## 51 CHAPTER 51 The Annual Meeting

Albie's POV 1

Why does she look so guilty? I quietly asked myself as she stood staring at me. It seems her tongue couldn't form the right words to say.

We stood staring at each other for what seemed to be forever, I didn't mind, I could stare at her all day and still not feel compelled to stop myself.

Once again her hair was in a low bun to give her an air of seriousness and professionalism. It didn't matter what state her hair was in, she was always breathtaking.

"I, I was just heading for the meeting."

"But the meeting isn't till ten." My eyes dashed to my wrist in search of knowing what time it was. "It's just part seven."

"Oh." Her face fell into a new expression as realization dawned on her.

Something was bothering her and she couldn't seem to bring herself to say it. The only

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problem was I wished she would tell me, she was startled but my presence, I could see the way she did a little jump in response to my voice.

"Is there something you want to get?" I asked.

Perhaps she was lost or concerned about something, I didn't know what but I felt she could share. I didn't mean to prey but she was just standing in the middle of the hallway, it was odd.

My greatest concern was how she didn't even hear my footsteps approaching, I saw her from a distance and I felt my presence would be acknowledged within a moment of being close to her.

Whatever the reason for her standing so still must be quite distracting and serious, I watched as her back led to her behind.

Bracing myself, I thought of when I would caress and have free access to that beautiful behind, it was going to be an experience to hold on to.

What's that? That sounded like someone, who was talking. I think I heard something like this from someone I knew. It was going from

ahead in the opposite direction, maybe if I stepped closer, I could find out what it was.

"Yes, I was hoping to review last year's annual report." She blurted out almost immediately in a hastily manner.

"The report? I don't think you rea-"

"I need to, I don't want to be lost during the meeting."

I doubt she would be lost, she is way too smart not to understand the details of the meeting. The reports were mostly just for documental purposes, to show records that such an activity took place.

Elsie always finds a way to be different, to act in an organized and planned manner that makes me marvel.

"It will be to do so, do you intend to finish it up before the meeting?"

She nodded as her hand traveled to her elbow and she rubbed it in a massaging pulse. Was she nervous?

I couldn't stop myself from reaching out and tucking a strand of hair away from her face, I placed it behind her ear and just stared at her .

face.

She was so beautiful it made me want to reach down and kiss her nervousness away. That would be an unwise decision, she didn't look like she would welcome it besides I promise not to rush her before she made up her mind about us.

"Have you had breakfast?" I asked instead.

"No, not yet."

"Then let's do that shall we?"

"Alright, that would be nice."

We walked together to the eating section and got ourselves breakfast, after a silent almost quiet but peaceful meal we headed to a secluded area where we dived the reports.

I still remember the important points made at that last meeting, it was just like any other annual meeting but this time it was different. Elsie was going to be there.

We went through the reports, and I answered all her confusing questions and presented a few points she should focus on.

Mr. Larson wasn't going to expect her to know some things but he might ask her just to test how committed she was to the firm.

"It's almost time." She glanced at her watch and commented.

Looking at the time myself, I agreed to that, I was a bit surprised at how long we spent here and I still felt like it was just thirty minutes. Time passed quickly whenever I was with her, I enjoyed it but wished it was slower.

She got up, my eyes traveled the movement of her chest as it popped out a little bit more. She didn't have a petite chest, it was swollen and evident that she was endowed.

"Albie? I don't want us to be late."

Us? I snapped out of whatever state of delusion I was here, I had a very important meeting afterward and I was caught up in the admiration of this woman.

"Yes, let's go."

I was so lost in my daydream that I forgot to draw out the seat for her, that was very wrong and bad on my part I should be more alert next time.

We soon arrived at the company's event center where we quickly got into our respective



seats and waited for it to begin.

I could already see Mr. Larson on the chief executive platform, making observations and conclusions on his workers.

The moment his eyes settled on us, I saw the corners of his lips curve in an almost smile, even if it took a careful keen eye to see it, I knew he was silently proud of having the both of us in his firm, it was a thing of pride.

Even I was thrilled to be here, for other reasons though so that's quite different. He didn't know I was watching him watch other employees. Crazy old man.

The meeting commenced, starting from the opening speech to the main procedures of the firm. It lasted for a while but I was glad.

I was sitting next to Elsie and we were talking, I know I shouldn't be excited but it was a start. A start of something beautiful.



