## Love beyond the mask (Whitney) Chapter 160

## Chapter 160

Elaine stormed into the CEO's office, disbelief etched on her face "What on ea rth is Whitney thinking? Ludwik, why would she siphon off 400 billion of your liquid assets? What's her endgame?"

Even Felix could not temper Elaine's fury because, indeed, Whitney's move w as akin to pushing the CEO into a corner with no way out.

Why would she do this?

"Mr. Lippert, we've located Madam!"

"Where?" Ludwik's face was a mask, cold and unmoving. He stood up, ready t o leave.

He remained deaf to the clamor outside, his bodyguards blocking anyone from approaching, his mind and sight filled with thoughts of that woman.

Did Orion coerce her?

He could not believe it. He refused to believe that she would drain all the fund s from his company, forcing him into the brink of bankruptcy.

Elaine followed him into the car, staying close by his side.

Felix pulled out the investigation results, his brow furrowed. "Mr. Lippert, I've double-checked. The 400 billion was transferred to an offshore construction company that just won the bid *for* the Braxton property a couple of days ago. It's Orion's."

The revelation hit like thunder.

Ludwik's gaze was icy as the depths of hell.

Whitney had made a mistake in the bidding documents, causing him to lose the hotel project.

He thought it was an accident and was willing to trust her.

Now, with the hotel project scrapped and a 120 billion compensation looming, Whitney transferred his 400 billion dollars away.

No, he could not believe it. How could she be involved with Orion? He just could not believe it.

His heart was *ice*-cold as he rode in silence.

Soon, the car arrived at a villa in the suburbs. Felix signaled the armed bodyg uards to split into two teams and sneak in.

Ludwik did not wait for the bodyguards to clear the way; his lean, frosty hand pushed open the villa's front door.

There were voices in the lit living room, and the door closed tight.

His ears caught the woman's voice he could not be more familiar with.

"Have you had enough of hurting Ludwik? I think it's enough. Let me go!"

"Whitney, it's 'we'-

the three of us took our revenge! Thanks to Boss's help, Ludwik's downfall ca me quickly. I've been hiding for ten years, and now that his liquid assets are g one, all the investment companies will turn on him. Imperial Gem Corporation i s on the verge of collapse, and with his money, we'll take over his company, a nd the Tennyson family legacy will be restored!"

Whitney watched her uncle's manic excitement and did not recognize him any more. Who was the real corporate predator?

Perhaps revenge was just a pretext, she thought chillingly.

She just wanted to escape, to return to his side no matter what. He must be g oing through a hard time right

now

But her uncle would not let her go. After a day of torment, Whitney felt her san ity was fraying.

She echoed mockingly. "Yes, we did it together. We hurt him. Uncle, open the door. I want to leave."

"Sister-in-

law, we're in this together now. You can't leave..." The sinister man approach ed, lifting Whitney's chin.

"You... Orion?" Whitney's face turned as pale as frost as she finally got her an swer.

A gunshot shattered the silence, and the tightly closed door burst open!

In the aftermath, the door slowly cracked, revealing the endless cold night out side.

From the darkness emerged a

figure, imposing like a deron from hell, the man's tall frame clad in a black suit that seemed to herald doom.

Yet his face was deathly pale, and his chilling gaze fixed on Orion, touching W hitney's chin with a smirk

The woman sat in a chair, her words echoing in Ludwik's ears.

She called Orion by name, and she knew him well.

And she, oh, had long known his true identity. What a cunning woman she wa s.

She spoke of their

joint revenge as if they had accomplished some great deed together?

Ludwik stared at the woman, her delicate face pale with terror. He laughed– a laugh that rang with the coldness of an icy river.

"Lud.. L?" Whitney saw him, her body stiffening with dread. Her face was ashe n.

Why was he here? Was he looking for her? How much of her desperate lies, f orced by circumstances, had he heard?

Her fingers trembled violently as she stood up from her chair.

Ludwik gestured with his gun, stepping forward with a silent and deadly grace. Beneath his cold–blooded demeanor, his heart was shattered beyond repair. "So, Whitney, you're in league with Orion?" He asked with a laugh that was bo th sinister and cold.

"No, Ludwik, I..." Whitney stammered out.

His laugh grew more chilling and cruel. "When did you find out who I am? Such a flawless act."

"Listen to me..." She tried to approach him.

He halted, his stance rigid like twin blades. Suddenly, his expression vanished . "You

said you'd come into my life, into my company, and give it your all. You would n't leave me alone. This morning, you said that we'd face it together when you woke up.

I wonder why I've been so out of it all day. And why you were suddenly willing to wear the ring? Turns out, it was all a sweet trap." His laughter echoed, carrying the chill of icy waters.

"Ludwik..." Whitney's breath caught as though she inhaled knives, pain wracking her body.

She suddenly realized that she could no longer explain herself to Ludwik.

She had lost her chance the moment he saw her with Orion.

Natalie had said, "If there's anyone he truly despises and hates, it's his brothe r who took everything from him."

But Whitney did not know– she had no idea that the man her uncle brought in was Orion!

How could she be with his most hated person in a 'conspiracy' to transfer his assets?

Whitney

could not even begin to imagine the pain he must be feeling, how deeply wou nded he was.

Chapter 160

Tears of extreme sorrow fell from her eyes as she stood trembling, fearful as a child. "Ludwik, listen to me, it's

not like that..."

"You said you love me? To conspire with your uncle and Orion to take over m y company, is this your love? I've felt it." His voice was harsh and desolate.

For him, heartbreak was nothing new.

His lips pressed tight, and then no sound came out of his throat. His gaze gre w colder, piercing her to the

marrow.

Whitney's heart bled, a sweet, metallic tang rising in her throat. The taste of fr esh blood made her shudder violently as she looked at him with utter despair i n her eyes.

She shook her head vehemently, yet she still yearned to move towards him, to wards this noble man who had gambled everything because of her mistake.

"Don't you touch Ludwik, Whitney!"

Elaine stepped forward, positioning herself protectively in front of Ludwik. A co Id smirk played on her lips she had not expected Orion to get involved in Keeg an's mess. This was a stroke of luck for her.

She knew all too well how much Ludwik loathed Orion.

The fact that Whitney had conspired with him was Ludwik's Achilles' heel!