

Mr. Chairman's Devious Wife by Brey Mitchylle

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Chapter 61

Just when Sofia thought her day could most get any worse. Miss Agbores informed her that there was a problem with their recent photos

How could she have too many problems in just a day

Was this the consequence of acting like an adult Sona wanted curse, but this was simply her fault

the end she got up took some medicine to ease her headache, and then instructed Miss Amores to bring her into the room where they had then shoot. The moment they arrived. Sofia was immediately greeted by the chaos

Mistake the photographer refused to shoot the new model, and the old model that we have already said they are going to pay for the contract as they do not plan to become our ambassador anymore”

“Our brand ambassador Sofia frowned Jean Smith is an actress and a model who became their brand ambassador just last

year

“Miss Smith refuse

Contract”

Lesday but is letting her team talk to us. They said they will pay for the cancellation of the

Schnarrowed her eyes. So, we have no model and our photographer refused to shoot the replacement one

Y-Yes Miss Amores from d

Have you tried calling the other models Sofia asked. Surely, they have other models that they could use, right? When she was still the creative director, she had contacts with a lot of models who wore their clothes for their online store.

She had experienced something like this in the past, but she was able to sort it out. Sadly, the current photographer, Mr. Franks might be different.

“Have you tried calling for replacements?” Sona asked

“We did. But we can’t find anyone in Illinois right now,”

“How about another photographer?” she asked.

“None”

Sofia sighed “Give me my phone she uttered Miss Amores gave her her phone, and Sofia immediately sent a message to

Alexander

Hey Are you busy?]

INo 1 The reply came almost immediately. Then came another [Do you miss me?

[Can you help me with something?] she asked,

[Anything

This man was the CEO of a large company Why was he replying so fast? Was he really this idle? Impossible, Sotta thought inwardly. The company that she was currently managing was not even as large as the Beaumont Empire, and yet, she was already drowning with work! Just as she was about to send another text, her phone started ringing.

“Hey... she immediately answered. Who would have thought thay Alexander would even call her?

“Hey, are you alright?” his voice was soft. “Do you need me to send someone to help you

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“No.” Sofia walked farther away to try and find a quiet spot. Do you know a famous model or a photographer for an emergency shoot?” she asked.
“Someone that is already in Illinois, if that’s possible.”

“Did something happen?”

We are supposed to have our photoshoot for our newer clothes for our online app. Jean Smith suddenly canceled and is even willing to cancel the contract.”

“Send me your current location...” he said.

“Can you help me?”

“That’s a really small matter.”

Relief flashed inside Sofia. “Alright.”

“And don’t give your phone to anyone.”

“Oh....” Sofia salu

of her calls earli

The only reason why she gave it to Miss Amores is that she asked her secretary to answer the rest jead was still aching, and the pain reliever was not doing anything to help her out. So, she asked her

secretary to take care of all upcoming communication on her phone.

“Good. I’ll see you later.”

Then the call ended.

What about her model?

He said he would help right?

He said it, right?

“Miss, the Photographer is here...” Miss Amores called out.

“Alright” Sofia immediately went back to where the Photographer was waiting for her. “Mr. Franks... it’s nice to see you.” Mr. Franks is a well-known fashion

photographer who has photographed a lot of renowned actors and models for magazines.

This man's schedule had always been full in the past. In fact, she was aware that Mr. Franks was no longer available for the rest of the year.

"Miss Lockhart. It's nice to finally meet you."

Sofia smiled at the man wearing a comfortable hoodie; his blue hair was especially attractive under the lighting inside the room. She was not able to come during the contract signing as she was not the CEO then. "Do you want coffee or

"I was promised to have Miss Jean Smith as my model today," Mr. Franks directly said. "The contract stated that I have to shoot Miss Smith. I cannot accept any model changes."

While Sofia was a little surprised at the man's bluntness, she knew that something like this was considered normal in the fashion world..

Mr. Franks' attitude was already well-known in the industry. He was one of those photographers who had a very strict work ethic. Sometimes, he would refuse to shoot models because of reasons like the model being late or the model being sick.

He doesn't like models who don't know their job and would not hesitate to scream at someone who does not perform well under the camera. Despite this, the people in the industry respected him.

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"Mr. Franks, Miss Smith is currently under the weather. I really do apologize for the inconvenience. I am-

"Then I should just wrap up. What's the use of staying here if I can't shoot Miss Smith?"

"We are doing our best to-

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“Perhaps your best is not enough. Mr. Franks harshly said. He narrowed at her. “There is no way to reschedule anything as my schedule is already full until June next year. Even if you beg me to reschedule, I won’t do it. Moreover, I would never Trust your company again, given the fact that you cannot even handle your models well. Not having Miss Smith here is considered a breach of contract. My lawyers will be talking to yours for the appropriate fees.”

“Mr. Franks-

“Please stop wasting my time. Miss Lockhart. I was honestly expecting a lot from LH Designs. I can’t say that this incident did not disappoint me.”

“What about me?” A voice suddenly echoed behind Sofia.

Sofia turned and

met not too long a

IL

mediately, surprise flashed in her wide eyes. Not too far away from her was someone that she

“Jenny Thomas.” Mr. Franks immediately beamed when she saw the woman who was wearing a simple black shirt and jeans. “My lovely Jenny Thomas!”

“Markyyy Franks...Jenny Thomas-Alexander’s aunt beamed at the middle-aged man before eyeing Sofia. “I was outside when I thought I heard your loud and ugly voice. Who would have thought that you were actually here?” Jenny smiled before pulling the photographer for a hug. “And to think that I would once again see you acting like this ah.....” she sighed in an exaggerated fashion.

“And you still like walking around without a bodyguard. What did I tell you about this?” Mr. Franks kissed both of Jenny’s cheeks; his demeanor was a complete 180 of what he was earlier. “Don’t lie to me. Why are you here?”

“I was really shopping at a nearby mall.....” Jenny said. “When I received my niece’s text message.”“”

“Niece?” Mr. Franks immediately arched an eyebrow as he looked at Sofia.
“Miss Lockhart is your niece?”

Before Sofia could answer, Jenny already pulled her towards her. “I wanted her to call me mother, but she already has one.... what do you think? Do you see some resemblance whatsoever? Jenny beamed. Obviously, she was joking as Sofia and her do not have a resemblance at all.

Mr. Franks looked at Sofia and then towards Jenny. Then he looked at Sofia and then towards Jenny.

“What? Say it? Isn’t she just as beautiful as me?” Jenny blinked her large beautiful eyes.

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Soha felt like she did not need to ask any more questions about Mr. Franks relationship with Jenny She leaned her back against the chair and closed her eyes. Despite how much she tried to stop herself, she honestly felt a little lightheaded. Yet, life went on

“Good Yes That-hold- Hold on to that position. Then give me a little smirk. A little arrogance. Now make it clean and nice. I need gentleness. I need a woman in love-Mr. Franks loud voice echoed as he started shooting Jenny. To be honest, Jenny was excellent, and no one can deny that

Mamores were you able to get in touch with the previous model?” Sofia asked

It seems that they already planned to post online and wanted to finish signing all the paperwork. Her manager is coming to the office tomorrow with the fees.

mm-Sofia said “What do you think about all this: Miss Amores she asked.

“May I be honest. M

“Go on Sofia said

"I think they wanted to negotiate the contract. They must be thinking that you would give them a better one, considering that you are the new CEO of the company

Sofia nodded. Actually, this was what she thought too! There was a deliberate plan behind it. But why was she not scared that Sofia would expose her to the paparazzi? Miss Amores excused herself as there was another call.

"Miss.

"Hm?" Sofia opened one of her eyes. "What is it?" she asked.

"Well, Miss Smith's manager said that Miss Smith will come for the shoot. Miss Amores had a confused look on her face. "She wanted to speak to you."

"What?" Sofia frowned. "Give me the phone."

Miss Amores immediately complied.

"Hello Sofia said.

