot of pain, but she's going to be okay," Adrik said. We could hear Trino cursing in Spanish on the other end.

"And Armando? Have you killed him for it yet?"

"No, he's currently suffering for what he did to me," I said,

"Miha. I can't tell you how wonderful it is to hear your voice. I've been worried about you. I'm relieved to hear that you're going to be okay," he said. Trino was rarely 100% serious when he talked, usually only when he was angry, but he was incredibly genuine

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

when he spoke to me.

“Don’t go all soft on me now, Trino,” I said, trying not to laugh too loudly.

“There’s still the matter of how dramatically you’re going to end Massimo.”

Trino laughed. “He thinks I’m going to let him live. He doesn’t know about Anthony and Lorenzo yet, but he will soon enough.

Everyone will soon enough, as soon as Jefe gives me the okay.”

As Trino was talking, I heard background noise that wasn’t the usual background noise from Colombia. I heard someone yelling in English and cars h\*inking like he was in the city. I looked at Adrik, who hadn’t heard it and mouthed ‘keep him talking for a minute.’ Then I motioned for Misha to come to me. We stepped away slightly from Adrik so Trino couldn’t hear us.

“I want to try something. I think Trino is in the city, can you see him?” I asked Misha as I took his hand. He got his faraway look in his eye and suddenly we could both see Trino. In the city. He was with Gus and Oscar. We could also see Trino’s normal security guys with him. We could see him talking to Adrik on the phone, then it was like someone hit the fast forward button. We could

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

see him outside a house, but hidden, watching as packages were delivered. He was like a kid, excited to play a prank on someone. Misha squeezed my hand and said quietly, “that’s Sal’s house.” “Oh, dear G\*d, I know what he’s doing,” I said. I felt Misha squeeze my hand and knew that he had also seen what Trino’s plan was. Once I let go of Misha’s hand, the vision stopped for both of us. I walked back over to Adrik and whispered in his ear, “ask him if he wants to meet while he’s in the city.” Adrik looked surprised, but glanced to Misha who confirmed it. As the conversation was wrapping up, Adrik said, “and we should meet while you’re here. It’s not often you make it to the city.” “Dios mio, how did you know. No one knows I’m here yet,” Trino said, completely surprised. “Have you met Sephie?” Adrik said, laughing. “Literally nothing gets by her.” “How did she know?” “If I told you that, I’d have to kill you, Trino. And I’ll be incredibly offended if you’re here and don’t at least stop by to say hi,” I said as Adrik put one arm around my hips to gingerly pull me closer to him.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Miha, it’s because of you that I didn’t tell Jefe. I didn’t want it to be too much for you. You need time to heal,” he said.

“I appreciate your concern, Trino. But I’m fine. It would be good to see you again,” I said.

“Miha, how could I say no? I should come before I let Sal know about Anthony and Lorenzo. It’s going to get crazy after that, I’m sure.”

I put my hand over my mouth so I wouldn’t say anything and give away that I knew what his plan was. Adrik looked at me curiously. Misha was also trying to hold in his laughter. Adrik finished the conversation, then looked to both me and Misha for explanation. I started giggling and couldn’t stop myself, so Misha had to answer. “He’s going to deliver their heads to Sal’s front door.”

Adrik’s eyes went wide, looking straight at me. “How do you do that??” he asked.

“We saw it while you were on the phone,” Misha said.

“No, she knew that was happening this morning, before I talked to Trino. She said that’s what he was going to do after our

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

shower,” Adrik said. The guys all looked at me now, still giggling, but now holding my ribs.

“Apparently Trino’s flair for the dramatic is something I’m clearly tapped into,” I said.

“We should tell him to record it so we can show it to Armando. He’s still holding out hope that they’re going to come save him,” Ivan said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

## Chapter 304

### Chapter Three Hundred Four

#### Sephie

Trino stopped by the building a few hours later, with Gus and Oscar. I was surprised to see Chen with them as well. Instead of bringing all those people to the penthouse, I assured Adrik I'd be okay in his office for a while.

"Chen, I'm surprised you're here too," I said as they walked into the office. I hadn't sat down yet, as I didn't want to be rude when everyone walked in. Chen clearly looked relieved to see me and walked toward me. Of course, Adrik was by my side, with Ivan and the rest of the guys close by as well. Chen glanced at Adrik, who tried to put him at ease right away. "It's good to see you again, Chen," he said, extending his hand to him. Trino walked in soon after Chen, so Adrik kissed my temple gently and walked to him. Chen took the opportunity to hug me, but not before Adrik warned him. "Gently," he said sternly, as he walked away.

"How are you, my girl?" Chen asked quietly.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“I mean, I’ve been better, but I’m here, so that counts,” I said, smiling at him.

“I see you’ve met Trino finally.”

“Yeah, you were right. Good dude. They told me they were coming to see you, so I wanted to tag along. I almost called your

giant secretary to check on you, but I didn’t want to be a bother,” he said.

Viktor was close enough that he heard Chen. “It wouldn’t be a bother, Chen.

You can call anytime,” Viktor said. He winked at me

when I turned to smile at him, which caused Chen to relax a little more.

Adrik walked back to me, with Trino beside him. Chen took a few steps away to give them room. The look on Trino’s face was

one of slight horror. Here I thought I was starting to look better. I grabbed my ribs so I could laugh slightly. “You’re not good for

my self-esteem when you look at me like that, Trino. I thought I was starting to look better,” I said, smiling at him. Once he saw

me smile, his face softened and he relaxed.

“Miha, forgive me. I was not expecting...”

“The colors? I know. They’re impressive when you first see them. You should see my stomach. It’s like a unicorn beat me up,

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

really,” I said. Adrik clicked his tongue at me, but he was smirking at me, nonetheless.

Trino looked to Ivan. Pointing at him, he said, “he doesn’t look much better, but you’re more colorful.”

“She likes to live life in technicolor, Trino,” Ivan said, grinning at me. I grabbed my ribs to laugh again. It was getting the slightest bit easier to do normal things like laugh, but there was still tremendous pain involved. I wasn’t sure if it was actually getting better or if I was just getting used to the pain.

“Trino, please sit. You can tell me why you decided to come to the city and tried to avoid seeing us,” I said, smiling at him. Misha and Andrei moved to help me, as Adrik sat on one of the couches first so they could put me in his lap. I leaned back against him, crossing my legs in between his.

Trino laughed again, once again asking for my forgiveness. “Miha, I meant no disrespect. I just knew that if they had managed to put you in the hospital, it likely wasn’t good. I didn’t want to cause you more pain by having to see me. I came to the city to

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

personally deliver Anthony and Lorenzo to Sal, so he couldn't mistake the message. I want to see the look on his face," he said

"When he opens the boxes and sees their heads?" I asked. Trino's expression quickly went to one of complete shock.

"How, Miha? I haven't..."

"It's the most dramatic way I could think of. Turns out I was right," I said. All the guys, including Adrik, laughed since they knew the real truth. Misha caught my eye and smiled his handsome, wide smile at me. "I enjoy your flair for the dramatic. It's one of my favorite things about you, Trino."

Trino laughed. Oscar, who had been quiet to this point, said, "mine's better." Gus smacked his shoulder, but laughed at him.

