## **Phone Calls**

She grabbed her stu, checking her phone in case Marise had called. To her surprise, there were multiple missed calls from Aaron. Frowning, She called him back.

- "Evie! Thank god, is everything ok? Where are you?"
- "Everything's fine. Why?" She deliberately didn't answer where she was. She put him on speaker phone and headed to the balcony door, beckoning Beau over and pressing a finger to her lips.
- "I saw you slam out of the house on the ring cam hours ago with a bag, and then you didn't answer your phone. I've called you six times. He explained. "Look, I know things weren't great when I le, and I'm sorry, but please wait until I get home before you decide!"
- "I didn't leave. I'll be back tomorrow. I'm just struggling with writer's block and thought a change of scenery would help."
- "You were pretty angry when you le . I thought you were still upset with me.'Aaron's voice sounded relieved.
- "Oh, sorry I worried you. I'm fine."
- "Okay, I just wanted to be surë.
- "All right, stay safe."
- "Evie! Hold on, where are you? Evie swore silently as she saw her location icon light up. "Your car is still at the house."

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- "Marise picked me up and brought me to hers. We're gonna have a wine night."
- "Marise?"
- "Yeah, Marise. My agent." She saw Beau raise his eyebrow in disbelief.
  "I called her to vent about my writer's block, and she came and got
  me. I also spent \$500 on your card at a spa today."
- "What? Evie! Come on, why my card?"
- "You forgot my birthday last month and said you would make it up to me but never did. I figured I'd take care of that for you."
- "Damn Doll." Beau mouthed as he tried to hold in his laughter.
- "I was thinking of dinner and a movie. Seriously? LaRue? The aggravation in Aaron's voice as he checked his credit card statement was comical to Evie now.
- "Oh. Well, I can pay you back if you want." Disappointment crept into her voice. Dinner and a movie to make up for missing her birthday? Did he really think that would be enough?
- "No, it's fine. He sighed. "I've got to go; Beau just came in."
- "Okay. Say hi to him for me."
- "I will. Love you."
- "Bye." She hung up the phone and set it down.

Beau shook his head. "He still hasn't made up for forgetting your birthday?" He remembered her birthday. He had gotten her a present she loved, carefully leaving his name o the card so she wouldn't know it was from him. She shook her head as his phone started to ring. "Look, it's Tweedle Dee." He held it up and showed Susan was calling him. He answered on speaker. "Hey, Sue. What's up? How's the job going?"

- "Good. Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing."
- "Great, everything's good; just cleaning up a little mess on the balcony."
- "You're at the condo?'Susan's voice got a little higher.
- "Yeah, I always come here when you're out of town. You know that."
- "I know. Maybe you should head back to the house. I'll be home early tomorrow. We can get breakfast."
- "I'm gonna stay here. I've got a few things I'm working on." He rolled his eyes. "Tell me when you want me home, and I'll meet you there."
- "Meet you at ten, I guess."

  "Sounds like a plan."
- "Love you."

about pizza?"

"Bye."

Beau hung up. "Well, that's interesting. Aaron saw you were somewhere in my building and panicked enough to have Susan call me. She never calls me on jobs." He grinned. "How are you feeling

- "Mint chocolate chip ice cream, brownies, chocolate-covered almonds, and pizza all sound wonderful.

  "Alright." Beau laughed. "Go get cleaned up."

**Continue to next part**