

The Consortium's Heir by Benjamin

Chapter 201

"Then, when our mother came over to get even with him, they killed her!" "Oh? Well, I

haven't heard such an absurd thing," one of the control room personnel replied calmly,

"We'll investigate this matter. I'll need you guys to come with me until we find out the truth."

Darius could tell the personnel was not in a good mood, but he remained in his seat.

The personnel nudged his spectacles before frowning at Darius. Even his tone took on a snarl.

"Did you not hear what I said? I told you to come with me!"

Darius continued to stay seated, not moving, save for his gaze that shot toward Edward.

Upon seeing that, the personnel looked over at Edward. "I saw what happened earlier.

You were the one who started the fight and beat them up."

That was when the airport's speakers recited Darius and his entourage's names, urging them to board the plane.

Darius stood, adjusting his suit before saying, "Before you decide to arrest us, you'll

need to look for their mother's so-called dead body and investigate the plane."

Each of the control room personnel's faces darkened. Their job was to ensure every

flight's safety, after all. Hence, their attention snapped over to Darius as one of them

asked,

"What do you mean by that? Something's wrong with the plane?"

Darius yawned lazily before pointing at the brothers on the ground. "These two reek of a

paint unique to only aircrafts. I believe you guys should investigate the matter thoroughly."

"You'd better be telling the truth. Otherwise, the consequences will be severe."

The

personnel narrowed his eyes at Darius.

After saying that, one of the two control room personnel rushed to the airport apron while the other remained with the group.

Darius speechlessly shrugged at the two personnel's reactions.

Soon, a series of arguments broke out from the airport apron.

Darius looked over and saw a group of people marching toward him. He was an awakened martial artist, which meant his senses were heightened. That was why he could accurately detect the wrath of the person leading the incoming group. However, his focus was not on them at that moment.

He looked at the brothers on the ground and pointed out, "Based on reason and my past habits alone, I should end you two with my bare hands..."

The personnel watching over them glared at Darius upon hearing that.

Regardless, Darius ignored him and continued staring at the two while threatening, "So, both of you should be grateful for this control room personnel. It's because he appeared that you guys survived up till now."

The brothers were terrified to hear that, which Darius had expected. Thus, he nodded satisfactorily.

Edward did not know what Darius was planning, so he merely stood by the latter's side with a stern countenance. His gaze drilled into the brothers the whole time.

"Mr. Reid, perhaps I can deal with these two," he suggested.

Hearing that, the brothers did not hesitate to get off the ground. They reached out to balance their bodies that still swayed. Then, they used all their might to run and hide behind the personnel.

One of them even gripped the personnel's sleeve. "Please save us! We previously did something that angered them. But these guys are all quick to anger, so our lives are in danger now!"

Darius rolled his eyes.

"We've been sitting here this entire time while you guys were the ones who approached us. It's all reflected in the surveillance footage."

The personnel grew frustrated at the group's ceaseless bickering, so he thundered,
"That's enough! Shut up, all of you, or you'll get punished for starting a ruckus and speaking nonsense!"

The blank look on Darius' face remained unchanged. Meanwhile, the brothers were now full of fear.

They were about to agree to the personnel's orders when the group of angry people arrived.

Darius stayed in his seat, but his eyes roamed over the people before him. He primarily focused on the man at the group's forefront, who had a deep frown. The man wore a pressed suit.

Darius yawned, shutting his eyes while stating with certainty, "You're the manager of this airport."

That only enraged the manager even more as he barked, "You know me, huh? Then have you intentionally come to cause trouble at my workplace?"

Hearing that made Darius' eyes open, and he examined the former before shutting his eyes again.

"I don't know you. I merely saw the word 'manager' on your name tag."

Moments passed before the shocked manager composed himself. "Then why have you informed the control room personnel something's wrong with our plane? What are your intentions? Our airport's security is the best in the country. Don't you know your little accusation means our flight can't take off? We'll have to financially compensate many passengers and pay a hefty sum to examine the plane."