"Yours is quite good as well, Oscar. I never got a chance to thank you for helping them get me and Ivan out. I know it was you and Andrei that created the distraction so they could ask nicely for us back," I said. "And thank you Gus and Chen for helping to find us. You're all the best."

"Word has gotten out about what happened, Sephie. The people in the city aren't happy with Sal or the other bosses, for that

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

matter. It might've been Sal and Armando that took you, but the people know the other bosses were involved somehow. Or at least complicit. They're thankful to Ghost for stopping the plan for the brawn, but they heard about you being taken and they're p\*ssed. The people love you," Gus said.

It was my turn to be shocked. "The people don't know me. How can they love me?"

"They know enough. They've seen you around town. You're always smiling and nice to everyone. You're like the fairytale princess for them," Gus said.

Ivan snapped his fingers and pointed to me, "called it." I laughed before I could grab my ribs, so I ended up cursing while still laughing.

"You have to like give me warning before you make my laugh now," I said. We talked for a while, before Gus brought up Armando. "Is he still alive?" he asked.

I felt Adrik nod his head, tightening his hold around me just slightly. "We got some unexpected information about him last night. I might be enjoying breaking his mind completely before he dies," he said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

Trino laughed. "This is why I like you so much, Jefe."

Trino stayed until well after the sun went down, making it the perfect time to deliver his surprise to Sal. He really was like a kid

that was waiting to pull a prank on someone. It was just how Misha and I saw it earlier. The excitement on his face was unmistakable.

As everyone left, I looked at the guys saying, "I think we should come up with possible theories on what Sal's going to do when he opens his early Christmas gifts. I think there's a good chance he'll get scared and run, but I also think I underestimated his psychosis. He might go full monster and go after Trino, then us."

"I say run," Ivan said. "I think a lot of his bravado was backed by Lorenzo. I think it's pretty clear he's the smarter of those two."

"I think Ricardo is the wild card in this situation, too. I'm wondering if he's going to step into Lorenzo's role and start pulling the strings for Sal now that his brother is dead," Stephen said.

"It does make me wonder how he's stayed out of the spotlight for so many years, but had so much control over Armando," Viktor said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Was he connected to the boss that Armando replaced?” I asked. We hadn’t given much thought to that boss. I saw a lightbulb moment for Viktor and Stephen when I asked my question. I smiled at them, motioning for Andrei to help me up. “We clearly need to go back upstairs,” I said.

It didn’t take Viktor long to find a link between Ricardo and Giovanni, the boss before Armando took over. “That explains why Armando picked the surname he’s been using all these years, too. It’s what connects Ricardo and Giovanni. That’s why it looked like Ricardo and Armando were distantly related. It looks like he’s distantly related to Giovanni too, if you believe his fake last name,” Viktor said.

“Ricardo had to have told him to use that name then. Probably before he ever became an underboss for Giovanni,” I said. “It was just distant enough that nobody would really think it was a lie, but just believable enough that no one would question it.”

It was only a short time later that Adrik’s phone beeped. He looked at it, finding a video of Sal finding the boxes with Anthony’s

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



and Lorenzo's heads in them. Trino was thoughtful enough to show us what was in the boxes before they were left on Sal's doorstep, just for Armando. When Adrik showed me the video, he covered my eyes for that part. "You don't need to see that, solnishko," he said. It was only a few seconds and he pulled his hand from my eyes. I wasn't going to argue. It wasn't something I was desperate to see.

It wasn't something that Sal wanted to see, either. He was clearly distraught. Trino timed it so that Sal found the boxes as he was coming home. He'd apparently been having him watched so he knew when to time it just right so that it was indeed Sal to open the boxes and not one of his men. Sal was shocked, angry, distraught, and inconsolable in the span of a few minutes. He immediately got on his phone, but the audio wasn't close enough that we could understand what he was saying. Whoever he was calling, didn't pick up. He tried another call. Once again, no answer. It suddenly hit me. "He just called them," I said. "He just called Anthony and Lorenzo. He doesn't believe it's them in the boxes."

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

Stephen said out loud what I was thinking. “If it wasn’t Sal, this would be heartbreaking.”

“I’m going to enjoy watching Armando see this,” Ivan said. “He might be so crushed that we don’t even need to kill him. He’ll suffer the rest of his life as a poor man.”

“You might be on to something, Super Squish. If I had two functioning arms, I’d be able to hug you. But alas, here I lie.

Completely useless,” I said, grinning at him.

“Not completely useless, sestrichka. Your brain still works,” Viktor said, laughing his deep belly laugh that always made everyone around him happier for hearing it.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

## Chapter 305

### Chapter Three Hundred Five

#### Sephie

Adrik left me with Andrei and Misha once again so he could go back downstairs to deal with Armando. He wanted Armando to see the video and to know that Lorenzo was dead. After they left, Andrei had questions about Misha's ability to see things. "Does it work on just anybody? Like could you pick a random person and just spy on them?" he asked.

"I don't know. I've never tried that," Misha said.

"How have you never tried that? That would've been the first thing I tried," Andrei said, laughing.

"Who do you want to know about, Bubba?" I asked.

Before Andrei could answer, Misha answered for him. "Tori." I looked to Andrei, shocked that he would be curious about her still, even after everything. But I had to admit, I was curious about Max as well, so I couldn't give him too much sh\*t.

"Okay, I can't say much here. I'm curious about Max too," I said when Andrei looked somewhat worried about what we'd think of

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

him. Misha got the faraway look in his eye that meant he was trying to see what he could about either one of them. He tried for a few minutes, but got nothing. I unwrapped my hand from the blanket, stretching it out to him. “What if I help?” I asked. He moved closer to me, as I was leaning against Andrei for maximum warmth. He grabbed my hand, then said, “Tori first.” I nodded my head, trying to think about Tori. It took longer than normal, but we eventually saw her. She was in a house, sitting in a leather chair, having a conversation with an older man that I didn’t recognize immediately. She looked comfortable, like she knew the man. They were clearly having a pleasant conversation. She was intently listening to what he was saying, he appeared to be captivated by her response. Misha squeezed my hand, which usually meant he knew something I didn’t. “That’s one of Sal’s underbosses,” he said. “Well, that’s an interesting twist I wasn’t expecting,” I said. The vision stopped when we started talking. I looked to Andrei, curious. “What made you want to know about Tori, Bubba? Did something happen?”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

He shook his head no. "I haven't heard anything from her since the day Boss fired her. But I've always been worried she was going to try and retaliate after he fired her. I thought Max was it, but then when you cut ties with Max completely, she likely figured out that plan wasn't going to work. Her level of crazy was much higher than I think anyone else realizes."

"She did get fired twice because of me," I said.

"It's more than that, spider monkey. She hated you before there was a reason to hate you. Getting fired just added fuel to the fire.

If she's talking to one of Sal's underbosses, that can't be good. She knows where the house is," Andrei said.

"Would she be that stupid though?" I asked.

"Hate makes people do a lot of crazy things, gazelle. I don't put anything past her. I do want to know how she knows Sal's guy, though," Misha said.

"Do you know his name? Viktor can find out, I'm sure. He can find out anything, apparently," I said.

"I don't remember his name, but I know what he looks like. We keep records. I can find his name tomorrow,"

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

Misha said.