"Is this Miss Lockhart?"

"Speaking Sofia said.

"Miss, I would like to personally apologize for what happened just now. It seems that there was a misunderstanding on our part. Would you be available later today? We are already on our way to the shoot and-

"Since Manager Li wanted to breach the contract, I already asked our legal team to deal with it. What Manager Li can do instead is to wait for the lawyers to talk to you about it. Obviously, since Manager Li wanted to breach the contract, then I am going to assume that you are already aware of the repercussions- the financial ones." At the end of the day, breaching a contract will cost them millions. Sofia is not going to let go of that

"Miss, there is a misunderstanding and-

"We already found someone to replace Miss Smith. Sofia interrupted the manager. "But I believe you already know that.... don't you?"

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tachta matkad dhe mesager subiens n the out they do not actually want to cancel this shoot ten't that too unprofessional

(her ovies. The xodulen changes really made het more suspicious

Our

Nu

will be calling you in the next few days On behal of LH Design thank you for working with us for a few mouths. Soita statere she ended the call without waiting the latter's response Then she handed the phone to Miss

Tell

to happen after this ident

me I want this over with as soon as possible" She was already expecting another

snded on Jenny who was wearing an all shine sundress With subtle makeup on Jenny looked like a woman in her

Stall we leave the-

ng Viser le She wanted to personally thank Jenny for saving her this time. She knew call om Verander and she was really grateful for his help too! However, Jenny could

quests, But she actually came and saved Sofa's already chaotic day

uitar St E freever the shoe finally ended. Sada immediately informed the team to come with them for dinner. She tiny books not just for Mr. Franks and Miss Jenny Thomas but for all the staff who worked today

Soda smiled ar Jenny

response. "You have my phot

I

assure you I will be there when I am available. Besides, I really do not have problems doing

pittsboots and there for LH Design”

The two brady walked about the legal aspect of this matter Sofia wanted Jenny to become the new ambassador of the brand, and staly Jered without any hesitation

Kuon someone

anger?” Jenny asked her tone teasing. “I mean your brand seems to focus more

“We are dowly changing the overall theme of the brand. We are going to produce more luxurious items and are planning to Socus more on being something that all types of women can wear Sofia gently smiled. Actually, this was her mother’s dream. Eutice wanted to create a brand that would be available to all women regardless of their size, color, and body shape.

Her Butte was unable to implement this as she was managing the whole LH Group. Now that Sofia was already the CBO of LH Design, she was planning to do what her mother had always wanted.

The team arrived at the reserved restaurant, but just as Sofia got out of the car, a familiar face welcomed her.

Do you have the me?” Daniel asked as he approached her

Tate what are you doing here?” Sofia asked But most importantly, how did he know where she was? She eyed Miss Attors who immediately shook her head silently telling her that it was not her who informed Daniel. Sadly, she’s with a team of other site One of them could easily inform Daniel about her whereabouts.

I don’t have the time. Sofia said.

“This matter is argent

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“The lady already said that she had no time. Jenny smiled as she approached the two

“This has nothing to do with you, Daniel did not even look at Jenny, “Come on Sof-

“If you really wanted to talk, then schedule an appointment with Miss Amores. We can talk in my office.” Sofia tried to walk past him, but he grabbed her arm. his hand tight.

“We need to talk. Daniel said. By now, this small interaction already gathered the attention of the other staff who arrived in

van. Luckily, Miss Amores instructed everyone to go inside the restaurant first.

Sona said

nother-Daniel said.

thing to say to you

new she talked to yo

Sofia snorted at that “so

“Can we do this somewhere? My car is-

“We are done talking. Sofia uttered. “Now let me go before I decide to escalate things.

“I didn’t ask her to do that. Daniel said. Still, he did not let go of her arm.

→Daniel, please let her go.” Jenny said, the smile on her face was already gone. Will you stop embarrassing yourself?” Jenny

said

“I said-

“I know this has nothing to do with me.” Jenny suddenly held her phone and snapped a picture. “But I can always post

things

on my socials and tell everyone that I helped a young woman out when her crazy ex tried to drag her to his car.”

“You-“Daniel’s face reddened.

“Now, be a good boy and let her go, Jenny said. This time, Daniel actually complied. He gritted his teeth and looked at Sofia It looked like he wanted to say more things but stopped himself. Instead, he walked out of the parking lot, leaving Sofia

alone.

Sofia immediately let out a sigh of relief when the man left. She did not know what type of game Daniel was trying to play. but she knew that she did not like it.

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Daniel kicked the pebbles near his var Unable to contain his anger, he kicked his car before he screamed. The frustration that had been building inside him since the breakup was eating him from the inside out. It was only a few days, and he could not almost contami

He glanced at the restaurant betere he opened his phone and dialed his mother’s number. “Dearest!” Teresa Beaumont smiled as she answered the phone. “I have been trying to call-

Moms, can you not talk to Sofia again” Daniel interrupted his mother. There was a brief silence on the other line.

“What are you- Ingualked to SofiaTM

His brother shamed him for being such a ‘mama’s boy. However, Daniel never asked his my personal lite. Please don’t-

Teresa’s tone immediately turned harsh. “She must have wanted us to fight. She must have

say a word about you. And that bothered Daniel. Sola could not even bother herself to call him to discuss his er’s behavior or what his mother did to her. He thought this would soon pass, and she would soon forgive him.

e knew her. She was not vindictive or someone who would ruin anyone's life just because of one mistake. Moreover, Sofia owed her. However, the reconciliation that Daniel hoped for might never happen because of his mother!

"She is not like that, Mom." Daniel said. "She would never say anything bad about you. However, please just don't do anything harsh. I promise you. I will fix this."

"How could you say that! That woman is—" Teresa cleared her throat. "I have talked to my friends, and it seems that Sofia's grandmother might be the one who did this. That might be because she dislikes you. Even if you and Sofia would reconcile then."

"I don't care." Daniel said.

After Sofia's birthday next week, she would have access to all of her wealth, and that includes her shares in the Beaumont Empire. Her grandmother would not be able to do anything about that.

If Sofia decided to give him the shares, then Daniel would be ecstatic. However, he needed to obtain her trust once again. That will only happen if they get back together, which might not happen now because of his mother.

"What do you like about that woman?" Teresa asked. "She's not that pretty. Rich, yes. But how could you have a wife who intends to work while your kids are at home? She doesn't want to start acting like a proper woman. How could you?"

"Enough" Daniel hissed

"Daniel!"

Daniel ruthlessly ended the call without waiting for his mother to say another word. He really was not in the mood to discuss this now. He turned his phone off and once again looked at the restaurant. He planned to wait for Sofia to leave so they could properly talk.

However, his thoughts were interrupted when a car suddenly parked next to his—a car that he recognized. Daniel immediately frowned. "Daniel" Alexander smiled as he got out of the car. "Fancy seeing you here."

Older brother. Daniel gave a perfunctory greeting. If he was right, Jenny Thomas- Alexander's aunt-must have invited him here. "Are you going to see-"

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"Nuge, Alexander said.

"You knew that Sofia was there right

"And

"Take me with you

"Shameless Alexander smirked. "Why cheat on her if you still want to be with her?"

"You

"I know the cheatigued

lexander said, the same smile of his face. "But that is none of my business Alexander said

car seeing his back slowly disappear into the dark, Daniel gritted his teeth.

other expert information that his mother hired to clear his reputation would not work dist However, Alexander had been making fun of him because of it!

as she accepted the juice drink that the waiter handed her. "Thank you."

you are not going to drink?" Mr. Franks lifted his eyebrow Sally, his voice was loud enough for Jenny to hear. mediately, Jenny's eyes widened as she turned toward Sofia's stomach.

"It's

I

No Sotia immediately shook his head. "It's not what you think I am just not feeling too well so 1-"

"Are you sure?" Jenny asked.