"I'm sure your boss would be much happier if you thought twice before speaking." Darius lazily opened his eyes, then stood and adjusted his suit.

The manager fell silent by then.

He had always been proud of his height, but it now seemed inferior before Darius.

In fact, Darius' presence brought about an uncompromising aura that the

manager could
never have.

The manager locked eyes with Darius, replying, “So why on earth would you do something that doesn’t benefit you and could cause losses for my workplace?” A scoff came from Darius, who sneered and said, “You said it yourself-this situation won’t benefit either of us. Thus, I’m only claiming there’s something wrong because it’s the truth.”

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‘That’s impossible!’ the manager boomed, unintentionally attracting people’s attention.

Flustered, he cleared his throat and waited for the right moment to explain, “Our airport’s security members are professionals. Every aircraft has a dedicated safety inspector, so our planes will never falter. I bet you’re someone with ulterior motives. You must have

gotten hired by our competitors to spread fake news!”

Darius glanced at the man from the control room and said, “I believe you guys can confirm whether I’m telling the truth or not. I’ve already wasted plenty of time in this airport, which is a tremendous loss on my part. So, I hope we can resolve this soon.”

The man nodded. Although the two came to an agreement, they did not consider the manager’s feelings.

That caused the manager’s eyes to widen with rage, and he thundered, “You guys are being unreasonable! Our airport has nothing to do with the matter!”

He then scanned Darius from top to bottom before flashing a disdainful look.

“Look at you. Your clothes don’t look like they’re worth much. Plus, I’ve never seen you

before! I’ve checked your ticket purchase records, and it seems you’ve never even

bought a flight ticket from us before today. You should know that our company is the best

among all other airline companies. That’s why our prices are much higher than theirs.

Therefore, it proves that you have never bought a ticket from us before. Yet, you and your group suddenly bought expensive tickets from us today. I bet you got paid by our rival companies and are trying to defame us.”

The man from control room stood aside without speaking, but his eyes were on Darius, scrutinizing him.

Darius felt his gaze shift upon hearing the manager’s words. He scoffed before responding, “It seems your eyesight isn’t that good, despite you being an airline company’s manager.”

While saying that, he crossed one leg over the other, adding, “If you had good vision, you would know the clothes I’m wearing, excluding any accessories, are worth more than your yearly salary.”

The manager fell silent. He had to admit what Darius said was true. Even so, something clicked in his mind after a few seconds. He placed his hands on his waist again and spoke louder than before.

‘That’s because the company you’re working for provided clothes for you!

Since they gave you money to purchase expensive tickets, they obviously had to get you a luxury outfit to match!”

Darius’ laughter grew when he heard that. “If that’s the case, then the clothes they gave me, including all the accessories on my body, are worth far more than what they’re paying me to defame you. I can easily leave with all these luxury items and not do the task.”

Erin stood behind Darius throughout the exchange, perplexity flickering in her eyes.

She mused, “Mr. Reid isn’t normally a chatterbox, yet he’s been talking more these two days. It may seem like he’s in a good mood, but that’s definitely untrue. I don’t know why he would do this. One thing’s clear, though, nothing good will happen if we

continue to

waste our time here.”

Her brows drew close, but she ultimately decided to play along with him.

It was then that Darius’ actions cleared her doubts. He waited until he saw someone

approach before saying, “I’m not a talkative man, but I’m willing to waste my time on you

guys.”

He interlaced his fingers, placed them on his lap, and then raised his chin at the

manager.

That made the manager’s cheeks flush. It was understandable since no one would like to

hear they were wasting others’ time. Hence, his eyes bore a hole into Darius.

“Don’t look at me like that. I don’t like it,” Darius said, enunciating his words slowly as he

turned to meet the manager’s gaze.

The manager blew up with rage again because of that. He stomped his foot and pointed

at Darius, seething, ‘That! That look of yours makes you seem uncivilized!

Like you

received little education since childhood! Your actions and words just now aren’t anything

like a wealthy person’s. They’re enough to prove your current wealth doesn’t come from

you nor your family!”