“How do we get sound next time?” I asked. “I wanted to hear what she was saying, but couldn’t.”

Misha laughed. “You’re seriously asking me? You know more than I know, Sephie.”

“Well, that’s not helpful. I don’t know anything,” I said, holding my ribs so I could laugh.

“I think all you have to do is assume it’s going to happen and let it,” Andrei said. “The weird stuff seems to be happening faster now. It’ll happen soon. Much like your training, spider monkey, sometimes the power is in the surrender.”

“Bubba, how did you get to be so smart and so pretty at the same time?” I asked, grinning at him.

“I don’t know, spider monkey. I just woke up like this,” Andrei said, trying to keep a straight face.

I almost didn’t grab my ribs in time for the laughter to hit. “D\*mmit, warning!” I said, still laughing.

“Okay, now I’m curious about whether we can see Max,” Misha said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

Andrei laughed at him. “I can’t believe you’ve never thought to try this before now.”

I put my hand out for Misha and thought about Max this time. This time wasn’t any faster, but we did eventually see him. He was at work, flirting with the women at the bar like normal. Unlike the scene with Tori, the fast forward button was hit and we were watching another scene unfold. The same man that Tori had been talking to was following Max as he was leaving the restaurant.

Max, as usual, was texting and not paying attention to his surroundings, so he had no idea the man was behind him. Misha and I watched as the man walked up behind Max, pulled a gun, and shot him. I thought I screamed in my head, but Andrei was holding onto me once the vision stopped, trying to console me.

“What did you see, spider monkey? What happened?” he asked. He was clearly concerned, his arm tight around me.

“We just watched Max die,” Misha said.

“Oh f\*\*k,” Andrei said.

Adrik

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

1

Armando's eye was slightly less swollen tonight than it had been last night, so he could open it farther than he'd been able to previously. Good. He'll be able to see the video more clearly. I walked into the room with Viktor, Ivan, and Stephen. Armando stayed quiet, partly because the gag was still in his mouth, partly because he was waiting to see what I said first this time. He had decidedly less bravado tonight than last night.

"I have something you need to see," I said. Armando looked at me, trying to remain calm and not let on that he was nervous. I took my phone out of my pocket and held it for Armando to watch the video. You could clearly hear Trino's voice in the video, warning anyone that tried to betray him in the future. What happened to Anthony and Lorenzo was a message to anyone who considered going against him in the future. The message was loud and clear when the video panned down to show their heads in the boxes.

Armando was stunned when he saw the video. We could see his brain trying to come up with alternatives. He really was still

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



convinced that Lorenzo was coming to save him. His brain was struggling to process the information that he might not be getting out of here now.

I let him try to think his way out of his situation for quite a while. It was probably close to 20 minutes that I let him stew before saying anything. I couldn't deny that I got extreme satisfaction from watching him try to think of a way to save himself now. The guys were also enjoying watching him. It was obvious what was happening. Finally, I got up and stood in front of him. "I bet you're really wishing you'd taken Sephie's advice and jumped off the roof when she told you to, aren't you?"

He looked at me, with the look of a man that knows he's going to die. I'd seen the look plenty of times in my life. He was slowly giving up. He was slowly accepting his fate and coming to the realization that he was going to have to pay for what he did to Sephie.

I was standing in front of him, enjoying the silence as it was tormenting him more than I thought it would. I suddenly got hit with

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

panic. I knew it wasn't mine. I knew it had to be Sephie. I waited to see if it passed, as I didn't want to run upstairs if she'd fallen asleep and forgotten she couldn't move, but it was growing stronger. I felt the pull in my chest so strongly that it was hard to ignore. I needed to go to her. I looked at Armando, then to the guys. I nodded my head toward the door, indicating we were going to leave. We walked out without another word.

Once outside, Ivan asked, "something happened upstairs didn't it?" "She's panicked, but I don't know why. It's getting stronger, which is why I wanted to leave," I said as I walked quickly to the elevator.

"Armando will torture himself if we leave him in silence. This actually works out perfectly," Stephen said.

"How did you know something happened with Sephie?" I asked Ivan once we were on the elevator.

"Apparently I can feel her panic now too. It came on suddenly, but strong. I saw you glance away from Armando right after I felt it, then to the door, like you were deciding if you wanted to leave. The feeling didn't go away, which is why I assume we're on our

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

way upstairs,” Ivan said as the doors to the elevator opened.

We rushed into the penthouse to find Andrei and Misha with her on the couch. They all looked panicked, quite frankly.

“What happened?” I said, rushing to Sephie. “Are you okay? Why are you panicked?”

“Oh sh\*t, I’m sorry. I didn’t mean to pull you from downstairs,” Sephie said as I knelt down in front of her.

Andrei still had his arm around her, trying to keep her calm, but he looked just as nervous as she felt.

“We both felt it this time,” Ivan said. “What’s going on? What happened?”

“I asked Misha if he could see just anybody in his visions. I haven’t been able to get Tori off my mind the last day or two. Like something doesn’t feel right, but I don’t know what. They were able to see her talking to one of Sal’s underbosses, but we don’t know which one. Then Sephie was curious about Max, so they tried it with him. He was at work, like usual, then they said it fast forwarded and he was leaving work, not paying attention to his surroundings, like usual, and the underboss that Tori was talking

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

to walked up behind him and shot him in the head,” Andrei said. “That’s when she panicked.”

I looked to Misha. “Do you know when this is happening? Has it already happened?”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

## Chapter 306

### Chapter Three Hundred Six

Adrik

I don't know. This is all so new to me. When we saw him at work, I think that's where he is now. I don't know if the underboss is planning on doing it tonight or if it's another night we saw. I don't know how much his life got fast forwarded," Misha said.

I looked at my watch, then back to Sephie, who was fighting back tears now. "What time did you usually get done with work? It was always well after midnight, right?" I asked.

She nodded. "Usually between 1-2 on busy nights, by the time we got all our chores done for the next shift."

It was still early. I looked at Viktor. "Go downstairs and get the files for the underbosses for Sal so we know which one we're looking for." He nodded and walked toward the door. I turned and looked at Stephen. "The back parking lot of the restaurant was easy to cover, if I remember correctly? You had a good vantage point?"

"Yeah, super easy. Open. I could see everything," Stephen said. "I'll be able to get the underboss before he gets Max, if that's

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

where your mind is going.”

Sephie’s eyes got even wider as she realized what I was planning. “But you hate Max...”

“Doesn’t mean he deserves to die like this, love,” I said. “Tori might be a different story, but Max is innocent in this one.” She made a slight move toward me, but winced in pain. Andrei helped her sit up and I pulled her toward me. She wrapped her right arm around my shoulders, burying her face in my neck. I could feel the panic subside slowly.

Viktor walked back in with the files, showing them to Misha. He looked through a couple, then found the guy. “That’s him. That’s the guy we saw Tori with and the guy that was in the parking lot with Max,” he said.

“We stop this, we stop her next. She can’t get away with this,” Andrei said, his anger clearly visible. He looked to Misha, asking, “can you find her again once this is over?”