“Yes. She should be a hundred percent certain that she’s not pregnant. After all, she and Alexander have yet to consummate their marriage. They agreed that physical attraction cannot be stopped, but they are taking things slowly,

Obviously, Jenny did not believe her. However, instead of saying another word, she simply winked at her and continued eating her food. Solia could only shake her head, smiling at Jenny’s antics. She did not realize that the great actress actually had a very playful side to her.

“Please excuse me. I am going to the restroom.” Solia wanted to drink another pain reliever to hopefully keep her up. However, she could not do it in front of everyone else. She immediately got up and started walking towards the restroom. However, her gaze started turning blurry.

Suddenly the world around her started spinning. She quickly leaned against the wall, hoping it would be enough to support

her. It wasn’t.

Slowly, her limbs were losing their strength. Then her gaze turned black. “Damn it.” She mumbled just before she fell into someone’s arms. A familiar smell assaulted her senses. She tried to open her eyes but was unable to do so,

“Silly girl.” Alexander’s voice echoed next to her ears. “You should have called me.” She thought she heard him say before consciousness finally left her.

Daniel sighed as he leaned against his seat. It was getting colder outside, so he was forced to sit in his car while waiting for Solia. While he didn’t know when she would come, he was planning to wait-

A sudden flash of red lights interrupted his stupor. He immediately frowned as he looked at the police who stopped just behind his car. Did something happen? He quickly opened his phone, prepared to call a lawyer just in case these cops would do something crazy

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Just as he expected, one of the cops knocked on his window “Wgot a tip about someone bothering and harassing customers around here. You got any idea what that’s about the oresaid

Daniel raised an eyebrow, a bit surprised. Then he started cursing Alexander inside his head. That man must have called the cops on him! “Harassing someone? I haven’t seen any harassment here. I have been here for a few minutes, waiting for a

friend”

“Actually, some witnesses said that the man who harassed a woman was in this car. Would you mind showing me your

license and registration please?”

“Witnesses, you say?” Daniel snorted.

“Yes. We have multiple eyewitnesses—

Again, Daniel snorted. Then reason, he was not planis

To his surprise, howev

am leaving How could he drag the Beaumont Family into this nonsense? For this very choow any identification. He know his rights.

lice did not stop him when he drove off. He was planning to go back and continue waiting for Solia. However, when he got back, Alexander’s car was no longer on the premises.

Seeing that the car that Sofia used was still there, Daniel merely hugged and once again started waiting.

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“They already left?” Daniel’s cars started humming with dirty thoughts when the security of the restaurant informed him that everyone had already left- all customers. What about Sofia Where the hell is she?

Earlier, only her secretary left, so he thought she would be going out with Jenny Thomas.

He was wrong.

It turns out he had been waiting here for nothing!

He opened his phone and immediately dialed his brother's number. Sadly, Alexander was not answering his call.

"Damn it!" Daniel hissed before going back to his car. It was already the dead of the night. He had been waiting there for hours thinking Sofia would

agree to talk to him given all his effort!

What more did she want?

Why was she blaming him for a mistake that he made because of her? Sofia had been very busy with her work- both of them were. However, unlike Charlotte, who made an effort to travel to him and see him, Sofia stayed rooted in this damn city, working her ass off for something that she would eventually get!

Besides, once they got married, he was already planning on asking her to stop working. Wouldn't it be good if he worked for LH Group instead?

He started his car and disappeared into the night.

Meanwhile, Alexander was staring at Sofia's sleeping form on the bed.

"You called me here in the dead of the night just to see if she's alright?" Hugo frowned. He was sitting opposite his friend. "Didn't I already tell you? She might have a fever, and that's normal. Her body is fighting something."

"Lower your voice. You are making too much noise." Alexander said.

"Besides... did you want me to call another physician?"

Hugo immediately stopped talking. Obviously, he wouldn't want anyone to know that there was something inside Sofia's body.

"Let's go outside..." Alexander said, and the two went to his study "Did you notice any improvements?" he was asking about Sofia's mother, Eunice.

“Unfortunately not,” Hugo made himself comfortable on Alexander’s plush sofa. “However, this is already within my expectations. She had ingested the poison for years. She might not be as worse as your mother but I do not see her waking up very soon.”

Seeing how Alexander’s face darkened at the mention of his mother, Hugo added, “There is no need to worry. We are doing our best to reverse the effect of the poison. We already stopped it from spreading but the damage has been done.”

“And that damn Dr. Tan?” Alexander asked as he poured some wine into his own cup.

“He is slowly giving away information about his connections in Asia, but we do not have anything concrete. The fact that he is working with them is making it harder.”

Alexander narrowed his eyes. After everything that the man did, he is actually secretly working for the CIA now? However, this does not surprise him anymore. “Did he reveal anything about the Triad?” he asked.

“Not for now. But I believe he would not have a choice but to reveal something about them soon...”

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Alexander nodded. He leaned against the table.

“You really do like her” Hugo noted as he got up and got his own drink.

“What made you think that I don’t

“What about Zoe?” Hugo asked

“What about her

“She has yet to leave the country. Your good mother had been trying to invite her back, but she had been refusing everything

“What makes you think I am interested in knowing anything about her?” Alexander asked. Hugo, Zoe, and Alexander were once really close when they were younger. However, things have changed.

“Right. Of course. Lapologize

“There is nothing to talk about”

“Come on

as he took a sip of his wine. “Then let’s talk about your wife...” Hugo smiled.

Why are you being so nosy?” Alexander glared at him.

“How am I being nosy

However, Alexander did not give him an answer. Instead, he finished his wine and opened his laptop so he could start working once again. He canceled a few meetings in the past few days so he could be with Sofia. So now, he is doing his best to get all those money back.

Seeing him busy with work. Hugo snorted. “I am leaving. Don’t call me again for a cold or fever. The expected recovery will be a day or two. Let her body fight the poison. No need to panic. This will not affect her uterus.” Hugo said before giving Alexander a meaningful smile.

LOCKHART MANSION

“Good very good...” Lawrence snorted as he heard news about Charlotte who agreed to settle down in Spain for the time being. While many of Charlotte’s fans actually believed that she was not a cheater, those images still affected her clean and pure reputation in some way.

It would be better if she stayed away for some time and let the people forget..

However, this was not enough to make Lawrence calm down.

Sofia was now showing signs of disobeying him, and he was not happy about it. He needed to teach her a few lessons.

“I need you to tell Mr. Oh about the previous plan...” Lawrence instructed Min as he started tapping his fingers on the table in front of him. He knew that Eulanda was not in this country. She’s busy enjoying the last years of her life.

She had been socializing and attending events abroad. "We need to have it implemented as soon as possible."

That woman was very scheming, so Lawrence chose not to lower his guard. However, this does not mean that he is not going to make his move!

Eulanda's tentacles in the company have weakened. She was no longer the boss that she thought she was.

Min nodded and reminded him of his meeting. This time, Lawrence got up and left the mansion with Min. Soon enough.

at Lawrence walked side and saw an old man sitting alone inside a cubicle

To think that you would actually meet me at this hour." Lawrence started The restaurant was already closed, and no one else and from the three of them was there. "In this place." Lawrence looked around

The restaurant was a Chinese joint you could tell by the red lanterns hanging around and the little golden cat statue by the

entrance, warning its past. The place had this cozy vibe with wooden tables and chairs, and those paper placemats with Chinese zodiac signs on them

High from the hanging lanterns cast a warm glow, making the place feel mysterious. The walls were decked with framed pictures of Chinese landscapes and some calligraphy

However, what surprised him was really the fact that this was located in the middle of the city. He thought William Clarence would meet him somewhere more secretive. But he chose to meet him in the middle of the city.

"Do you want to meet me here?"

"Steering in a more secret

already know that I am

chuckled

The older man chuckled

have been better. Lawrence said. "Eulanda is breathing on my neck. She must

"You already gave me the shares. "William said. There is no reason for her not to know it."

"However, it seems that the heiress of LH Group is not as stupid as you think."

