

I wake up to quiet and warmth.

Stretching away, I blinked away the lingering haze of sleep and groggily sat up, looking around the place. It seemed like I was in a room of some kind, it looked luxurious, full of artifacts and other things that looked like they belonged to a museum.

I didn't need much after seeing that to come to the conclusion this had to be one of Lucifer's rooms at his bar.

The window in the room was open, revealing a rather sunny day.

I sighed.

I owed Lucifer one for bringing me here.

Pushing myself off the bed, I get up and find my clothes, folded neatly above the nightstand, realizing just now I was naked.

Had Lucifer undressed me?

Shaking my head, I put aside my questions for the moment and started to dress, and as I did so, my eyes were drawn to a chair that rested near my bed.

The chair was an arm's length from the bed, and had a book, a novel, resting above it.

Raven.

I was almost certain that chair was there because of Raven, hopefully, she had been the one to undress me, I really don't want to deal with Lucifer's shenanigans.

I sighed, just now realizing my rings were gone. Normally I would have some concerns about this, but considering the one that could have stolen them was Lucifer, I wasn't all that concerned.

I mean.

The guy had no use for them and could have taken them from me at any given moment if he so desired. So my best guess was that he was simply trolling me for the sake of it.

At least he had the decency of healing my body before taking them. After all, I'm not entirely sure I can survive without a heart.

Maybe I can regenerate it, but I doubt I was in a condition to do so when he picked me up. To defeat Brainiac I had to force myself into a state of perfect focus, and let's just say each move I made, hurt me relatively more than it hurt Brainiac.

Pushing those thoughts aside, I made my way down to the club. As expected, Lucifer was standing behind the bar, serving himself a drink, as Mazikeen bothered him.

Now, where's Raven?

"David!" Raven said, announcing her presence from behind, before leaping into my arms and giving me a fierce hug. "You promised me you wouldn't push yourself too much, and you did."

I blink. ~I mean, I don't think I pushed myself a lot. Sure, I exhausted my body to the very bone, but not to a point you should worry.~

"You slept for over a week," Lucifer said, setting his drink aside. "You pushed your body to the limit and forced your rings to produce more energy than they were designed to mold. Between you and I, you're lucky you survived, David."

I know, jackass. But you didn't have to fuck me with that in front of Raven, who is prone to over-worry.

"You were saying?" Raven said, her eyes piercing into mine in a cold demeanor.

~You're... beautiful?~ I smiled awkwardly.

Raven raised one of her brows. “That’s your move? Telling me I’m beautiful?”

I nod in a tentative manner.

“I mean, you’re right. But, I don’t see how that has anything to do with the fact you almost died in the most stupid way anyone can, by overexerting one’s body!” Raven sighed, rubbing her temples.

~I won, and learned a few things along the way. And most importantly, I survived, so let’s not worry about it, shall we?~  
I signed, patting Raven on the head only for her to push my hand away with a pulse of magic.

“You don’t get to pat me, after almost dying,” Raven said, though in a lighter mood.

“You two are getting frisky, me likey,” Lucifer chuckled, wiggling his eyebrows at me.

I rolled my eyes at him. ~By the way, where are my rings?~

“In the washing machine,” Lucifer said as if it was the most normal thing to say to my question.

I blinked, clearly confused as to... why he would wash my rings. ~Why?~

“They stank,” Lucifer replied without missing a beat. “When was the last time you took a shower?”

I...

Oh god, I can't remember.

At least... I think it has been a year, maybe more since I last took a real shower.

“That's what I thought, the fact you have trinkets that can clean your body, and dispose of waste, doesn't mean you have to behave like an uncultured beast,” Lucifer sighed, shaking his head in disappointment. “Could you imagine if you had had your first sexual encounter with your almost girlfriend in that state?”

I almost choked at that part.

Though to my surprise Raven seemed completely unfazed by Lucifer's comment.

“I had to deal with Lucifer for over a week, I have grown desensitized to his behavior,” Raven interjected with a neutral expression.

“Was that why you undressed him, you little minx?” Lucifer grinned, from ear to ear like a bastard having fun.

Raven blushed a little, which was noticeable with her pale complexion. “It was either me, or your demon friend. Who I do not trust.”

“You are right not to trust me, I would’ve fucked the kid, he’s packing serious heat down there,” Mazikeen grinned from her chair.

Well, that’s both flattering, and... concerning. Mostly concerning.

“Mazikeen!” Lucifer gasped, pretending to be shocked.

“What can I say, a girl has needs, and mute boy over there, he has the pole to scratch my itch,” Mazikeen winked at me.

“Interested pretty boy? I might even teach you a thing or two about torture.”

~No thanks,~ I replied as quickly as she asked the question. My limit in crazy was Harley, I would go deeper into that abyss of craziness with Mazikeen, besides, I wanted to start something with Raven, and in order to do that I needed to keep it in my pants.

“Are we done talking about his penis?” Raven said, his blush bigger than before.

“Penis? Girl, call it how it is, a dick,” Mazikeen grinned. “I mean, you will be riding it in many ways, so you might as well learn its proper name.”