After that, the manager felt smug, like he had discovered another world of problems.

He then glowered at Erin, adding, “And that woman beside you. She may try hard to act

like your secretary, but in reality, the two of you could be in a scandalous relationship!

After all, her eyes have been on you this whole time!”

Disdain filled his eyes when he uttered the last sentence.

Only then did Darius cast a normal glance at the manager. However, his tone came out

frosty. “Are you aware of your hateful gaze toward me now?”

“W-What the hell do you mean by that? Everyone can tell you two are a couple who are

out to scam people! There are many fraudsters like you in the world. There’s no way I’ll

fall for your lies! Our airline company will never compromise nor compensate you just because you're threatening us!" the manager said. Darius was still on the chair, flashing a grin at the manager, albeit one filled with mockery. 'There's this saying-a person with an ugly heart sees the world as being unsightly,' Darius replied while tucking his hands in his pockets, standing, and locking eyes with the manager. "Anyway, your words have angered me. If you don't apologize now, I promise you'll regret your actions in the next ten minutes." It was then that the manager calmed down. He had been focusing on Darius' case all this time. Darius never seemed nervous in his eyes. However, he firmly believed his assumptions. The manager was extra confident after seeing Erin blush when he assumed she and Darius were a couple. To him, her reaction was evidence proving he was right. It was evident that the manager had many opinions regarding the matter. Those were unknown to Darius, nor did he want to know.

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Darius spoke straightforwardly. "I have some bad news for you. According to my investigation, your lover holds 20% of this airline company's shares. However, I own 51%. While the 20% grants your lover the status of being one of the top two major shareholders..." The manager's face became pale. What shocked him more was that things had not ended there. "...You're not someone capable. All you did was rely on your looks to seduce your current lover. You're only able to stand here and point fingers at me so rudely because your lover gave you this position," Darius continued. He then cracked his neck, adding while he examined the manager's

expression, 'There's more that I know, such as your lover's husband. His and my company rarely engage in collaborations as he's far too inferior.'

The manager suddenly had a relaxed expression.

Upon seeing that, Darius' lips curled into a sneer.

"Of course, those are merely my opinions. The same can't be said for your lover. If her

husband wanted to fire you and make you pay a hefty compensation for your affair, your

lover would agree without hesitation."

At that point, the manager's eyes widened. He could not utter a complete sentence

without stuttering.

"Y-You've g-gone too far, Darius! H-How could you say such a thing!"

Darius arched a brow, his face no longer harboring signs of a good mood.

Everyone could sense an angry aura from Darius as he stared the manager down.

Darius felt the urge to engage in physical violence but could not, as he had already

wasted plenty of time on the matter. He sighed, wanting to continue.

However, before he could continue speaking, the manager's roaring laughter broke out.

"You must be hallucinating!" The manager remarked. "Aren't you aware of your identity?

How could you have 51% of the airline company's shares?"

"I've met many people, but few are like you-the truth has unfolded, and it's crystal clear

that you've lost this argument. Yet, you remain in denial. It's my first time seeing such a

response. Perhaps I've encountered someone similar in the past, but because of my foul

temper, they never got the chance to continue with their delusions like you have."

The manager rolled his eyes at the former. 'Things have clearly worsened. I'll make you

pay for everything you've said if you don't show me proof of your ownership of the airline

company's shares!"

That was when a sharp and loud voice yelled from afar, "That's enough! Shut your

damned mouth! At this point, we should break off our affair!" All color drained from the manager's face upon hearing that. Every fiber of his being trembled as he turned toward the approaching person. It was an attractive woman who donned a bodycon dress and held a bag worth several thousand dollars.

Darius also stared at the woman but soon tore his gaze from her. That was because he felt no need to express anything now that things had developed this far. However, the incoming woman did not share the same sentiment. She ignored the manager, who tried to appease her. Instead, she walked toward Darius without slowing down.

The manager's jaw fell open as he could not believe what was happening before his eyes.