The heiress? Was he here to talk about Sofia He expected William to talk about Eulanda instead!

"She is working with someone and that someone is not her grandmother

"He" his eyes landed on the tablet on top of the table

"See for yourself."

Lawrence opened the tablet and almost immediately his expression changed. "This is-

"She's staying in the same building as Alexander Beaumont. He had been secretly protecting her with bodyguards. They are also driving to work almost everyday"

The Beaumont Family Lawrence's expression darkened. Was Sofia working with Daniel's brother instead of Eulanda?

Seeing his reaction, William chuckled "Do not mistake that man he might be young but he is as ruthless, perhaps even more ruthless than that of his grandfather. You do realize how the Beaumont Family was able to build their chain of hotels, righter

Lawrence said nothing as he stared at the image of the man sitting next to Sofia in the car. Everyone knew how ruthless that family was. In the past, the Beaumont Family only had a few hotels in the US. However, they aggressively created an empire by forcing buyouts and hostile takeovers.

There have been a lot of lawsuits in the past that involve the Beaumont Family but all of them vanished when Alexander became the CEO. Some said that it was settled in silence but a few of the businesses knew that Alexander used the influence of the Beaumont Family to silence those who wanted to attack his company.

It was a ruthless approach. But it worked.

Still how did Sofia start working with Alexander? That man is known for his ruthlessness and arrogance! What was happening here?

SEND GIFT

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For some reason, Lawrence felt like he was missing crucial information.

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Alexander Beaumont.

Lawrence never expected the man to suddenly protect Sofia. However, it seems that the game has become even more complicated

“Thank you for your help. Lawrence said.

“Alexander Beaumont is not someone that you can easily intimidate. I tried to find connections between him and Sofia Lockhart. I expected some shares, secret transactions, or rendezvous, but I couldn’t find anything. I suspect that this cooperation just happened a few months back.”

Lawrence narrowed his eyes. “A”

“That is a possibility. Again. I was

ling me that the one who reported Dr. Mulach might be him and not Eulanda?”

je to find anything else noteworthy. However, the man had access to more information, especially outside of this country. It would not surprise me that he would use this so Sofia Lockhart would trust him and work with him.

Now that Lawrence thought about it. Eulanda seemed busy overseas! He assumed that this was Eulanda’s work and always underestimated Sofia! It turns out someone else was working with Sofia!

“Why do you think he is doing this?” Lawrence asked. This was something that confused him. The man literally has everything. He could get any

business or woman that he wanted. So... why? What is he getting out of this cooperation?

That I do not know.”

“Do you think Daniel knew?” Lawrence asked.

“Probably not.

Lawrence pursed his lips. He never heard of any rivalry between the brothers. Their relationship seems to be decent. Alexander had been giving Daniel some projects abroad. But then again, he doesn't know what has been happening inside the Beaumont family.

“Very well... thank you for this information.”

“And here is what I have against Eulanda. “William smiled as he handed him a smaller envelope.

Lawrence opened it. Almost immediately, his expression changed. “This is...” Inside the envelope were images of Eulanda and a younger man—a man who looked like he was still in his forties. Tan, is tall, and muscular.

He narrowed at it.

For some reason, the man looked a little familiar.

“Isn't he someone working for her?” he asked.

“Her bodyguard... A married one. He's been working with her for years, and she had grown protective of him.”

The images were not exactly something that could cause a scandal. There was another image of Eulanda accepting the hand that the guard offered while she was getting out of her car. There was another where the bodyguard was using his hand to protect Eulanda's face from the sun.

There was another one with Eulanda wearing a swimsuit in a pool; his bodyguard was applying some sunscreen on her back.

Aside from this, there were many images of her talking and laughing with him.

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“These images are not-

They have been very discreet.” William said.

“Do you think this is enough to bring her down? You know how easy it is to sway public opinions these days. Lawrence said.

“Indeed.” William easily agreed. “Those are not enough to cause a scandal, but they would raise some eyebrows. If we use those images and then this
“William handed him another folde-a bigger one. He opened it, and his expression immediately lit up.

“Simone Flaire had properties all over the world?” The name of the bodyguard is Simone, and it seems that he has many assets under his name! This “Do you think this is-

“How else would he be able to afford all those things?” William started. “So far.. those are the only things that we were able to dig: however. I believe Simone could have even more things under his name. Perhaps things that he is not even aware of like a bank account in Switzerland

ompany, or many more. William offered him a smile. This is something that could ruin Eulanda’s name.”

Lawrence nodded. An older womans actually using the money of the company to sustain her boyfriend’s lifestyle! Isn’t that something very attractive in the eyes of the public? However, this isn’t the East! This is the US.

Most businessmen don’t actually care about propriety. All they care about is money. So what if she likes younger men? So what if she’s paying him?

He needed to be careful about this matter as he did not want to shoot his own foot.

will take care of things. Lawrence said. Despite this not being able to cause a scandal, it is still something that he could use to decrease Eulanda’s influence inside the company! “If there is nothing else, then I will take my leave

“Hmmm do not forget my other shares...”

“Min will take care of it. Lawrence smiled. “To another happy cooperation.”

The moment he got into his car, Lawrence examined the documents and the images again. It seems that they were taken a long time ago. This meant that William already had them even before Lawrence approached him

It seems that the old man really wanted revenge on the Lockhart Family

Lawrence smiled. Yes. He needed to use the hatred of the old man for his own goals.

“I need you to schedule a meeting with Mr. Digorry tomorrow. Lawrence is now prepared. He is now going to start slowly swallowing the company from the inside. Lawrence had no choice but to make some changes to his previous plans as Sofia was working with someone that is not Eulanda. “Make it discreet

“Yes, sir, Min answered.

When Sofia woke up the very next day, it was already noon. She jolted up; her mind was a little sluggish but it was better

than before she fainted.

Right!

She fainted!

How did she-Alexander! He was there! He caught her when she fell!

Memories of his smell filled her senses. The softness of his voice echoed inside her head just before she lost consciousness.

2/3

98%

Chapter 65

It seems that he really was there to save her. A smile appeared of her lips as she got out of the bed

Then her expression changed.

She was already wearing her pajamas! For some reason, this made her face hot. She quickly calmed herself down. What if it was actually Jenny who changed her clothes? Or Alexander's mail?

She opened her phone and saw a message from Karina, asking to meet her ASAP. After a quick response telling her that she would be available this afternoon. Soha went to the bathroom to clean up before walking out of the room.

To be honest, she expected to find Alexander in his study, but he was not there.

Did he leave?

Sofia scolded herself inwardly.

What was she expecting? The m

smpany to run!

That was when she thought she heard some grunting,

Grunting

She frowned and followed the grunts into another room, which she quickly realized was the gynt room. Sofia pecked into the room, and there he was. Alexander was wearing headphones, completely immersed in his workout. He was doing pull- ups, each movement showcasing his incredible strength. His body was lean and muscular, something that Sofia predicted.

Her eyes lingered on the defined muscles, and for a moment, she forgot why she had entered the room. The rhythmic grunts and the flexing of his arms held her attention. Unconsciously, she bit her lip, feeling a warmth spreading through her..

Suddenly realizing she was intruding on his private moment, Sofia cleared her throat to announce her presence. Alexander turned, his headphones hanging around his neck, and a surprised expression crossed his face when he saw her standing there. "Hey Sofia smiled.

Instead of saying a word, he stopped what he was doing and strode towards her.

Seeing him glistening with sweat somehow made Sofia panic. She took a step back, but he quickly caught her arm. "Careful.." he uttered. "I'm sweaty."

"Huh?" Sofia blinked. What does that mean, exactly?

Chapter 66

"How do you feel!" he asked, concern etched all over his face

"Fine. I mean better than yesterday," she turned her head away, avoiding his naked upper body.

"Do you want to eat something?" he asked.

"No" she shook her head almost immediately. However, the moment she said it, her stomach started growling. She met his gaze. "I mean." Just what the heck is going on?