Misha shrugged his shoulders. “I’m not sure. I might need Sephie’s help again, but if we found her tonight, I’d assume I can find her again.”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Good. She and I are going to have a very difficult conversation,” Andrei said. “Go. Stop this if you can. Do what you want to her,” I said. “Ivan stays. The rest of you can go.” Andrei and Misha stood up from the couch, following Viktor and Stephen out of the penthouse. Sephie took as deep a breath as she could once they left, still trying to relax. She lifted her head from my neck, looking at me. The tears in her eyes making the colors in her eyes dance in the light.

“Thank you. I’m sorry I pulled you from downstairs,” she said, looking between me and Ivan.

“I think it actually worked out perfectly, princess. Armando is going to do all the work for us tonight,” Ivan said, his devious grin across his face.

I kissed her gently, then moved to the couch with her, pulling her back against me. “How so?” she asked.

“He saw the video that Trino sent. It did not go well for him,” Ivan said.

“He really was still thinking that Lorenzo was coming to save him. His brain was trying to come up with alternative theories on

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

how to get himself out of this situation. It was clearly difficult for him. I was letting him stew in the silence when I felt your panic.

When it grew stronger, I made the decision to leave him. Stephen pointed out on the way up here that it would likely serve to torture him even more that we left without a word,” I said.

“He’s not a fan of silence,” Sephie said, a small smile on her face. She looked to Ivan. “You said you felt me panic this time too?”

“Yeah, same time as Boss. I saw him look away from Armando, like he was considering his options. He never loses focus in that kind of a situation, so I knew he had to be feeling the same thing I was and I knew you were the only thing that could pull his focus away from the situation at hand,” Ivan said.

She took another deep breath. I could feel her body starting to tense again. “I didn’t mean to pull you guys away. I don’t want to constantly be interrupting your schedule,” she said.

“You seem to think you’re pulling us away for insignificant reasons. Not once have you interrupted my schedule because you broke a nail, Sephie. It’s always for very important reasons. You are the most important reason,” I said, pulling her closer against

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



me. She leaned her head onto my shoulder, still lost in thought.

“Have you been able to feel anything else from me, Super Squish?” she asked Ivan.

“No, this is the first one. It makes sense though. You don’t panic easily. If you’re panicked, it’s likely because you’re in danger. It seems reasonable to me that I’d be able to feel that before anything else,” he said.

“You’re so logical,” she said. I could hear her smiling when she said it. One look at Ivan told me she was likely grinning at him.

Sephie wasn’t able to sleep until the guys got back. She did relax slightly when Viktor let Ivan know they were on their way back and they had managed to stop the underboss from killing Max. She completely relaxed when they finally walked back into the penthouse.

I looked to Viktor, wanting to know how it went. “We did get lucky that it was tonight that he was planning on killing Max.”

“It was just as we saw it, gazelle,” Misha said. He still looked mostly surprised at what had transpired.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Except I stopped him before he had a chance to pull the trigger. Max almost p\*ssed himself, though. That was satisfying to

watch,” Stephen said, an uncharacteristic smile on his face.

“Better to be soiled and alive than the alternative,” I said quietly. Sephie heard me, laughing as she pulled my arms tighter around her with her one good arm.

“What about Tori?” Ivan asked.

“That’s where it gets fun,” Viktor said.

“Misha was able to find her, so we paid her a little visit,” Stephen said.

“Where was she?” Sephie asked.

“Surprisingly, still at the underboss’s house. Apparently, she’s been living there for a bit,” Misha said.

“She will no longer be a problem,” Andrei said. His anger from earlier was still evident on his face. Andrei had the same look every time he killed someone, but this time was different. Usually, he would struggle with it for days. We never gave him sh\*t for it. You should struggle with it. It’s not something to be taken lightly. This time, however, he looked like he was at peace with what happened already. Like he wasn’t going to be struggling with it.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Bubba...” Sephie said, trying to see how he was handling it. Andrei looked straight at her. “She learned a hard lesson of Karma tonight. You wish death on someone else, it comes back on you even harder. Maybe in her next life, she’ll learn to be nicer to people,” he said.

Sephie leaned back and whispered to me, “can you help me up, please?” I helped her stand up so she could go to Andrei, even though he was handling this better than I’d ever seen him handle a situation like this before. He was still standing, so she wrapped her arm around his waist while he put his arm gently around her shoulders. “This is why she popped into your mind the last couple of days. You were meant to stop this,” she said.

“It almost didn’t happen. I almost didn’t bring it up to you and Misha earlier,” he said, looking down at her. He had a serious look on his face as he was thinking about the night’s events.

“It was a lesson for you, too, Bubba. That gut instinct that tells you to do something? You should always listen to it. Always. It

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

could mean the difference between life and death,” she said. “The more you listen to it, the stronger it will get. Just like your observation skills. The more you use them, the stronger they’ll get,” she said, smiling sweetly up at him.

He grinned at her. “Of course, you noticed,” he said.

“Have you met me?” she asked, trying not to laugh. “You’ve been spot on. My guess is you’ve always been more observant than you think you are. You’re just not willing to trust yourself. You’ve got so much more going on than just your pretty face, Bubba,” she said.

We could all see Andrei’s cheeks flush when she complimented him. Misha, never one to turn down a chance to tease anyone, said, “I honestly never would’ve thought to try to see Tori or Max if you hadn’t brought it up, Andrei. Clearly, I don’t have the voyeuristic tendencies you do. But you know, no judgment here.”

“Don’t listen to Judgey MacJudgerpants over there, Bubba,” she said, laughing at Misha who was smiling broadly at both of them. She hugged Andrei tighter, resting her head on his shoulder.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

## Chapter 307

### Chapter Three Hundred Seven

#### Adrik

“Did Max know it was you guys that saved his life?” I asked.

“Nope. He never saw us. He heard the guy drop behind him and turned around to see him dead on the ground, gun in hand.

That’s when he almost p\*ssed himself. I have to say, I don’t have a lot of hope that he’s going to make it to his golden years

though. His survival instincts are sh\*t. He just stood there in the parking lot for like 5 minutes before he finally ran to his car and

left,” Stephen said. “We thought he was never going to leave.”

“Sounds about right,” I said. Sephie grinned at me. She knew I thought he was an idiot before tonight. This only proved my point even further.

“He might put it together one day, but I doubt it,” she said. “What about Sal? Now he’s lost another guy.”

“It’s going to take him much longer to figure out we were behind this one. We might’ve made it look like a murder suicide. They’ll

find both of them together at his house,” Viktor said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Anyone who knows Tori isn’t going to question that story,” Ivan said, unable to contain his laughter.

“I checked the kitchen. There was no broccoli. I was going to leave some between them,” Misha said, causing everyone to laugh.

Poor Sephie had a tight hold of her ribs to try to help ease the pain, but she couldn’t not laugh at that.

I stood up to get her next dose of superprofen. Thankfully it was time, so it would help ease the pain from laughing. She had walked from Andrei to Stephen, sliding her arm around his waist. “Thank you for saving him, even though I know you hate him just as much as everyone else,” she said.

He put his arm around her and hugged her gently. “Boss was right. Just because we don’t like him doesn’t mean he deserved that kind of ending.” She rested her head on his shoulder while he held onto her for a few moments. I watched her take as deep of a breath as she could before she turned around looking at all of us, tears once again in her eyes.