When he wanted to voice his confusion, the woman spoke. "I heard about what happened from your bodyguard, Mr. Reid. I'm terribly sorry. There isn't much I can do for you as my wealth falls short compared to yours. That's why I'm granting you the chance to express your anger. I won't interfere, regardless of whether you wish to kill him or do anything to punish him. All I ask is that you don't release the wrath you feel toward him onto the company."

Her gaze pierced Darius, indicating she was confident her offer would succeed.

Darius looked at the manager before smirking. "Turn around and look at this poor manager, who still thinks your relationship with him is based on genuine love. He will never change just because of my sudden presence."

The woman sat in the chair opposite Darius just then, shooting him a frosty glare before quickly replacing it with a smile. "Rest assured. Regardless of whatever identity or relationship he has with me, you're free to do whatever you please with him. Don't worry about what I think."

The manager's eyes widened as he doubted the woman's seriousness. Nevertheless, his knees gave in, causing him to land on the ground with a loud thud. Despite his refusal to accept the truth, he knew now that Darius possessed boundless wealth and was someone he could not afford to offend. He then surprised everyone by cracking a grin. "I was sincere and put in so much effort toward you. Who would've thought that this is how you repay my love." The manager stared at the woman. Regardless of whatever he said or did, his gaze was so intense that it revealed how he felt clearly. He wanted the woman to give him a reasonable explanation. 'That's enough. I have many things to do. As for the profit this airline company has yielded me, it's nowhere near the earnings of my other ongoing business projects. So, if this company yields little profit and makes me unhappy, I won't hesitate to abandon it. I'll sell off my shares at a low price.' The woman paled drastically but knew she had no chance of opposing him.

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All the woman could do was get up and bow deeply at Darius. "I'm deeply sorry. This was my fault. I'm willing to pay any price to alleviate your anger and not get punished by you."

The manager had already gotten apprehended by that point. Meanwhile, the man from control room stood aside and watched the events unfold without reacting.

Curiosity flickered in Darius' eyes as he watched the two people. It was his first time encountering such a situation.

The woman could tell he was curious and quickly explained, 'These two have worked at our airport for many years, and they're very knowledgeable about the airport's ins and outs.'

“Don’t trust that woman, Darius!” the manager yelled without thinking twice. He was furious after being held down for some time. That interrupted the turning cogs in Darius’s brain, causing him to frown and focus on the pallid manager. Having caught Darius’ attention, the manager announced, “I may not know who you are, but I’m sure you’re the person that woman once mentioned. She previously told me about a family that reunited with their male heir. Her exact words were, ‘They likely dug him up from the trash cans of society. I bet he can’t handle those responsibilities from the different environment he grew up in.’”

Something dark and sinister tainted the woman’s eyes just then. There was no change in Darius’ expression, but he examined the reactions of everyone at the scene in detail, including the control room personnel’s amused looks. He eventually saw the woman glancing at one of the airport’s corners, causing security to come over and take the manager away. Darius looked at the two tall, burly security guards before raising a hand to stop their actions.

“Please hang on. I’d like to hear what the manager has to say next.” The woman’s face darkened as she bobbed her head. “Why would you listen to him? There’s no telling if we can trust his words.”

“You’re the most talkative woman to ever speak to me,” Darius said. “Perhaps you’re unaware, but that is a trait I hate the most.”

It was like an invisible pair of hands were choking the woman right then. She could not utter even a squeak, her face increasingly warping with worry. Desperate, she shot an instructive look at the two security guards.

“Edward, Bridget,” said Darius while he held his throbbing temple. “Remove those two security guards from my sight. Now.”