## 52 CHAPTER 52 The Hurt Of Breaking Up

Elsie's POV

"I hereby adjoin this meeting till next year and around this period."

That was an odd way of ending a meeting but I'm glad it has ended. Was it just me or did no one find that strange? I was the only one who found it weird.

"It's how he has chosen to end the annual meeting, trust me, we too know it's odd but we just go with the flow," Albie whispered slowly into my ears as we got up from our chairs and headed out.

"That explains a lot."

"Yes, especially if you understand his humor."

I turned to look at Mr. Larson, he did have a different way of addressing and handling things.

"Yeah definitely."

We moved out of the center, all workers

hurdling to their rooms and some were up for lunch. I was a bit hungry myself and I could devour a sandwich or two.

"Albie." Someone called his name and we paused to turn.

George. That's right, I saw him when he stepped into the meeting just minutes before it started fully. His face didn't have its usual bright side and his forehead had traces of hard lines.

From his expression and the look of things, it could be that they couldn't resolve it and were no longer together. Staring at his face as he tried to fake the smile and friendliness, I understood what he was going through.

"George, where have you been all morning? I was looking for you."

"Sorry, I was caught up." In a breakup and heartache situation right? I know he won't say it but I could feel it in him. "Elsie, how was your first annual meeting?"

"It was fine," I answered quickly. I hope I didn't stare too hard at him the way he greeted me sharply.

"I'm sure you had no issues, especially with

Albie by your side."

"Yes, indeed, he was helpful."

We walked along the hallway and headed to the dining area, now that the meeting was over, I was hoping I could slip off to Bonnie. I was dying to question her about her and George.

"Let's get lunch Elsie." Albie said.

"Oh that would be nice but-"

"But?"

"But I have to check on my friend, Bonnie."

At the mention of her name, I saw the fake light in George's face die down almost immediately, for god's sake Elsie, could you be a little more sensible?

Before I could stop myself it was too late, I saw the pain flash through his eyes, that was all the confirmation I needed, they were officially not together anymore.

"Oh, yeah right, where is she anyway? Maybe she can join us."

"No no no," I said hastily.

How I quickly answered, startled Albie, even

George was a bit confused about my reply. "I mean, no, she's probably asleep or had something to eat already, I will just find her and order room service."

"That's fine if it's what you want. You must be tired and want to rest, we wouldn't keep you waiting."

"Yeah, I would appreciate that."

"Alright then, see you later."

I smiled at both of them and took my leave.

That was close, why did I have to bring her up? It was so painful to watch George act normal at the thought of her. Bonnie had a lot to explain.

Soon enough I reached our room, I intended to change and go out in search of her but as I turned the doorknob, it was open. She was back.

"Elsie, it took you long enough."

"I was in a meeting."

"What's the meeting?"

"The meeting, the annual one." She looked clueless as I spoke. "The reason why we are here in the first place."

"Oh yeah yeah yeah, that's nice, how did it

go? I'm hungry, have you eaten?"

"No, just breakfast." I moved to the couch and sat down. I started taking off my shoes as I undressed.

"Let me order room service." She quickly suggested.

"Why? Let's just change and go down, Albie invited me for lunch, his friend George will be there too."

I was watching her intently and her eyes flattened immediately, I just knew she was thinking about facing him.

"Room service will be better."

"Why? Because you don't want to run into George?"

She froze at the statement and stared at me with widened eyes in disbelief. It felt good to know what someone didn't know you knew

"What are you talking about?"

"There's no need to pretend, I know about you guys dating." She opened her mouth to say something but I interrupted her. "And the breakup."

Her mouth fell open in surprise, it was a shock that she didn't faint because of the way her eyes popped out of her socket.

"How did yo-"

"I overheard you guys arguing this morning, the real question is why didn't you tell me and why did you guys break up? There are so many things you have to tell me."

Her eyes went from surprised to sad and embarrassed. I didn't mean to make her feel bad but I just wanted to know why.

"Elsie, I-" She stopped short and I didn't say anything. "I didn't tell you because I didn't know how I would without making it awkward with your divorce."

She couldn't even look me in the eye, her head lowered down as she spoke. I suddenly felt bad for my friend, she was being careful and considerate because of what I was going through.

Bonnie could be carefree and sometimes even oblivious to some things but she was a caring and soft person at heart.

"But you could have just told me, I would