“I don’t ever want to hear any of you even considering that you might be evil or in any way not good. You just saved a man’s life

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

that you all clearly hate tonight, for no other reason than he used to mean something to me. And

you did it without a second's hesitation. Evil men would've let him die and not felt bad about it," she said. She walked slowly to the kitchen where I was standing, wiping away the stray tear that had managed to fall down her cheek.

She was right. I didn't hesitate to save Max. Regardless of whether it was simply to end her panic, he was still alive tonight because of us. We jumped to action to save the life of an innocent, mostly innocent, he was still an idiot, person. Sephie tucked herself into my side as best she could, leaning her head on my shoulder. She was still looking at all the guys, who were quietly contemplating what she'd just said. "I love you all. More than anything," she said.

The guys were all waiting on us when we walked out of the bedroom the next morning. It wasn't that they woke up that much earlier than we did, they were just faster in the shower than I would ever be when Sephie was involved. A fact that I wasn't planning on changing anytime soon.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Who wants to be my other arm for breakfast this morning?” Sephie asked as she walked into the kitchen. She was feeling slightly better this morning. She’d managed to do a few things on her own, laughing about it the whole time. “I feel like a child learning to do this for the first time again,” she’d told me as she managed to put her pants on by herself.

“Spider monkey, you don’t have to cook breakfast. You still need time to heal. It won’t take very long to send someone to get food,” Andrei said.

“I know I don’t have to. I want to. I practically dressed myself this morning. I’m on a roll here. Don’t kill my vibe, Bubba,” she said, smiling broadly at him.

Misha literally jumped out of his chair to stand next to her. “If you’re cooking, I’m helping. I’ll do everything, even. You just have to tell me how you do it,” he said. We all laughed at his enthusiasm, but nobody protested her cooking further.

As she instructed Misha on how to cook, she worked on translating a few more things that Viktor and Stephen had found on

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



Ricardo. Viktor had heard back from the journalist that supposedly had so much information on Ricardo and Lorenzo while Sephie and Misha were still cooking. Viktor got up and took his computer to her. "The journalist finally replied from your last email, sestrichka."

Sephie gave instructions to Misha, then turned to read the journalist's response. As she read, her smile got wider. She glanced at Ivan, "your method really p\*ssed him off. He spent the first half of this email b\*tching about how we don't believe him. He says, 'I put my entire life in danger to expose these men and now you accuse me of not knowing anything of significance.' Well played, Squish," she said.

"Told you. Journalists have delicate egos," Ivan said.

"Oh, this is interesting. Now he wants to meet to show you everything. He says it's not safe to send to you," she said, looking up at Viktor.

Viktor thought for a minute, then looked to Ivan. "What do you think? Have him come here or meet him elsewhere?"

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Elsewhere. We really don’t know who this guy is. It could be some kind of trap,” Ivan said.

“He has to come to the city though. There’s no way we’re leaving right now, for any reason,” I said.

“He might be too scared to do that,” Sephie said. “He seems nervous about someone finding out he’s still alive.”

“Then we don’t meet with him. Simple as that. I’m not taking you anywhere else until you’re healed completely, solnishko,” I said, looking at her sternly enough that she wouldn’t try to argue. She grinned at me, then glanced to see where the guys were looking. When she was satisfied they were all looking away, she closed her eyes briefly, making them go dark, then looked to me once more. When she looked at me, I could feel her push her warmth to me as she was looking at me with her dark eyes, a smile on her face. It was so unexpected that I cursed quietly under my breath. She blinked again, making her eyes return to normal and

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

acted like nothing had happened, continuing on with the conversation, while I was left trying to control myself. I'm in so much trouble.

"Once we're done eating, I'll take an hour out of my day to respond to him and tell him he has to come here if he wants to meet with you," she said, grinning at Viktor.

We were all surprised that the journalist responded quickly to the demand that he come to the city to meet. He basically told Viktor to name the time and place and he'd be there.

"I expected some push back on that one," Ivan said.

"I did too. I wonder if he's already here then?" Sephie said, thinking aloud. She was sitting at the kitchen island with Misha while the rest of us cleaned up the kitchen.

"Do we know what he looks like?" Misha asked. Sephie nodded, then pulled a picture up from an article on his supposed death that Viktor had found previously.

Misha extended his hand to her, saying, "let's see if we can find him." She grinned at him, taking his hand. The rest of us stopped

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

what we were doing to watch them, waiting to see what they would be able to see.

The process took longer than normal. Usually, Misha would see something right away, but he also usually checked in on people he already knew. It would make sense that it would take longer to find this guy given that neither Sephie nor Misha knew him.

“Got him,” Misha said quietly.

“I know that area. It’s close to where my uncle used to live,” Sephie said as she squeezed Misha’s hand tighter. They watched the movie that only they could see for a few moments longer, before they looked at each other, then to the rest of us.

“He’s already in the city. I can’t tell how long he’s lived here, but he’s living here now. I can show you on the map the area of the city he’s in,” Misha said.

“From what we saw, he keeps to himself mostly. He only goes out for necessities, doesn’t talk to many people, tries to not be seen,” Sephie said.

“He’ll be easy to watch for a few days before we meet with him, then,” Stephen said. “I love a recluse. They’re the easiest ones

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

to watch. They almost always keep to the exact same routine.”

“I’ll go grab a map,” Viktor said.

“Should he meet with one of you, though? He might put it together who you are and who you work for,” Sephie said. “He also appears to prefer to speak Italian, which is going to be problematic.”

“Ask him if he speaks English when you respond. Tell him you’ve been using translator software to respond to him,” Ivan said.

“Even still, your Russian accents are going to give you away,” Sephie said.

Misha turned to look at her. “You’re not meeting with him either, gazelle,” he said, sternly. “If the people of the city heard about you being kidnapped, he’ll just as easily put it together who you are as he will one of us.”

“D\*mmmit, I got scolded twice in one morning,” she said, mostly under her breath.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

## Chapter 308

### Chapter Three Hundred Eight

#### Adrik

Viktor returned with the map, to see us laughing at the exchange. “I always miss the good stuff,” he said, laying out the map in front of Misha.

“Sephie brought up a good point that if one of us meet with this guy, he’s going to piece together who we wo for. But then she said he might only speak Italian, which is going to be problematic, implying that she should be the one to meet with him. Misha shut her down,” Andrei said, still laughing.

“That’s not happening, sestrichka. Not when you’re like this,” Viktor said, looking at her sternly.

“D\*mmmit. Three times,” she said.

“What about Chen? We give him an earpiece. We tell him exactly what to say to this guy. Sephie can still translate if needed.

Everybody’s happy,” Stephen said.

“Except Chen. He won’t be happy. He’ll be trying not to have a heart attack that whole time,” Sephie said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“We can coach him through it,” Andrei said. “He’ll be fine. He can totally do this.”

“We’ll be watching him the whole time. He saw what I did to Smith. He’ll know if this guy makes one wrong move, I’ll take him out,” Stephen said.

Sephie thought about it for a minute. She looked to me to see my opinion on it. It was a reasonable plan. It would keep us anonymous. He would have a hard time tracing Chen back to me and it would still get us whatever information this guy supposedly had.

Sephie sighed, then looked to Viktor. “Can I borrow your phone, Papa Bear? I’ll ask him and see what he says.”

Viktor dialed Chen’s number, put it on speaker, then handed the phone to her. I walked to her so she wouldn’t have to get up.