His bodyguards had already taken action once they heard him speak. Thus, before the woman's security guards could say anything or react to the situation, Edward and Bridget pinned them to the ground. The two guards' arms got forcefully pressed against their backs. It hurt so much that they could not help crying out. Those pained groans instantly put Darius in a bad mood. He frowned while waving his hand, to which Edward complied by taking the two security guards away. In the meantime, darkness shrouded the woman's features as she never expected Darius to put her in such a humiliating position. Darius then looked at the manager, stating, "I dislike you, but I feel what you're saying is the truth. You may continue talking if you're able to recall anything more." The manager fell into a dumbfounded stupor. It took some time before he said, 'There's more I wish to say, but sadly, there's not much else I can rat out to you.'

A nod came from Darius. He then shifted his focus toward the woman. "Is there anything you wish to say in response to his words?" At that moment, the woman's eyes darted around frantically. That made it apparent to Darius that she was coming up with more lies to tell him. However, Darius was in no rush to call her out. He merely shut his eyes, wanting to see what other lies the woman would use to explain herself. All of that went unnoticed by the woman, who anxiously clarified, "Mr. Reid, no matter what, please don't believe what he's saying! That guy has lost his mind now that I chose to punish him for his rudeness."

Darius snorted. Only a contemptuous sneer showed on his face. "And here I assumed you'd stand by your beliefs until the end. I never thought you'd turn out to be the same as everyone else." He stood while adding, "Don't worry. I won't mess with this airline company for now."

He turned toward Erin and instructed, "Reach out to the airport's official

management. I

intend to contract all flights for the next 50 years, including those for traveling passengers.”

Erin’s eyes lit up upon hearing those words. She nearly jumped onto her feet from

excitement but did not. Still, her cheeks turned bright red as she exclaimed, “That’s a great project, Mr. Reid! It never crossed my mind that we could operate this

way. Rest assured. I’ll head to West Atlantics Int’l to do so right away.”

Just as she turned on her heel, she noticed the large crowd rushing into the airport’s hall

with their luggage in tow. That instantly snapped her to her senses.

She flashed an apologetic smile at Darius, saying, “Mr. Reid, I don’t think I can execute

that task now as I still have to accompany you abroad.”

Darius nodded understanding^.

Contrarily, the woman standing aside blew up with rage. She mocked, “Don’t you two

know what ridiculous things you’re saying now?”

Hearing that, Darius and Erin stopped speaking, shifting their piercing gazes onto the

woman.

Even so, the woman was unfazed. Instead, the taunting smirk on her face curved even

more as she boldly elaborated,

“Airline flights are crazy expensive, and they’ve always been under the government’s

control. Acquiring an entire airline’s flights isn’t impossible, but you guys will never have

the money to do it.”

Darius locked eyes with Erin. “As of now, every cent her airline company earns is

equivalent to your duty in appeasing me. I’m sure you understand what I mean.”

Erin instantly nodded. She then whipped out her laptop, her fingers furiously typing on

the keyboard, letting out several clicks and clacks.

Darius said nothing more. He just sat down on the bench.

Meanwhile, the man from the control room should have left by then, but he did not. It

was because he wanted to know how things would end.

Thus, he watched Darius' every move.

Although there was nothing hostile in his gaze, it still made Darius feel uncomfortable.

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Not a word came from Darius. All he did was shut his eyes and continue to rest.

It was not long before Erin closed her laptop and stood, her eyes gleaming.

"It's done,

Mr. Reid."

At the same time, her features loosened with signs of exhaustion.

Darius opened his eyes, but before he could speak, the woman guffawed."

Anyone can

find out who owns the airline by searching it online. Besides, I'm the company's-

No longer patient, Darius shot onto his feet and glared daggers at the woman.

"I hope

you remember that I own more than half of this airline company's shares. In other words,

I have absolute control over this company, which means I can replace this company's

board and executive manager as I please."

Fear coursed through the woman's veins.

She raised her head, casting a shaky look at Darius while musing, "I'm the second major

chairperson in this company after Darius. I'm also the executive manager.

In saying that before a crowd, Darius is making others question my authority! I can't let

him have his way anymore!"

Determined, she stood up and smoothed her clothes. "I hope you know you'll be in

trouble with the law for saying all of that! The most obvious outcome is that you'll end up

in jail!"