He chuckled in response. "Let's go." he said before pulling her towards the kitchen. "I already asked your secretary to bring the things that you needed to sign tonight. For now, you take more rest, sleep, and eat."

Sofia's lips thinned. In the end moment he said this-somethin

And she quite liked it..

ded. For some reason, something warm inside her chest started spreading the
Could not seem to explain.

Unbeknownst to her, a smile already appeared on her lips as she followed him towards the kitchen.

After nights of drinking himself to sleep, Daniel finally felt like he was going to have a fever. He felt like throwing up as his head pounded like a drum. Groaning. Daniel opened his eyes and found himself sprawled on the couch, tangled in a blanket. The room spun a bit, making him squeeze his eyes shut again.

His mouth tasted like regret, a mix of stale beer and something unidentifiable. Sitting up slowly, he winced as his stomach protested. It felt queasy, like a rollercoaster that never seemed to stop.

The sunlight stabbed through the curtains, hitting him right in the face. He squinted, trying to remember what happened last night. Empty beer bottles scattered on the floor hinted at a wild night he wished he could forget

Dragging himself upright, Daniel stumbled toward the kitchen for a glass of water. The floor felt uneven beneath his feet. and his movements were as graceful as a newborn giraffe.

As he chugged down the water, a flicker of regret crossed his mind. He already told himself that he would not drink alcohol but ended up having one when he arrived.

The thought of Sofia flashed in his head like a storm. After Sofia refused to talk to him, Daniel's anger surged like wildfire. He felt desperate like he was drowning, and Sofia was the only lifeline he needed. In his mind, what happened with her sister wasn't entirely his fault

Regret gnawed at him, but a stubborn flame of frustration burned even brighter. He wanted her back and needed her forgiveness, but it felt like trying to catch smoke with bare hands

If she only agreed to talk to him, then everything would be over He could explain everything, and she would then forgive

him.

Sadly, she refused to talk like a normal adult!

Daniel gritted his teeth, anger apparent in his eyes.

After chugging his water, he went back to the living room to try and find his phone. Sadly, it was dead.

"Tsk..." Daniel narrowed his eyes at his phone. He was tempted to throw it against the wall but restrained himself. What if

Sofia called him?

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Chapter 66

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After some time, he finally found his charger and charged his phone as he made some instant noodles for his breakfast. He knew that his mother called him last night, but he already restricted her number. The thought of his mother only made him

more upset

Why does she have to involve herself in everything that Daniel does?

Daniel's thoughts were interrupted when he heard a soft gasp. He looked towards the door and found his mother standing eyes wide as she looked at the state of his apartment.

What did you-What happened here? Teresa Beaumont's gaze landed on her disheveled son. "You-What- she looked at the empty bottle of wine and beer on the floor.

The living room was a mess, like a tornado tore through it. Empty bottles scattered everywhere, and the smell of old beer hung in the air: The couch looked like a battlefield, blankets thrown around like he had a fight with someone. Daniel's attempt at cleaning up was as meager as the chaos he created.

The sunlight, sneaking the

abandoned and lonely. Whales.

intimate, exposed the aftermath of a wild night. The TV remote lay on the floor,

bag of chips claimed a corner of the coffee table, and the scattered cushions seemed to

have given up on being in their proper places,

It was a disaster.

This was a disaster.

"Why are you here, mom?" Daniel ignored his mother's reaction as he focused on his phone. He turned it on, hoping to see some messages from Sofia.

I called your office. Your secretary let me know that you were nowhere to be found. Of course, I am worried. Your father-

If you are here to talk about Dad, then just leave. Daniel said. His mother was always worried about his father's opinion of him. At one point. Daniel was worried about what he thought of him too.

“How could you talk to your mother like that?” Teresa walked inside, approaching Daniel. “Marjorie will come this afternoon to clean this place up. Go back to the mansion. Your father and I

“We both know that’s not going to happen.” Daniel said.

“Daniel!” Teresa frowned, clearly unimpressed at her son’s attitude towards her husband. She then gestured for her own personal assistant who was bringing some groceries to clean the place up. “What have you done to yourself?”

“That is none of your business. Daniel examined the contents of his phone. Aside from the messages from his secretary and mother, no one else had sent him a message.

“You are my business!” Teresa sat next to her son. “Let’s go clean yourself up. We need a proper conversation.”

“If you want to convince me to—

“Clean yourself, and then we talk!” Teresa said. “You need to understand that I only approached Sofia to have her forgive you.

“Do you think that will work?” Daniel looked at his mother.

What

“All my life, you have been trying to fix every imperfection. All my life, you have been doing all the work behind the scenes.”

“You—

11:43 Sat, Mar 2

Chapter 66

98%

“You donated just after every examination and miraculously, I had the highest score even when I didn’t know a single thing!” Daniel got up. “And now. you wanted to threaten someone like Solia?”

“Daniel, you are not going to talk to your mother like-

“I will talk to you however I want! You are-

*SLAP

A loud smacking sound reverberated inside the room. Daniel looked at his mother, his expression blank. Seeing this, Teresa immediately said, “Daniel... 1...”

*Please leave. I don’t want to talk. Daniel said.

“Daniel, this is important. You

“I said leave me alone!” Daniel

bellowed inside his apartment. I don’t want to talk right now.”

“I need to talk to you about Sofia

“You are not going to talk to her or involve yourself in my business, Daniel said. “I will fix everything without your help.”

ori

“But-

Seeing Daniel’s cold gaze. Teresa stopped talking. “Fine,” she said before she grabbed her bag and marched out of Daniel’s apartment. The moment the door closed, she stopped walking, her eyes narrowed. This was all Sofia’s fault,

she thought inwardly.

That woman was intending to ruin everyone else around her.

She then thought about the images that she received just this morning. It was of Sofia and Alexander. It turns out that the one working with Sofia was Alexander-Daniel’s brother!

Why the hell would he suddenly hurt Daniel so much? In Teresas eyes. Daniel was clearly the innocent party. He was merely a victim of his brother’s insidious scheme.

Now, Daniel was talking back at her, and she was forced to hurt her precious son! Clearly, this was all a part plans! That man was truly evil!

of Alexander's

She always knew that Alexander was ruthless, but she never expected him to target her relationship with her one and only

son!

Chapter 67

981

It had been three days since Sofia had received the treatment, and so far, her body was doing well. Just last night. Hugo had told her that there had been a lot of improvements in her blood,

In two more weeks, she would be ready for the second stage of treatment. Sadly, Hugo had also informed her that her mother's condition remained the same.

cht... I think you should wear the red dress." Karina, her friend, said while sitting on the plush chair inside Sofa's office ould highlight your curves."

That's a mermaid dress. It won't be comfortable," Sofia replied. In front of them were clothes that Sofia had designed herself. Today, their goal was to choose a dress for her birthday.

Karina nodded, considering Sofis one? It's pretty and looks comfy

Yeah, comfort is key. But the red one looks stunning on you. What about the blue

Sofia examined the blue dress, ruher fingers over the fabric "This is nice, and it feels soft. But is it too casual for the

occasion

Karina leaned back, tapping her chin. True, true. We want a balance. Oh, how about the black one? Classic and elegant What do you think?"

Sofia held up the black dress against herself and studied it in the mirror. "Classy, but maybe a bit too serious. It's a birthday party, after all"

"Got it! What about the floral one? It's festive and not too formal Karina grinned, showing her dislike for floral colors.

"You know, I like this. It's cheerful. But will it match the venue? Karina shrugged. "We can make the venue match the dress. Easy fix! What else do we have here?" They continued discussing each dress, weighing the pros and cons. Casual formal. vibrant, or subdued the choices laid out before them.

"You know, this birthday I mean it's not like there will be a lot of people there, thanks to your last-minute changes. Karina said Originally, her grandmother really wanted an extravagant birthday, but she made some last-minute changes. They could announce the fact that she would become one of the board of directors after her birthday instead. She wanted to celebrate this inside the company- with the employees.