She leaned against me while she talked to Chen. He was understandably apprehensive when she first laid-out the situation.

“You can say no, Chen. No harm. We’re just exploring our options,” I said. I might’ve known he would be less likely to say no to me.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

Chen thought for a few moments, then sighed. “As long as you guys are there to make sure nothing happens, I’ll do it. And as

long as Sephie can translate whatever this guy says to me in another language. She can tell you. I’m from a French family and my French is h\*rrrendous. Foreign languages are not my forte.”

“We’ll all be there, Chen. You have my word,” I said.

After the call ended, Viktor and Misha went over the map where they saw this guy. “We should ask to meet with him somewhere close to where he lives. I want to f\*\*k with his head just a little,” Misha said, a mischievous grin on his face.

They found a small café near the guy’s apartment. Stephen looked it over, coming up with a few possibilities on where he could be to cover Chen. “This has potential,” he said. “I need to check it out, but it could work.”

“We can be here,” Viktor said, pointing down the street to another apartment building. “We can park on the street and not be obvious, but still close enough to hear and see everything.”

“Go check it out,” I said. “Andrei stays, the rest can go.” I had a short conversation with Sephie the night before about how Andrei

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



was handling the Tori situation. I knew she wanted a chance to talk to him without the other guys around to make sure he was okay. This would give her that chance. This would also give Ivan time to go to the jewelers to pick up her ring.

Once the four guys left, I walked to Sephie. "I just have a couple phone calls to make downstairs, then I'll be back up," I said, leaning down to kiss her temple. "Are you warm enough for now?" I asked. She smiled sweetly at me. "I'm okay for now," she said. It took her at least three times as long as normal to stand up on her own, but she managed to do it. Her face beamed when she stood in front of me. Andrei said, "that was so painful to watch, but I'm so proud of you, spider monkey."

"This is a big day for me," she said, her gorgeous smile across her face. I leaned down and kissed her quickly, but passionately, not trusting myself to be able to stop.

"I'll be back soon," I said, winking at her. I knew she was completely aware that I'd asked Andrei to stay just so she could have a chance to talk to him. I was also looking forward to her thanking me later for it. I'll take anything I can get until she's healed fully

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

again.

Sephie

Once Adrik left the penthouse, I looked at Andrei who was quite happy to have been the one that had to stay behind this time. He couldn't keep his boyish grin off his face. "You know, I still laugh when I think about how I used to think I was torturing you guys when you had to stay with me. You're still fighting over who gets to do it most of the time," I said.

"You're way more fun than pretty much anything else we have to do," he said, still grinning at me. I grabbed his arm, pulling him toward one of the couches.

"I still need help sitting down on the couch. And I might've lied. I'm totally cold again," I said as we walked slowly to the couch.

"I knew it! You're always cold lately. Even more so when you're hurt," he said, helping me down onto the couch.

"See, you should trust your observation skills more, Bubba. You know more than you think you do. You're the one that saw what was happening when I leveled Misha up when we saw Trino. You need to trust what your eyes are telling you," I said as he sat

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

down next to me, putting his massive arm around my shoulders so I could lean back against him. “And even though he’s likely never going to know it was because of you, Max has you to thank for his life today.”

He scoffed. “Yeah, I still can’t get over how close I was to not saying anything last night.”

“Wanna know what the acupuncturist told me the first time she saw me and Ivan after we were taken?”

“When she told you that you took the worst of it to save Ivan this time?” he asked.

“Yeah. I argued with her. I know you’re shocked. But I told her I didn’t do anything except run my mouth when they had us. She told me that even though I might not have been aware of what I was doing, my soul knew. She said, ‘you listened.’” I grabbed his wrist with my good hand, holding onto it while I talked. “You listened last night. You might not have been aware of what was going to happen, but your soul knew,” I said. He squeezed me gently.

“So, that’s where you get all your sage advice from,” he said. I could hear the smile in his voice when he said it.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Not all of it, but she does say some incredibly wise things. Like all of you, I think she was meant to be in my life.” Andrei was quiet for a moment, so I asked, “how did you sleep last night, Bubba?” He sighed. “Mostly okay. I usually don’t sleep for a couple of days after I kill someone. I did sleep some last night, though. That’s a new one for me. I feel better about this time than I ever have before, which is weird if you think about it. The few people I’ve killed before I didn’t really know. I knew Tori in the biblical sense and I’m most okay with this one. Kinda doesn’t make sense,” he said.

“Or it kinda does,” I said.

“How so?”

“You knew she deserved what she got. You knew what she was planning on having done. You knew she was capable of planning it again, should this time not work out. You knew her dark side. I think you’re beginning to see the difference between people like Ivan and Adrik, who’ve made peace with their dark sides, but who still choose to operate in the light whenever possible, and

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

those who give in to their dark sides, like Tori clearly did. No one made her revenge f\*\*k Max. No one made her make plans to have him killed because she got fired again for being a crazy b\*tch. That was all her. And she had to pay the consequences of those actions,” I said. He remained quiet, but kept a tight hold on me, so I continued. “Just like I told Ivan, sometimes Karma uses you to deliver justice. You just handed down her sentence, Bubba.” “You really do know exactly what to say, exactly when we need to hear it. I have no idea how you do that, but please don’t ever stop.”

I held up my pinky to him. “Pinky swear,” I said.

“What’s that?”

“Oh, for f\*\*k’s sake, how do I keep forgetting you people don’t do this in Russia? Okay, so the pinky swear is like the holiest of holy swears. Like it’s so holy that I’m now bound to always tell you what you need to hear in every lifetime, in every realm, in all timelines for all eternity. That’s how holy it is.”

He chuckled, grabbing my pinky with his. “I’ll do the same for you, spider monkey. I’m just not as good at it as

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

you are.”

“Yet. You’re not as good as I am, yet. This is why you should practice, Bubba.”

“I thought I was the trainer in this relationship,” he said, laughing at me.

“You are. Mostly.”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

## Chapter 309

### Chapter Three Hundred Nine

#### Sephie

I felt Adtik's warm hand on my cheek. "Sephie, wake up, love," he said softly. I could feel Andrei's arm still around me, holding me firmly so I didn't move suddenly.

"I fell asleep?" I asked. I could feel the vibration of Andrei laughing at me.

"You've been out for a few hours. We just didn't want to move you. You had a very big morning. I think you wore yourself out,"

Andrei said.

I looked to Adrik, who was kneeling in front of me, smiling at me. "You were already sound asleep when I came back to the penthouse. I was only gone for half an hour. Andrei said you'd been asleep for at least 15 minutes when I got back." I tried to sit

up slowly. Both Adrik and Andrei helped me. I turned around to look at Andrei. "Sorry I kept you trapped here," I said.

"Don't apologize. I got a nap, too," he said, his handsome smile stretching across his face.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

I couldn't help but smile back at him. "You needed it. You look better." He didn't say anything, just winked at me.

"You need lunch, gazelle. The acupuncturist will be here soon, too," Misha said from the kitchen. As if he was speaking directly to my stomach, she growled loudly. "I heard that. She agrees," he said, laughing. "What did you guys find out on your field trip?" I asked, as Adrik and Andrei helped me stand up from the couch. It was easier to stand up on my own from the bed or the chairs in the kitchen. Not so much from the couch yet, which I found frustrating. Once I was standing, Adrik pulled me to him, kissing me softly.

