

Chapter 407 Zeke's Betrayal

"What else have you found out?" Rayan asked. He had also reached out to Caspian around the time he had called Noble to ask for help. In addition to Noble's influence in Y Country, Caspian also had his own network over there.

It was only reasonable for the men to join forces and work as a team.

"Do you remember what happened back then?" Caspian asked. "That time when you fell into Noble's trap."

"Of course, I do," Rayan snapped. Judging by Caspian's stern expression, he guessed that something significant must have occurred without his knowledge.

It could have had something to do with Janessa's kidnapping, too.

"You were holding a board meeting then, weren't you? But you had to cut it short and immediately flew to Y Country. Have you never wondered how Noble found you as soon as you arrived?" Caspian knew Rayan and was familiar with the latter's skills. What was more, Rayan was a very cautious man. And so, he had been understandably shocked when he learned that Rayan had been beaten black and blue.

There could only be one reason for this unlikely predicament—he had gotten involved with a woman. From then on, Caspian had held the belief that if Rayan was ever in danger again, it would be that woman's fault.

Caspian didn't believe in marriage, and had sworn to be a bachelor for life. For him, a woman was only good for satisfying a man's lust and giving birth to his child.

Since practically any woman met these requirements, anyway, he made the decision to never burden himself with romance and commitment.

"Don't give me that look," Rayan said. He could tell what Rayan was thinking by the glint in the man's eyes. "You're only judging me because you haven't found your Miss Right yet. Once you do, you'll understand why I did the things that I did."

In truth, Caspian's so-called "non-marriage doctrine" was nothing more than an excuse. A woman had broken his heart in the past, and he'd been so devastated that he'd resolved to never marry.

Deep down, Rayan disdained him for his decision and the weakness that had led to it.

All of a sudden, Caspian got to his feet and walked toward the door without another word.

Rayan quickly turned to Corbin and nodded in Caspian's direction. Corbin moved swiftly, desperate to stop the man from leaving.

"Wait, Caspian! Don't take it to heart. Mr. Lu is just being a cocky idiot. You know how he sometimes gets carried away." The words had slipped out of his mouth before he realized he had just insulted his boss.

But Corbin squared his shoulders. Rayan had given him an order, so he naturally had to see that the task was accomplished, no matter what it took. He was only doing his job, after all.

Rayan, meanwhile, gaped at his assistant's bold words. 'Did Corbin just call me cocky?'

Luckily, Caspian seemed appeased by Corbin's pandering. He was especially pleased to see the incredulous expression Rayan was sporting. He strode back to his seat.

Corbin breathed a sigh of relief. If this had been a few years ago, Caspian would have beaten him to a pulp for daring to stand in his way. Indeed, Corbin had been bracing himself for the attack, but Caspian was surprisingly level-headed today.

In any case, he counted himself lucky for accomplishing his mission and coming out unscathed.

"Judging from your brilliant assistant's remarks, it appears that Corbin is on my side," Caspian commented.

In response, Rayan only cocked his head at Corbin and glared.

The poor man felt a shiver run down his spine. Perhaps getting roughed up would have been the better ending for him.

"Mr. Lu..." Corbin whined, feeling aggrieved.

'I followed your order! I prevented Caspian from leaving. Isn't that what you wanted? You can't blame me for what I did when it enabled me to deliver!'

Corbin sent a prayer up to the heavens and looked at Rayan with wide, puppy eyes.

"Whatever," Rayan sighed. "Let's get down to business, shall we?"

Just like that, the atmosphere turned serious again. They all knew how crucial the matter at hand was. If they messed this up, they would endanger the Lu Group and possibly waste a decade's worth of effort in building up the company.

"This is the report one of my men gave me." Caspian slid a document on the table before continuing. "The moment you went abroad, someone sent an anonymous email to Noble, telling him about your travel details. Upon tracing the account and the IP address, we found out that Zeke was the one who contacted him."

"I can't believe he did this. Zeke is just another two-faced traitor, after all! What a shameless man!" Corbin was so outraged that he didn't hesitate to curse a superior in front of Rayan.

Zeke was truly nice and amiable to everyone in the company. Who would have thought that he would end up stabbing them in the back? He had lulled them into trusting him, only to plunge them into deep and dangerous waters.

"The thing is, Larry's head office is not even here, but in M Country. I believe his motivation to be revenge, though I have no idea about the details. I've never even heard of him before all this happened." Rayan thought back and tried to recall the people he had known since childhood. He had no memory of having encountered Larry at all. This only strengthened Janessa's presumption that Larry's grudge was directed against his parents.

He would have to go back home in order to get the answers he needed.

"He must have been preparing for a long time," Caspian pointed out. "His branch office has been thriving here for the last ten years. If Larry is really doing this for revenge, then that means he has been plotting it for just as long." He was finding it hard to be optimistic about their chances at this point.

"I don't care how many years he's been scheming against the Lu Group. I'll make sure he knows the cost of challenging me." Now that he finally had a sensible lead, Rayan was all fired up.

Corbin and Caspian exchanged a meaningful look and smiled at one another.

Whenever Rayan geared up for battle, the enemy was bound to lose, and lose miserably.

'I hope you're ready, Larry.'

Meanwhile, back at the villa, Janessa woke up after two hours of sleep.

Thanks to the ice pack and the ointment, her burns were as good as healed, except for the faint patch of red on her skin. She looked around groggily and realized that she was still in the master's bedroom.

She had such a pleasant and satisfying slumber.

Maybe it was because the room held a lot of good memories, or she was in a constant good mood as of late, that she had a good sleep.

Janessa slowly made her way downstairs to fetch a glass of water. She had barely made it across the living room when she spotted a familiar figure sitting on the sofa.

'Why is Alana here?'

Hearing the rustling sound behind her, Alana turned from the TV and trotted over to Janessa.

"Well?" she beamed. "Are you surprised to see me? Are you touched? Let me see if you're tearing up from joy." Alana sidled close to Janessa and nudged her with her elbow.

After collecting herself, Janessa rolled her eyes and huffed, "Stop it, there are no tears in my eyes."

Alana took her hand and ushered her to the sofa.

Needless to say, Janessa was confused at her friend's sudden appearance. Rayan had taken her phone away as soon as she had arrived at this villa. She had no way of contacting anyone in the outside world. For a moment, Janessa doubted her eyes. Was Alana really in front of her, or was she just hallucinating?

Could it be that someone had asked her to come?

"What are you doing here?" Janessa finally blurted out.

"Your butler called and said that you've been losing your appetite these last few days. He asked if I could come and eat with you. I know that most pregnant women suffer from nausea during their first trimester and can barely eat anything, but you have to feed that baby in your belly. I'm here to keep you company and make sure you finish your meals." Alana explained everything in earnest, as if this was the most natural course of action for everyone involved.

While she was speaking, she kept blinking at her friend. She looked so adorable with her round cheek that Janessa felt like pinching it.

"So you're really here?" She then moved on to pinch Alana's cheek and that was when she believed what she saw.

"Of course, I'm here! Hey, cut that out." Alana brushed Janessa's hands away. The latter's weird reaction somehow brought an old adage to mind—

'Women tend to become scatterbrained during pregnancy.' Apparently, the saying was true.