On her birthday, only executives would be invited. She decided not to invite socialites that she had not even interacted with in the past. Luckily, her grandmother agreed. So, her birthday had become smaller. The three guests that her grandmother originally planned became fifty.

"I told her... we can make this as grand as possible. After all, receiving her inheritance is not going to be a small milestone." Eulanda's voice suddenly echoed behind them. Sofia froze for a few seconds before she turned and saw the dashing woman wearing an all-black ensemble.

"Grandmother..." Sofia smiled. "How come you are here?"

"So now I don't have the right to visit my only granddaughter?" Eulanda lifted an eyebrow She then looked at Miss Amores. "I need coffee. No sugar or milk."

"I thought you were still in Europe?" Sofia said before she kissed her grandmother's cheeks.

"I was... a couple of hours ago," Eulanda looked at Karina. "You look dashing Karina. How have you been? I hope Adam has been treating you well?"

Sofia immediately looked at her grandmother and tried to signal her to stop talking about Adam. However, her grandmother either did not understand her meaning or simply wanted to tease Karina.

1/3

1:43 Sat, Mar 2

Chapter 67

“Hello, Mrs. Lockhart...” Karina smiled. “Adam is just being Adam. I am certain he is enjoying himself though.”

98%

“Ah... that lawyer can be very tough. I told him once he would never find someone because of his arrogance. Not even a fake one would survive. To this day, I laugh at his grandfather for not having a grandchild despite Adam’s age:

“Isn’t he only thirty-three?” Karina asked.

“His grandfather is nearing his eighties.” Eulanda smiled.

“Oh..” Karina and Sofia nodded at the same time.

“Very well.. sing

here. Let me help you pick out a dress.” Eulanda immediately said. “Bring it in...” she

the doors to Sofia’s office opened, and two men wearing black suits wheeled in more

Eulanda said. “Clothes that your mother designed in the past.”

ha’s eyes widened. “Then- How she looked at the clothes find realized that they were something she had not seen in the past.

“She said it was too luxurious, and LH Design was not ready for them.” Eulanda walked towards a black dress. “I agreed with her and kept the dresses in a safe vault.” Eulanda then gestured for Miss Amores to place her coffee on the coffee table nearby

Sofia was speechless. The dresses in front of her were of various colors and designs; however, it looked like most of them had intricate embroidery.

Sofia's eyes widened as she scanned the array of dresses in front of her. "Wow, these are... fancy." She picked up a black dress with subtle dragon embroidery. "Look at this, Grandma. Dragons on a dress!"

Eulanda chuckled. "Your mother was into mythical creatures. Dragons were her favorite. Thought you might like them too./

Sofia grinned, examining the intricate details. "Definitely. Dragons are cool. And this white one here has butterflies! Look, Karina, butterflies!"

Karina ran her fingers over the delicate butterfly patterns. "I love it. So whimsical. And these pastel pink dresses with tiny flowers are adorable."

Eulanda nodded in response. Perhaps seeing Sofia this excited made her a little excited too as she was unable to hide the spark in her usually cold gaze. "Your mother was quite the artist with embroidery. She loved bringing life to her designs."

Sofia moved to the flesh-colored dress, noticing intricate patterns resembling vines and flowers. This is elegant. The embroidery is so detailed. How did she do this?"

dress Eulanda shrugged. "Magic fingers, I suppose. She had a way with needles and threads." She then pointed to a gray adorned with subtle swirling patterns. "Gray with a touch of mystery. Your mother always knew how to add a little intrigue to her creations."

Sofia's gaze fell on a red dress with bold phoenix patterns. "And this one... phoenixes! That's fierce. I can't believe she kept these hidden."

Eulanda smirked. "Your mother believed in timing. She said LH Design wasn't ready for these. But now, it's time."

Just as the two started talking about the rest of the design, Karina received a call on her phone.

"Speaking of the devil..." Karina said.

Chapter 67

“That must be Adam tell him his grandfather missed him.” Eulanda smiled as Karina ran out of the room. “That child she would be perfect for Adam.”

“How did you?” Sofia’s eyes were wide, but Eulanda only responded with a shrug. Not long after, Karina came back and told Sofia that they had an emergency and now Adam wanted her there. Seeing her friend run out of the room after bidding her goodbye

made Sofia smile.

However, she really had no time to waste as there were a lot of dresses in front of her. In the end, the two spent two more hours just talking about the design and embroidery of the dresses. After Sofia finally made her choice, she tried the dress on and was surprised to know that it perfectly fits her! She honestly thought that they would need to do a few alterations but it turns out everything was good.

“Now as for the wedding d

the dresses that your moth

grandmother said. “I would really like to plan your wedding with you. I can give you ed in the past.”

“She was able to design wedding dresses too?” Sofia asked.

“Of course!” Eulanda said. “She started doing it the moment she was informed that she was pregnant with a girl.” Eulanda smiled. “Your mother... That child she only started changing when she married Lawrence.”

The mention of Lawrence seemed to ruin Sofia’s mood. However, she knew that her grandmother would not just mention that man without a goal. Sofia took a sip of her tea to calm her nerves. Luckily, Lawrence seemed to have stopped trying to call her. However, it made her even more alert. She knew that the man would not go down without a fight

“Lawrence sent his daughter abroad.” Sofia said. “He is not making any bold movements lately...”

“Is he not?” Eulanda smirked. Without waiting for Sofia to answer, she asked her assistant to give Sofia an envelope. Sofia quickly opened it, and almost immediately her eyes widened.

“This is-

-Sent by Lawrence. He wanted to establish the fact that I am already an older woman who was trying to support a younger boy toy. How shameless. Sofia pursed her lips as she examined the photos once again. To be honest, without any context, it does look like her grandmother and the man in the photos was having an indecent relationship. Then this man...” Sofia looked at her grandmother.

“That is Simone Flaire...my late sister’s son,” Eulanda answered casually. Then she smiled. “Ah... to be honest, I wanted him to take these photos. Who would have thought that he would actually fall for a trap?”

Trap? Sofia met her grandmother’s eyes.

Chapter 68

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wife Beades this cooperatio

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Family, or at least the

shot in wasted the public to know the suddenly warm ber about

about: Kitsunder. However, Sofa chose not to delve

They were together because they

ringe for their

father’s hand

Your on a not that good to begin with Coupled with the

faster

you really come here to ask me such

1. I know you dislike your brother

the real estate world are vast, yet you — was wet wituallly the one tuding test as your own building” letur asked. Kirsander deaded He only stared at has

7 sue underund why you would sudden draumehung a reasonable”

eider untitled Mesa, rad bri pang

This cond help put the sad his brows frowning “Your relationship with Daniel

Tour sur wanted any Kangany,” Arzaller sterred. He waterdeo marry Sofia own her shares in Beaumont Empire, and

34

BER

11 44 Sat Mar 2 M

Chapter 54

Hems son too. Bears Beaumont Arthur sand

Then why not give him my position Alexander asked in a changing tone. You seemed very convinced that he is capable Make him the charman make him the CEO

The his father did not anewer take it that you only consider him as your son because you like his mother Alexander smirked

Please, this is not the time to talk about the paar”

Of course.” Alexander smiled Although this whole thing makes me wonder where your stand is about cheating Sadly I

di precalled what you did to my mother- with the wasthan that she considered her friend nonetheless.”

You-

hur hissed his face turning black.

Alexander only smirked and watched his father's expression. I mean if this incident was able to confirm one thing, that is the fact that Daniela is indeed your son."

Alexander stoned. Seeing Alexander's reaction, the older man calmed himself down. "You will fix this"

Fix what?"

Your brother has been holed up in his place for days. Your mother is getting worried."

My mother is dead. Alexander said, his face devoid of any expression. Or have you forgotten that? Perhaps you wanted me to remind you how she died?"

Arthur paused but eventually continued speaking while ignoring Alexander's remarks. "Teresa is getting worried"

"And you don't like it when she's worried?" Alexander asked.

