

Chapter 40: Valuable Reward

Kyle had a chance to read the letter Gabrielle's mother left behind. He turned to his girlfriend as she packed up more of her mother's belongings in a box and asked, "Are you... going to seek your mother's family?"

Pushing back a strand of her caramel hair, Gabrielle fell mute for some time. She raised her torso, looking blankly at the window. After giving it much thought, she answered, "No, I won't."

"There - there must have been a good reason for my mother not to connect with them," she explained. "Besides, all my life, I have not heard about them."

"I mean... what kind of parents would disown their own child," she added before putting the last of her mother's things.

Kyle nodded and assured her, "You have me." Seeing the smile on her face, he added, "And my family." 2

At that point, Gabrielle's smile beamed wider. She glanced at him and declared, "I am... counting on that, handsome."

"Hmmm," replied Kyle.

Looking around, Kyle suggested, "It will take a few months before this house is ready again, Gaby." He hissed and said, "Much work needs to be done here."

He pointed to the ceiling and said, "See that?"

Gabrielle looked up, seeing the clear stain of mold on the ceiling, and sneered. "Yeah, my aunt just left some parts of the house to rot!"

"That is an understatement," responded Kyle.

"She only fixed the places where guests could see - like the living room." Gabrielle rolled her eyes while telling this. ²

"Don't worry, beautiful. I'll have Hank take the lead in getting the house renovated. It will be good as new in no time," Kyle promised while walking up to her and embracing her from behind. ²

After receiving a peck on the cheek, Gabrielle turned to her man and asked, "One day, Kyle... I'll pay you back for everything, for all the kindness and generosity you have shown me."

"I'm not asking for anything in return," he replied, looking into her hazel orbs.

"I know, but..." She turned to face him, wrapping her arms around his neck. She relished his athletic face

and said, "I wasn't thinking about monetary return, but a more valuable reward... like my loyalty and love, at the very least."

"Hmmm." Kyle tasted her lips for a second before he suggested, "Like... sensual nights and at least four kids in the future." 2

That made Gabrielle blush. Her eyes narrowed, thinking about giving the man at least four children! 3

Still, she awkwardly replied, "Yeah." She let go of him, keeping herself busy and closing the box, she added, "Something like that."

After packing all the items that Gabrielle thought she wanted to bring along with her to the penthouse, the couple walked outside the house, looking at it from the gate. It was there when Gabrielle said, "When the house is done, Kyle. I can live here again." 2


She wasn't thinking straight, just dreaming about the idea of going back to where she grew up in. She did not notice how Kyle had frowned at all. 2

When she gazed at Kyle, she saw the clear displeasure in his face and heard the man say, "Are you forgetting that you have a contract with me, Miss Taylor? You are supposed to look after my penthouse for at least a year, girlfriend or not."

Gabrielle's lips pouted, realizing how it was true. She chuckled and said, "Ummm... Sorry. I - I just missed this house."

"Well, I can't be in the way of your happiness," Kyle said with a long face, looking back at the structure. "I suppose... I can always hire another FEMALE to manage the penthouse."

It was Gabrielle's turn to frown. Her eyes tightened, looking back at Kyle. She said, "Really?!"

When Kyle did not answer and turned away, she ran after him, chuckling. "Seriously, Kyle." 

Facing him, she placed both her hands on his cheeks and said, "How about... on weekends, when you are free, we both can stay here." Gabrielle gave him that big grin and suggested, "I'll tell you everything about my parents, how I was growing up, and every story I have in this house."

Her suggestion finally eased Kyle. He smiled and agreed, "Okay. That's sounds fine." He took her hand and as they made their way to Hank, he suggested, "Even when I'm on a business trip, Gaby, you can stay here. I'll hire security guards and at least one maid to look after the house."

"You won't be here all the time, so a maid and

security guards are necessary," he added, knowing Gabrielle might object.

Pursing her lips, she thought about it again.
Surrendering with a sigh, she answered, "Okay."

Days went by again, and Gabrielle was living happily with Kyle.

She had two more months to cover before her finals, and she knew she had to ace it! She swore to burn her brows, just studying in the next few days.

Meanwhile, in a shopping mall nearby, Karen Taylor was looking around for some furniture when she came across Camilla Clark.

"Karen? Is that you?" Camilla called for her in a distance. "Oh, I heard what happened to you and your, Mom! I am so sorry for what Gaby had done!"

She went on and on about how ungrateful Gabrielle was for having kicked them out of the house. At the end of her statement, she said, "Don't worry, with Gaby being a mere mistress, it won't be long before her financier would leave her."

Camilla let out a sneer and suggested, "Besides, being a mistress to an old man alone is so disgusting! I'm

sure she is secretly suffering!"

Karen Taylor froze, recalling how Gabrielle's boyfriend turned out to be a handsome, rich young man who, apparently, was a Wright!

It was Karen who told Camilla that Gabrielle was involved with an old man, being a mistress, but as it turns out, it was far from the truth!

She contemplated whether to reveal the facts, but her pride got in the way. How could she admit that her cousin won a gold mine when she had secretly despised Gabrielle all her life!

Karen's lips parted, just finding the words to say, but soon she weakly answered, "Yeah. Just disgusting of her... being a mistress to a married man." 2

Karen Taylor could only hope that Gabrielle's newfound relationship would wither through time and Camilla Clark would never find out the truth. She acted to sneer and added, "Just... thinking about it makes me puke."