"The café we picked is a good spot. It's close to his apartment, which will make Misha happy. It's easy to cover, which will make me happy. And there's plenty of places you guys can park to watch what's going on, which will make Viktor happy," Stephen said.

"Everyone's happy, then. I like this," I said. "Well, maybe except Chen. He's probably still going to be nervous. Poor guy." I motioned for Viktor to hand over his computer. "I'll get started replying now. It'll be done by next

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



week.”

Ivan, who had gone down to grab the food when it arrived, walked back into the penthouse. “Princess, you’re awake now. Good.

We got you stuff while we were out, too,” he said, setting the food down on the island.

“Got me what stuff?” I asked, sitting gingerly in one of the chairs.

Adrik leaned down and kissed my temple. “I had them get you warmer clothes while they were out. You’re always freezing right now. Andrei was right, you’re even colder when you’re hurt.”

“You did? Really?” I asked. I was completely stunned. They all noticed the look on my face, which was clearly amusing for them all given the grins on their faces.

Adrik chuckled. “I know how much you hate buying clothes for yourself, but you need more than just my sweatshirts to keep you warm right now. I don’t like that you’re always so cold.”

Ivan held up one of the shirts they’d picked up. “We’re still going to have to cut the sleeve off because there’s no way this is fitting over that,” he said pointing to my cast. “But it’s thermal so it’ll keep you warmer than you are now. Which will probably

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

mean you're going to sleep more," he said, grinning at me.

"That's just what I need," I said, rolling my eyes. Adrik clicked his tongue at me. "It is exactly what you need, solnishko. You need

time to heal. I say so." I felt the pull in my chest that meant he was thinking about how much he loved me. He was trying to look

at me sternly, but he was failing miserably at it. I couldn't help but laugh.

"Come here," I said, pulling him toward me so I could

kiss him. "Thank you," I said, against his lips. "And thank all of you for always taking care of me," I said to the guys.

"You mean the same way you always take care of all of us?" Andrei said.

The acupuncture was easier for me to get through, which usually meant that I was getting closer to not needing it as frequently. It

still gave me much-needed relief, so I was happy to have it daily for a little longer. Adrik and Ivan had helped me lie down, but

then they left me alone since I wasn't quite as painful. Taking my arm out of the sling wasn't nearly as debilitating as it had been

the first day. It still wasn't pleasant, but I could manage.

"One of the others just discovered he's like you, didn't he?" the acupuncturist asked quietly as she was sticking needles over my

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

body.

“Like me how? Like his observation skills?”

“Those, yes. But there’s more. He’ll come to find he knows things before they happen. He just doesn’t believe it fully yet. His soul knows already,” she said.

“I stole your line and used it on him earlier. He just saved someone’s life last night because he listened to his gut instinct.”

“Like you, he’s very wise. But he’s young compared to you. He doesn’t trust himself yet. That’s what you’re here to help him with.”

I laughed softly. “I made him a pinky swear.”

“Have you done that with all of them?” she asked.

“Not all of them yet. Most of them.” I looked at her, curious as to why she would ask. She smiled softly.

“You’re ensuring that your souls stay linked. This won’t be the only lifetime you spend together.”

“But it’s just a childish thing. I only tell them it has that much power to get them to agree to it because it’s so silly.”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“You might think it’s childish, Sephie. They take it very seriously. You should too. You have more power than you think. I told your boyfriend this the first time I saw you after you and Ivan were taken. You, your boyfriend,

and Ivan, you’re older than the others. The one who can see the unseen is older than the rest of them, but not as old as you.

Part of why you’re here and why you’re all together is to help them all discover their gifts. You didn’t think the others had gifts, but now you’re discovering they do. The other two do too, but they’re scared. They see it in you, which helps them to see it in themselves. It’ll take time.”

“I mean, no pressure.”

She laughed. “There really isn’t any pressure. There’s no guarantee they’ll discover it in this lifetime, but by binding your souls to spend future lifetimes together, you’re telling them you’ll be there to help them whenever they’re ready. The one who just discovered he’s like you is the youngest. But seeing you made him brave. What happened last night was the first step. None of us thought he was going to discover his gift this lifetime.”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

I felt goosebumps over my entire body when she said that last sentence. My eyes went wide as I looked at her. I could once again see the outline of a pair of wings as she stood next to the bed, smiling down at me. “I work with your father, Sephie,” she said.

“I knew I wasn’t crazy when I saw them the first time!” I said. “I even told Andrei earlier that I felt like you were supposed to be in my life.”

“You’ve always known, Sephie. You sometimes need a reminder to trust yourself, just like he does.”

“Do you see my father regularly?” I asked. She nodded her head. “Will you tell him I miss him?”

“He knows, but I’ll tell him. He still watches you, even though you have Ivan now. He’s very proud of you, Sephie,” she said, squeezing my hand. “I need to take your arm out of the sling again. Should I get your boyfriend and Ivan first?”

“No, it’s manageable now. It still hurts, but I can take it.”

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Just because you can doesn’t mean you should, you know. They want to help you. You know it frustrates them when you don’t let them?” I just looked at her, not knowing what to say. She smiled sweetly at me again. “I know you’re used to being on your own. Used to taking care of everything by yourself. But you’re not by yourself anymore. Even if I didn’t know everything I know, one look at them and I’d be able to tell any one of them would do anything you needed. It’s okay to be completely vulnerable with them. Your boyfriend especially. Your connection is stronger than I’ve ever seen it, but you’re still holding back from him because you’re scared when you’re hurt. It’s not your fault. You’ve been conditioned to be so, but you can let go now. Much like how his anger was causing an imbalance with you, you holding on to your pain will start to cause an imbalance with him. You helped him with his anger. Let him help you with your pain.” She didn’t wait for me to answer, she simply walked out to get Adrik and Ivan.

Adrik walked to the bed on my good side, grabbing my hand. “You feel better each time, solnishko. Soon it won’t hurt so much

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

when your arm comes out of the sling.” He leaned down and kissed my forehead.

Ivan walked to the opposite side of the bed, ready to hold my arm once it was taken out of the sling. It hurt much less when he did, if I was being honest with myself. I still felt pain when my arm was free of the sling, but it was much less this time and the needles barely hurt when she stuck them in my shoulder and over my ribs. I could always breathe much deeper when the needles were over my ribs without excruciating pain.

“Can

you leave those ones in all the time?” I asked, nodding to the needles over my ribs. “I can breathe so much better when they’re in.”

Ivan immediately got worried. “Are you having trouble breathing, princess?”

“No, not like before. There’s nothing wrong, but it hurts to breathe. I realize you don’t know this, but your ribs, are affected by literally everything. Every movement makes them hurt. Every breath makes them move, which makes them hurt. The deeper the

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

breath, the more they move, the more intense the pain. When the needles are in, I get momentary relief and can take a deep breath. It's just nice."

He looked at me sympathetically. "Yeah, I really have no idea how painful broken ribs are. I mean, I've broken plenty of my ribs, but not once did I feel it."