Instead of responding to his provocations, Arthur sighed. "I don't want to see my family broken just because of a woman"

"Ah." Alexander smiled. "What would this man do if they knew that the woman who was trying to ruin his 'perfect family' was already his daughter-in-law?"

"Right. Of course. It is my responsibility to fix everything, even when I am not involved in the cheating." Alexander said.

"Don't worry, Josef will add this to my already full schedule." He got up and closed the buttons on his suit. However, as

I wanted to entertain you.. I have a flight in ten minutes. I will be leaving the country"

His father said nothing. Instead, he only watched Alexander leave his office with his secretary. After a while, his father also left his office and immediately went back to the mansion.

"What did he say?" Teresa immediately asked the moment he arrived.

"Nothing"

“What do you mean by nothing? Teresa asked, her eyes bloodshot. She had been trying to rummage her brain on how to harm Sofia, but she quickly realized how strong Alexander’s influence was

Alexander’s people are all over Sofia, and there is simply no other way to get to her without informing Alexander! Just what kind of deal dad that woman have with Alexander®

Sofia Lockhart will soon receive her inheritance after her birthday, which will happen in a few days. I believe Sofia used that as a bargaining chip” Arthur said. He knew the complicated dynamics of the Lockhart Family. He heard about Lawrence Lockhart and his growing influence in LH Group.

24

A

Sat Mar

Chapter 68

He knew that Eulanda Lockhart was slowly long her influence, Sofia was far from ready to become the neRUCCEO of the company Soha grew up away from bulanda,

up with the solter Eunice and Lawrence

the

ly made Sol

dulate for the CO

Her inheritance would be useless if she was not capable of running a multimillion-dollar company. The shareholders would make sure of that

“You think she is about to make Alexander even more powerful? Teresa asked. The current status quo inside the Beaumont Empire is unique

It was because Alexander’s grandfather decided to give all of his tune to Alexander instead of Arthur This made Alexander the Chairman and Arthur a mere director inside the company.

ght now, Alexander holds all the power inside the company. Solia would give those shares to Alexander, then wouldn't

can he is going to become even more powerful?

"That is the only reason why Alexander agreed to help her

Teresa doesn't understand this. She heard about Fulanda Lockhart in the past, and she knew that the woman was very good in business. She is ruthless and could easily swallow a company she wanted to. However, she did not help her granddaughter. Instead, she let her granddaughter ask for some other man's help? What is going on here!

"What about Daniel!" Teresa asked. "Did- Did Alexander say he is going to help his brother?" She knew that the question was silly,

Why would Alexander help Daniel? Everyone in this family knew how Alexander disliked his own brother. However, he was still a member of the Beaumont Family! They are all members of the Beaumont Empire! The least that he could do was help Daniel.

"He did not say—

"He is your son. Can't you at least convince him to help his own brother?" Teresa asked. What kind of father would bend in front of his son? What kind of father would let his other son suffer?

To her surprise, Arthur only snorted in response.

"Did you just hey! Where are you going?" she asked when Arthur started walking away from her. "Hey! Arthur! I am still talking to you!"

T have a conference meeting. Don't bother me,

"Arthur! What about Daniel!? Are you going to let him suffer? This time. Arthur stopped just before he could take a step

towards the stairs.

"Your son cheated on Sofia Lockhart. He slept with her sister and thought she would forgive him simply because she loved him. If that is not stupidity then... what is?"

“You-Hey! Listen to me! You – I am talking to you! Don’t you dare walk away from me! Arthur! Teresa called out. “Arthur!”

Again, Arthur stopped walking in the middle of the stairs. “If you wanted to yell at someone then you should start yelling at yourself.”

“You-”

“We both know what you did. Your son knows it, hid it, and betrayed his brother. Now, he is going to reap what he sowed. Just like you.”

3/4

Chapters

You-Teresa’s side as if they were about to jump out of their sockets. However, she was not able to say another word. She simply had to glare at Arthur’s back as he continued walking towards his home office. After a while.

Chapter 69

“Here are the specifics of the party. Miss Amores handed Sofia a file for tomorrow’s birthday celebration. She had been busy in the past few days, running around for the company and the event

While her grandmother had already handled most things for her, there were still tasks she needed to attend to, such as photo shoot with her grandmother using various dresses her mother designed, double and triple-checking the guest list, finalizing the menu with the restrictions and preferences of the guests, and many others

She could have focused on these tasks weeks ago, but she was too preoccupied with her personal matters, leaving her no choice but to handle everything at the last minute

nder was out of the country, allowing her to concentrate.

en she heard a familiar voice. She immediately turned around and was surprised to see Daniel in the glot of LH Design Why was this man here?

ready asked security not to let him in.

Why are you here?”

“Is it true?” Daniel asked, his voice a little hoarse. This prompted Sofia to examine the man before her. Daniel had really lost weight: his face looked a little pale, with dark bags under his eyes. His hair was a mess, and so were his clothes.

What’s

“Are you currently living in a building owned by Alexander?”

Sofia immediately frowned. She always knew that someone would find out about her current arrangement. Luckily, it seems that their source thought that she was living in the same building but in a different apartment.

“Is it true?” Daniel took a step towards her.

14

“I don’t think that is any of your business.” Soña nodded at Miss Amores, who immediately went to get their car, leaving Sofia and Daniel alone.

“Really? Of all the people you really asked for my brother’s help

Sofia snorted. “I don’t know what you are talking about.”

“You know what he did to me.”

“I also happened to know that you had a relationship with my sister.” Sofia answered almost immediately.

“What are you-” Daniel’s eyes suddenly widened. “You are you doing this to-” he rushed towards her, surprising Sofia. Then he held both of her arms. “Are you involved with my brother!?”

Sofia immediately flinched. However, before she could answer, Daniel added, “You really dared to be with my brother just to get back at me! Are you out of your mind? Do you not know what kind of person Alexander is? You- You really

“Let me go Sona hissed, her expression turning serious. Daniel was never the type to hurt a woman- or at least that’s what she thought in the past

“Then answer me! Daniel demanded. “Did you or did you

“I said let me go.” Sofia raised her voice. This time, she pushed him away from her. However, Daniel did not budge. Instead, his grip on her arm tightened. Feeling cornered, Sofia quickly kicked Daniel right in the crotch. He let out a loud groan and

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doubled over in pain, releasing his grip on her arms. Sofia stepped back, breathing heavily.

you

“Are you out of your mind?” Sofia asked. “You really dare to come in here and accuse me of things? Do you really think I am as low as you?” Sofia glared at Daniel who struggled to stand upright. “I know you and Charlotte started your relationship years ago, so don’t you dare.. make me the villain! It was you who cheated on me! And I have evidence to prove that.”

As if on cue, her car also happened to arrive. “Now don’t you dare let me see your face again, Sofia said. “Or I will ruin your life!” she hissed before marching towards her car

Once inside, Sofia patted her chest, her face paling. She thought Daniel and Charlotte were done bothering her!

It seems that she was wrong!

However, this made her wonder if Daniel had really lost his mind. What is he doing? Didn’t he love Charlotte? Why was he trying to throw Sofia around? Did he really think that she would get back with him after what he did? But why? She gritted

her te

She had so many questions and really needed an answer right now. Sadly, Alexander is still not in the country.

“What is Charlotte doing these days?” Sofia asked.

“Miss Charlotte is currently in Spain, Miss Amores said. “She has been visiting a lot of places nearby. Aside from that... she hasn’t been doing much.”

So now, Charlotte is obediently staying in Spain? Sofia narrowed. Did she miss something?

“Miss, I think I mean- May I speak my mind?” Miss Amores asked.

“Please do.”

