

## Chapter 15 Traitors

Brianna's POV

I forced myself to forget about what happened inside Rogue Adams' car. My heart kept on pounding as I rode the elevator. I caressed my chest and swallowed hard. Why do I feel like this? We're not close. We just met so why am I reacting this way towards him? He's making my body alive. There was an undeniable sexual tension between us and I certainly know it wasn't only me. He feels it too, reason why he almost kissed me inside his car,

My lips parted and became restless as I tried to suppress the heat burning me inside. I swallowed hard, determined to forget about the incident.

You can't be like this again, Brianna. He's also a man. You just can't...  
Argh!

"Miss Bree..."

I lifted my face and looked at Levi, who was waiting for me in front of the elevator.

"He keeps on asking about you, Miss Bree. He's really mad."

I nodded at Levi and went to my office without saying anything. There I saw my uncle standing in the middle of my office. His hands were on his waist and his bloodshot eyes bore to me.

"WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO, BRIANNA?"

I sighed and rolled my eyes. "What is it about again, uncle?"

"You're really determined to divorce Cain? Did you know what he did, huh? Because of your stupidity?"

My forehead creased. "What's wrong with you?"

He rushed to me and pointed a finger at my forehead. "What's wrong with you, you stupid woman?"

I pushed him away. "You don't have the right to point a finger at me. So what if I pursued the divorce? It's my life so I can do whatever I want to do with it."

He laughed sarcastically. "Oh thank you for your stupid principles, Brianna. He's threatening us to withdraw his shares!"

"Shares?" I asked, taken aback. What share is he talking about? I was the one who has a share in Hamilton Group.

He pulled his hair and laughed again. "He's an investor. Cain owns the second highest share in our company. Basically, he can kick you out in a heartbeat if dad permits as the President."

My jaws dropped and my hands turned cold. I couldn't move. Waves after waves of questions flooded my mind.

I shook my head and tried to laugh. No! That's impossible.

"What the hell are you talking about? He doesn't have a share in The Quinn's. It was me who owns a share in Hamilton Group."

His eyes sharpened even more. "YOU STUPID, WOMAN!"

I chewed my bottom lip and swallowed hard. I don't know what to say. I suddenly feel weak. What the hell is this? Is he bluffing? I mean...this is just so impossible.

Uncle Aiden glared at me. "You didn't even know your husband lured you? Did he make you sign some documents before? You're so stupid, Brianna! Acting so mighty when you can't even win a simple fight."

I shook my head. "That's impossible, uncle."

"Oh that's really possible, Brianna. He owns the second highest share

but he's not interested in leading the company. He wants it down and he's starting!"

"THAT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN, UNCLE!"

"It's just a matter of time until we fall because of your stupidity, Brianna. Are you bragging about your shares in his company? To tell you the truth, he bought your shares."

"What? That's impossible! He didn't tell me anything—"

"Why would he even tell you? You were a slave to him. I bet you signed some documents without even throwing a single question at him. You graduated with latin honors but you're stupid in real life."

I sucked my breath as the corner of my eyes turned hot. I slowly sat on the couch. My knees and hands trembled. What just happened?

I can't accept what I just heard. Cain lured me. He took advantage of me. How did it happen? So this was the reason why my grandfather's company will face a big crisis?

I swallowed hard and palmed my face.

"You should do something about this, Brianna. I can't believe you let your emotions take the best of you. You didn't even think about the company. You only think about yourself and your stupid feelings. Will your principles help you, huh? I can't believe you!"

"You have to fix this, Brianna! If he convinces the other investors, it's over for us."

I squeezed my eyes and pulled my hair in frustration after Uncle Aiden stormed out of my office. I heard some footsteps coming and when I lifted my face, I saw my assistant, Levi, fixing the mess Uncle Aiden left. He even cleaned the broken vase while I was just sitting on the couch, staring at nothing in particular.

I'm still so shocked. I don't understand how this happened. I don't even

remember Cain mentioning his investment in The Quinns. I am certain no one mentioned it.

"Levi," I called my assistant coldly.

He stood in front of me in a formal stance. "Yes, Miss Bree?"

"Can you enlighten me? I just heard Cain is an investor. How did this happen?"

He looked down. "I apologize, Miss Bree. Your uncle opened a new project after he held yours. We needed more budget and he urged Mr. Hamilton to invest in The Quinns."

I balled my fists. It wasn't my fault! He let a traitor in our company thus this makes Uncle Aiden a traitor too. Damn!

"H-How's his project and what kind of project is this?"

"A mixed use condominium with a casino, Miss Bree."

"GODDAMN IT!" I screamed and turned the coffee table upside down. Everyone around me has dark motives, huh?

I glared at Levi. "WHAT ELSE DID HE DO?"

"H-He wants to take your grandfather's position, Miss Bree."

I sucked my breath. My grandfather's position, higher than mine. Shit!

"Let me borrow your car," I said and he immediately handed me the car key.

"Where are you going, Miss Bree?"

I'm going to see Cain. I did not answer Levi. I stormed out of the office as I dialed Cain's number. He rejected my call, intensifying my anger. Damn you!

When I reached his company, I was told to wait because he had a meeting. I don't care. I will talk to him now.

"CAIN!"

"Ma'am, please don't..."

I glared at the woman who tried to stop me. I glared at Cain sitting on the swivel chair inside the conference room. There were other people inside but Cain adjourned them after I entered angrily.

He lazily turned to me after the people left. "What is it, Brianna? I'm not in the mood to argue—"

I didn't let him finish. I slapped him hard. He clenched his jaws and slowly bore his eyes at me again.