"I still haven't decided if you're lucky or unlucky for your inability to feel pain. Every time I get hurt, I lean hard toward the lucky side, not gonna lie," I said, smiling at him. The acupuncturist removed the needles from my shoulder, but left the ones over my ribs a little longer since I was clearly enjoying them. I took a few more deep breaths in, just because I could.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**



## Chapter 310

### Chapter Three Hundred Ten

Sophie

Once all the needles were removed, Ivan was talking quietly with the acupuncturist while Adrik helped me get dressed again. He had brought one of the shirts and a pair of insulated leggings that the guys had picked up while they were out. “We modified the shirt,” he said, holding it up so I could see they cut the sleeve off. “I think it will work.” He slid it over my cast and helped me get it the rest of the way on, then helped with the leggings.

“Do you guys need anything from me this afternoon? Because you have approximately 20 minutes before I’m asleep again. I’m about to be so warm,” I said as he helped me put his sweatshirt back on. He chuckled, leaning over to kiss my forehead. “You can sleep as long as you need to, solnishko.”

We set the meeting with the journalist a few days after he suggested it to give the guys time to watch him. Better to be extra safe right now. “I was correct. Recluses are quite possibly the best people to have to watch. He has the same routine every day. He’s

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

only out of his apartment for precisely 95 minutes each day. He spends the rest of the time inside,” Stephen said.

“Seems boring. Oh wait, that’s me. That’s what I do every day,” I said, laughing.

Adrik clicked his tongue. “You’ll be able to go more places again once this is all over,” he said.

“I wasn’t complaining,” I said. “Although I do miss the gardens and the lake at the house, now that I think of it.”

“Soon, love,” Adrik said.

Viktor’s phone beeped to let him know that Chen was in the lobby. While he left to go fetch him, the rest of us moved down to

Adrik’s office. The bruises on my face were much lighter now, so I didn’t feel so self-conscious being seen in public. The bruises

on my body were still quite colorful, but they were much easier to hide. I still got a few curious looks from people here and there,

but the guys were quick to pick up on it. They just moved in closer around me so people had a harder time seeing me.

“Sephie, you’re looking much better, my girl,” Chen said as he walked in the office.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“Not so colorful anymore,” I said, smiling at him.

“How’s your arm? Still hurts like a sumbitch, huh?”

“Mostly only when it’s out of the sling right now. I can’t tell if it’s getting better or I’m just used to the pain now, but I don’t notice it all the time anymore. The ribs are worse, if I’m being honest. Do not recommend.”

Chen laughed. “Noted.”

We filled Chen in on everything he needed to know to make this meeting believable. I went over the email exchanges with him, so he would be familiar with the conversation we’d had with the journalist so far. We gave him details on Ricardo and Lorenzo that we’d found, so he’d have a working knowledge of the information and could respond quickly.

“If you’re ever not sure of how to answer, just pause like you’re thinking of how to phrase your answer. Look down at your coffee thoughtfully, or watch a person walk by before responding. You’ll be able to hear us in your earpiece, so we can give you the answer you need. Try not to stare at him while you’re listening to us. It’ll make it more obvious you’re being coached on what to

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

say. You want it to come across as a normal conversation. People maintain eye contact, but they also look away periodically in normal conversation. People who are nervous tend to try to maintain too much eye contact. It's a dead giveaway every time,"

Stephen said.

"If he says anything in Italian, I'll be able to translate, but I told him in the last email that I used translating software so he had to speak English. He might try to speak Italian to gauge whether that was a lie or not," I said.

"Stephen will have you covered the whole time. We'll be watching from down the street as well. And you'll be able to hear us the entire time," Viktor said.

"Okay. I think I can do this," Chen said.

"You'll be fine, Chen. Just try to stay relaxed. And if you feel like something is really off, say the word and we'll make sure you get out of there as quickly as possible," Andrei said.

"Yeah, uh, I meant to ask before, who's idea was it to use mayonnaise as the safe word?" Chen asked, trying not to laugh.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

“You really have to ask that question?” I said, laughing.

“I should’ve known,” he said.

“Technically, it was Max that came up with the idea for ridiculous words. I just stole it. Made it my own,” I said, smiling at him as we walked to the elevator to leave.

“Yeah, you know I stopped by the restaurant a day or two ago. He hasn’t figured it out yet, but I know you guys saved that dude’s a\*s in the parking lot after work. I don’t know how many times I’ve told him to be more aware of his surroundings, but he’s the dumbest motherf\*\*ker I’ve ever met when it comes to that. No idea how you guys knew what was happening and I’m positive I don’t want to know. I just know it had to be you,” he said.

“You’ll have to let us know if he does ever figure it out. We have a bet pool going on whether it’ll ever happen or not,” I said. I caught Andrei’s eye, smiling widely at him. He seemed like he was doing better after our little talk. I was curious to see what else he was capable of, after my talk with the acupuncturist as well.

We made sure that Chen was the first one to the café so he would be waiting on the journalist to arrive. I gave a description of

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

Chen to the journalist so he would know what to look for. Chen looked relaxed while he waited for the journalist to arrive.

Right on time, the journalist appeared, walking from the direction of his apartment. “Got a visual. He’s on his way, Chen.” The streets around the café were mostly quiet. It was an older part of town, quiet, not as many people to contend with, which worked to our advantage. It gave us a clear view of Chen, which helped put his mind at ease.

The journalist was carrying a briefcase. He walked right to Chen, asking him the question we’d given him. Chen answered with the correct phrase, so each knew the other was the person they were meeting. It was all very much like a spy movie..

The journalist set the briefcase down on the table as he sat down across from Chen. He opened it, getting right to business. He talked quietly, but his English was good. Chen should have no problems understanding him.

“Like I told you in the emails, I’ve been watching this man for years. He’s very connected to very powerful people. But what I’ve

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

recently discovered makes me believe he's behind all those powerful people he's connected to." He paused, looking directly at Chen. "They say this city is run by one man. No one knows who he is or what his name is. I think I do." He pulled a stack of documents out of his briefcase, pushing them toward Chen.

I glanced nervously at Adrik, gauging his reaction to this guy potentially uncovering who he was. He simply smirked at me and pulled me tighter against him.

The journalist started showing Chen the evidence he'd collected. "All of this, these business deals," he'd flip through a few more pages, "these bank transactions...they all prove that Ricardo is the man who runs this city," he said very quietly.

I felt Adrik squeeze me tighter, almost like an "I told you so."

"The entire city? You think it's this guy? Like he's over all the other bosses as well? From what I've seen, he's not even a lowerlevel boss," Chen said.

"That's because that's what he wants you to think," the journalist said. "This is why I had to go into hiding. If he knows I found out about this, I would be dead. He's worked very carefully for years to make it seem like he's not the one in charge, but I believe he

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**

*Read full novel here [Myfinder](#)*

is. We need to get this information to the police. Or the politicians of the city. I know the police commissioner isn't on the take, but I can't speak to the rest of the police force. I know there's at least one politician that might be trustworthy."

"Tell him you know Henry personally. The police commissioner. You can take the information straight to him,"

Adrik said to Chen.

"Henry? The police commissioner? He's a family friend, actually. He's like an uncle to me. I can take this information straight to him. I don't know about the politicians, though. I think by definition, being a politician means you're on the take," Chen said.

**Join Our Facebook Group For More Updates**

**<https://web.facebook.com/groups/novelshub>**