“It looks like Miss Charlotte is waiting for something” Miss Amores said. “This is from someone who has been around for years. I have met Miss Charlotte a couple of times, and I seem to notice that she is not someone who likes to stay idle for too long”

Sofia nodded. She actually agreed with Miss Amores. With that, she opened her phone and sent a text to Alexander. [Sorry to disturb you, but I have a quick question... She thought about sending a smiley face but ended up removing it. She did not want to sound silly in front of him.

She knew that Alexander was busy, so she knew that he would not reply anytime soon. After a while, she decided to send a second text. [Do you happen to know if Charlotte was really in Spain?]

After sending this message, she closed her phone and leaned back. Then she took a deep calming breath. She’s getting tired of Daniel and Charlotte. She really wanted to get this over with.

Her thoughts were interrupted, when her phone started vibrating

“Karina?” Sofia answered the call.

“Have you seen the latest tabloid news?”

“Huh?” Sofia frowned. “What’s it about?”

“It’s your grandmother!” Karina said.

“What? Wait... hold on. Let me check.” She took her tablet and checked out some news. Almost immediately, her expression changed.

“Eh?”

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[Chairwoman Eulanda Lockhart, 70, Finds Love Again: A Heartwarming Tale of Late-Life Romance!"]

[Ageless Love: LH GROUP Chairman Eulanda Lockhart's Surprising Relationship Revealed!]

[Love Conquers All: Widow and LH GROUP Chairman Eulanda Lockhart Embrace a New Chapter in Life.]

[Age is Just a Number: LH GROUP's Leading Lady, Eulanda Lockhart, Redefines Love in Her 70s!]

[Late Blooming Romance: Eulanda Lockhart, 70, Breaks Stereotypes with New Love Connection.]

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Seeing the headline made Sofia chuckle. All the headlines seemed positive; it seemed that they were supporting the relationship. However, how could Sofia not know that this could affect the company? Negative media coverage and public scrutiny may tarnish LH GROUP's reputation!

It see

Lawrence just started making a move-a day before Sofia's birthday!

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"Lol, Chairwoman Fulanda fmding love in her 70s Is this a joker what? 1)

"Ageless Love? More like Ageless Hype! Who cares about a 70-year-old's romance? #rollingmyeyes)

"Chairwoman Fulanda's love story is breaking stereotypes? Yeah, the stereotype that grandmas should focus on knitting, not dating GrandmaGoals

gine being 70 and still making headlines for your love life. Can't she just enjoy her retirement and stop being a tabloie

tion? #Overit

Conquers All I bet it didn't conquer the negative impact on LH GROUP's reputation. Good luck with that, hairwoman! GROUPTroubles"

70 and embracing a new chapter in life? More like LI GROUP embracing a PR nightmare! #PublicityStunt"

Sofia took a deep breath as she read the comments online. Who would have thought that her grandmother would one day face these comments? Luckily, it seemed like her grandmother didn't mind it at all. Sofia glanced at the older woman who was sitting to her.

Both of them were now preparing for Sofia's birthday event. While Sofia's makeup artist was doing her hair. Eulanda was doing her makeup. She had her eyes closed while listening to a podcast.

"Stop staring at me or I would melt." Eulanda uttered, her voice still calm.

"The news about you are you not concerned about it?"

"Why would " Eulanda opened one of her eyes. "Doesn't matter..." she uttered. "Do you truly think that the opinions of those people matter to me?"

Sofia pursed her lips. It is not about other people's opinions that worries her. It was the opinion of the shareholders.

"Why can't you just enjoy your day?" Eulanda said, smiling. "Whoever released that news wanted to ruin your day, and it seems that it was affecting you. Besides... today is your birthday and the one who will escort you later was still not here.....

Sofia looked at her reflection. In fact, she was already getting worried as Alexander had yet to inform her of his arrival time. She let out a sigh.

"Don't tell me you have not received any updates from him?" Euanda asked. In response, Sofia shook her head.

"Then call him!" Eulanda said.

Actually, Sofia had debated if she would call Alexander. She did not want to impose too much on him. To Sofia, the man has helped her a lot. He was running a business empire yet he had always been there for her. She felt like she had yet to show him her sincerity.

Naturally, she knew he was only doing this for the shares, but sti

Alexander doesn't actually need those shares to secure his position. She felt like their transaction was no longer fair to Alexander at all.

Luckily, her grandmother did not pry anymore, and Karina arrived for her very own makeup and hair styling. Karina, Sofia, and Eulanda will be arriving at the venue together.

"Happy birthday..." Karina beamed the moment she walked in. Then she handed her a small box. "Open it tonight. After the party."

"Thank you... you didn't have to-

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"Really Karina asked-

Sofa smiled in response

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For the next few hours the three of them talked about random things that fo not involve husiness To Sofia curpirive, hier grandmother was actually knowledgeable in the field of gossip! She knew who was sleeping with whom theating with their husbands and wives and many others

For a while. Sofia was able to relax and past laugh

The moment they finished their makeup, it was already four in the afternoon. Sofia needed to do a few more photo shoots before the party started at six

After what felt like forever. Sofia finally finished everything masked

Sofia shook her head. Then she smiled. "Hey I had just gotten single. Why can't I just enjoy it on my birthday!" Still, she was a little disappointed that Alexander would not be able to make it on time. However, she understood that he was busy with his job

Besides, it was not a part of his responsibility at all.

Soon enough, the trio arrived at the venue of the event, and just as they expected, those who were invited were already there waiting for them

The venue was super fancy, like those places you see in movies. Everything was all black and gold, shiny and sparkling. The walls were draped in these classy fabrics, and fancy chandeliers were hanging from the ceiling. The atmosphere was rather posh, something that she already expected as her grandmother personally involved herself in this event.

In the middle of the room there was this massive cake, standing six feet tall. It was all decorated in black and gold too.

Following the theme. On top of the cake, there were 26 candles all lit up, making it look like a birthday dream.

The tables were all set with fancy black and gold tablecloths, and there were these cool centerpieces that looked like golden sculptures. The whole place had this vibe like, "Wow I'm in some ritzy party."

As Sofia walked in, she couldn't help but feel a bit overwhelmed by how extravagant everything was. It was like stepping into a whole different world. People were already there, chatting and sipping on fancy drinks, all dressed up to the nines.

Seeing this, she tried to shake off the disappointment about Alexander not being there yet and decided to focus on enjoying her birthday bash. After all, it wasn't every day you turned 26 and had a cake towering over you like a skyscraper.

"Congratulations on your birthday, Miss Lockhart, an older gentleman who she knew was her grandmother's friend. Mr. Rames, smiled at him

“Mr. Rames it is a pleasure to see you again” Sofia smiled. She had met the older man in passing when she was younger. However, since she was not that close to her grandmother, she did not have any intention of getting close to her grandmother’s contacts.

However, tonight is different.

Sofia had the intention of enjoying the night and knowing a lot of people

“Rames it is a pleasure to see you again” Eulanda united. She was standing next to Sofia, and since they arrived, she had been introducing a few people to her-something that Sofia was very thankful for

“You look dashing as always. Mr. Rames said “Ah, this is my grandson, Leandro Rames. He is going to be the future of Rames Corporation.”

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create his own startup at twenty-seven Fulanda asked “Look at you and your proud

Me Ramey said

Sofia smiled as she watched her mother random and become a social butterfly in front of her. She always knew that Enlanda was a very smart woman and had seen this ample of times however, seeing her interact with other businessmen was past simply different

Hello Men Loch Leandro said.

Me Bames. Soña shook the mans

ans hand

ing to stars talking about busine

ne soon. How about we take this time to

Sofia blinked Leo was tall man with black hair and browneves. He is definitely someone that could become an actor by today’s standards but for some reason, she found him not as good-looking as Alexander.

The fact that she was entirely comparing this man to Alexander made her horrified. However, just before she could accept Lis offer: m echoed behind her.

“Amally, she would not be able to dance with you a smooth familiar voice made her heart tremble. “After all, she already promised her first dance to me. Isn’t that right. Sofa

Sofa looked at the man who stood beside her. It was none other than Alexander.

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COMMENT