Darius studied her with a predatory jeer. "I can sense your fear through your every

action. Regardless, you should know I don't care about your threats."

He shrugged as though facing jail time was a walk in the park for him.

The woman did not expect Darius, a mere human like everyone else, to react so

stoically. It made her eyes widen in shock.

“Are you aware of the consequences your current words will bring?”

“I think,” Darius sneered, “Rather than being concerned about me, you should worry

about yourself. I know for a fact that I’ll be safe.”

Subsequently, he made a finger gun motion at the woman, raised it slightly, and loudly

said, “Bang!”

The woman jolted, and her sudden action caused the bench she sat on to drag against

the ground with a bone-chilling screech.

Dense silence filled the space just then.

That was when Erin’s snickering broke out, and it caught Darius’ attention.

“What has happened?” Darius asked.

“Mr. Reid, I think I’ve discovered something.” Not a tinge of fear showed on Erin’s face.

Instead, her eyes slightly curved with the faintest hint of anticipation. She promptly

passed her now-open laptop over to Darius.

On the screen was a map with a flickering and moving red dot, which immediately

caused Darius’ eyes to narrow in confusion.

He braised a brow at Erin, who instantly understood what he meant and explained with a

chipper tone,

“Mr. Reid, the dot represents the husband of Elizabeth Wilson, the woman before us.

He’s already gotten informed and is rushing over to us. His driving has far exceeded the

maximum speed allowed on public roads. We can inform the police. That way, he can

never show his face in front of us.”

Elizabeth’s eyes widened, and she thrashed desperately to stand up from the bench.

However, it was evident that the control room personnel would not let her leave.

Otherwise, his hands would not be on her shoulders, exerting force to keep her in place.

Terrified, Elizabeth’s voice became a pitch higher as she shrilled, “You can’t treat me like

this! I haven’t done anything wrong!”

The personnel nodded while calmly speaking. “Indeed, that’s true. But I’m only

doing this
to prevent you from making a mistake. Of course, if you don't need my help,
you can
always charge at Mr. Reid and get physical. I'll then have to apprehend both
of you, and
you'll end up paying a hefty sum as part of your bail."
Only then did Elizabeth rein in her emotions.
She remained in the seat opposite Darius and looked up at the personnel. It
took her a
moment to force a smile at the latter. "Thank you, sir. I would've done
something wrong if
it weren't for you."
The personnel stayed in place without a trace of emotion.
That made Elizabeth feel so humiliated that she pursed her lips into a thin line.
Darius had his legs casually crossed while he sat on the bench. He could
sense Erin's
gaze lingering on him throughout the incident. Glimpsing at his watch, Darius
mused,
"The plane's examination has likely ended by now. There's no way that flight
is taking off.
Then again, I can always go on the next flight that leaves in an hour."
With that in mind, he nodded and said, "Well done, Erin. Send her to the
airport's
detention center for now. I'll deal with her once my schedule frees up and I
return from
this trip."
He got up, smoothed the creases on his suit, and then eyed the control room
personnel.
"I'm on a tight schedule, so I must leave now."
"Sir!" the personnel interjected, brows drawing close. "I'm afraid you can't
leave because
there's no proof that what you claimed about the plane is true. You're free to
go after we
find evidence to validate your words.
However, should that not happen, you'll have to come with us. Besides, we
can't just
ignore your displays of aggression toward our company's and manager."
A deep, lengthy sigh came from Darius then. Nevertheless, he returned to his
seat,
flashing a blank look at the personnel. "I've already told you-I'm their superior
and the

head chairman of this company. I don't think any of the airport's personnel, at least not you, are needed to interfere with my arguments against my subordinates." That shut the personnel up. After all, what Darius said was the truth. The personnel had no place in resolving the matter. Thus, the personnel cast a helpless look at Elizabeth. "Miss Elizabeth, if this man is genuinely a major shareholder, we can't settle the disputes between you two. All we can do is find a middle ground to resolve this conflict." At that point, Elizabeth knew there was no other way.