"How dare you?" I angrily growled at him.

He chuckled and licked his bottom lip. "I am not that heartless, Brianna. I will leave you and your company alone if you kneel and beg me to forgive you."



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## Chapter 16 His Warmth

Brianna's POV

I laughed and shook my head in disbelief. I fixed my gaze on him as he looked at me like he's some wolf, preying on me. I can't believe he still sees himself as an authoritative man who can control me whenever he wants. This is absurd.

I came here to confirm what Uncle Aiden said and I just got the answer. Cain indeed manipulated me. He must've known that someday I'd come back to my senses and he took advantage of my stupidity. I'm just thankful I woke up in time, he might have taken all my properties and rights if I came to my senses a little late.

"You will never see me beg again, Cain."

His eyes sharpened. "You will lose your company, Brianna. I'm telling you. Don't let your pride drive your sanity or you'll wake up in a bed of nail."

The corner of my lips rose. "I've been to bed of blades, Cain. In your arms."

I turned my back and walked out of that room. I got the answer to my questions and the fact that I confirmed it makes me weak even more. I'm losing my wealth and properties as I redeem my dignity, I can't believe this is happening to me.

The rain has stopped but the sun is already setting. I drove and stopped in a bridge as I watched the sun hiding behind the night sky.

My phone rang and it was Levi. I answered his call without even greeting him.

[Miss Bree...] He breathed. [The other shareholders are threatening us to withdraw their shares after your uncle's project get on-hold. They're giving us a week to resolve the problem.]

I chewed my bottom lip and ended the call without saying anything. My phone rang again just after I dropped Levi's call. This time, it's Kate.

"Kate..."

[Where are you?]

I roamed my eyes around. In a river bridge. But I rather not tell her. "In my condo, Kate."

[Liar! I'm outside your unit.]

I smiled bitterly. "I'll just blow off some steam."

She heaved a sigh. [Fine! I heard about what Cain did. He's really an ass, you know! I will really punch him in the face if I get the chance. How dare he do this to you? It was you who helped him when his family business is going down. Technically, you saved him and this is how he paid you back? He doesn't have a conscience!]

I smiled and got out of the car. "I'll stay a little longer, Kate. Don't worry about me. I will be fine."

[I know but if you need my help, I will always be here.]

I sighed after the call ended. I sat on the hood of Levi's car and stared at the horizon. The night is so calm as if the world is a beautiful paradise free of problems and pain. The black clouds in the sky with a touch of white, dotted with bright stars is so relaxing to watch.

When I was a kid, I would always ask my parents where the sun was going whenever it went down to let the moon take over the sky. My mom would always say that everything has its own purpose. And then I asked why the eclipse happens. She would just smile and say life is always difficult, but its beauty can only be seen and felt if you fight and

wait patiently.

Her answers would always leave me confused. She would never give me an exact explanation. Now I know why. It's because life is never constant. Everything will change, nothing is permanent.

I walked towards the railing of the bridge. I looked down at the river. It wasn't showing my reflection, but it clearly shows the countless stars in the sky.

"DON'T!"

I was shocked when someone pulled me and we fell on the ground. I groaned when that someone kneeled in front of me and held my shoulders worriedly.

"What are you doing?" That familiar voice, almost whispering, got me tongue-tied.

Slowly, I lifted my face to see the man kneeling in front of me. His eyes were softly and darkly staring down at me. His lips were slightly parted as he pant like what he did got him so exhausted.

"R-Rogue Adams," I whispered as my heart skipped a beat. What is he doing here and why...

"Damn it!" He cursed and let go of my shoulders. He sat on the ground in front of me and stared into my eyes. "You always have someone to talk to when you feel down and lonely. I am here."

Now, I'm even more shocked. Does he think I'd jump off the bridge? Why would I even do that? I just checked the river. I was just admiring the nature.

"Wait—"

"I will listen. Everytime. Damn it! I'm so fcking glad I saw you. If I hadn't recognized you, what would have you done to yourself? Shit! I don't even want to think about it."



I swallowed hard and sucked my breath. He's completely a stranger, but he worries about me. I couldn't help but to smile. I suddenly forgot my problems because of him.

"Why are you even smiling?" He asked, annoyed. He pulled himself up and messed his hair up. He extended his hand to me, offering a hand to pull me up.

I extended my arm to accept his help. He pulled me up so easily and his other hand held my waist, supporting me. He immediately let go of my hand and waist as he looked at me with a creased forehead.

"I wasn't trying to jump. I was just looking at the water," I said, explaining my side because I feel like I need to.

He gasped and caressed his left chest. "You scared me to death! I would have jumped before you. Damn it, Brianna!"

Brianna. The way he says my name feels so strange. Why do I find myself smiling just because he called my name?

The familiar electrifying sensations woke my body again as I stared into his expressive and dark orbs. His thick eyebrows were still furrowed and why do I find him so attractive and sexy under the moonlight slowly intensifying.

I gasped. What the hell is wrong with me?

He suddenly pursed his lips. "You're not even moved by my effort to save you. I'm so hurt, you know."

My lips parted and then I found myself laughing with him. I was taken aback when he suddenly held my arm and pulled me closer to him.

"Come here. You got me so worried. I need compensation," he whispered as his arms wrapped around my body without my permission.

His hug wasn't tight as if he's giving me a choice of freeing myself if I

don't like what he's doing. I have lost my trust in men and I can easily push him away but somehow, I find his warmth very comforting. The burden in my heart strangely vanished when I felt his lips gently kiss my hair. My breathing almost stopped. I was so nervous, confused and lost.

"Don't scare me like that again."



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