

## Secretly TBB 181

Chapter 181: Ambassador issue “You can’t leave like this, Avery! You can’t pretend as if you don’t know what’s really happening!” Smith yelled all of a sudden.

Avery gave him a dirty glare.” What do you want me to do? What the fuck did you want me to say?” Her tone matched Smith’s. She was so angry, in fact much more than angry.

She found out that Smith planned to ruin Grey’s open sale. Even though she was going to divorce him, she didn’t support what Smith did.

She knew why he did it anyway. It was because Smith was so obsessed with the LX corporation. Somehow, it looked like Grey was finally making it.

As much as it hurt Avery to see this, she was secretly glad about it. Somehow, she was happy that Grey was making it even though she didn’t know the reason why.

“So, you are going to side with Grey against your family?” Smith was enraged.” You guys are divorced!” He reminded her.

Well, Avery had sent the papers to Grey after signing. So, somehow they were not couples anymore.

“Don’t remind me!” Avery said dangerously, her anger almost tripping over. She wanted to stop thinking about the fact that Smith had done a lot to Grey, not excluding the setup. She just didn’t want to think about it, because she didn’t love Grey.

She didn’t care about Grey, there was no way she would. So, she had to divorce him. In fact, the main reason why she was holding back all these days was that she felt pity for Grey. But Grey was starting to make it.

“So, what? Do you think that record is going to be cleared off? No! Until you marry Chris, that would never happen! Think of everything that Chris had done to you!” Smith declared.

Avery looked away, feeling very frustrated.” Stop talking to me about Chris, I don’t want to marry him and you seriously can’t change my mind. You know that Smith,” She stressed.

“Well,” Smith shrugged briefly.” It’s not a law and it can be changed. You are just being unnecessarily stubborn. Anyways, you are going to join the meeting with the Protos Pubblicita representative.”

Avery looked at Smith again.” It’s not up to that, Smith.”

” Heck yes!” Smith screamed. “You will do it! You will choose your family over that useless thing you divorced or I will report to your grandfather!” He threatened in a deep voice.

Avery regarded him for a moment. Smith had always threatened her anyway. They’ve been arguing since they were very young. And despite how tough Avery had been, Smith had always been having the upper hand, If it wasn’t for Protos Pubblicita, Avery wouldn’t even have a chance to be the present CEO.

And he knew her weakness and the fact that somehow Lucy listened to Smith more than his granddaughter.

“What do you want me to do?”

“Nice!” Smith cooled down. “You are going to call Maria of Protos Pubblicita. We want Hercules to be our ambassador!” He revealed.

Avery’s eyes went wider. “What! You are going too far!”

Smith scoffed. “We signed a contract with Protos Pubblicita. So, they are bound by our clauses. Hercules is going to be our ambassador. With him, we can top again, perhaps even be the first. Well, it doesn’t matter as long as Grey stays in the mud where he belongs.” His selfish voice rang all over.

Avery felt another stab of annoyance, ” Does this have to begin and end with Grey? Why can’t you leave him alone?”.

"I will when he's back in the mud. And you will do this or else, you are seeking trouble!" He yelled at her.

Avery smiled softly, silently mocking Smith." And you think Hercules would agree to such a ridiculous offer?"

"Well, that's not left for you to decide. We have the upper hand here. He signed the contract and told us it would be alright as long as you were in charge. We fulfilled our bargain. It's now left for him to fulfill the other side of the bargain."

Avery groaned and walked out of his office in anger. Smith was one of the reasons why Avery wanted a man that could protect her. She knew that a man who was wealthier would make Smith vulnerable.

And well, Chris was that man. He had everything that she wanted but she didn't know why she didn't want to marry him.

It was the right and even the best thing but Avery was suddenly holding back. Why? What was happening to her?

At one side, she wondered if Grey had really signed the papers. Maybe she expected him to suddenly refuse to, if only it was possible. But she planned on speaking with Chris that evening. She needed to know what he had done.

Grey was looking through the website with a bright smile on his face when the door opened and Maria walked in.

He just couldn't stop looking at the progress they'd made. Maria really did a great job concerning the promotion. And well, Grey knew she was the best option for him and he was glad he made the decision.

Who knows? Jane might end up working for Smith or Giovanni. And she might hinder the promotion

Anyways, Victoria Skincare was doing good.

“Boss, we have a problem,” Maria announced. Grey looked up at her, the smile still playing on his face, “What is that about?” “I just received a call from LX corporation and they demand something.” Grey watched her for a moment.” Really? What’s that about?”

Maria released a sigh. “They would like the Protos Pubblicita to be their ambassador.”

Grey shrugged briefly.” Tell someone to go for it. In fact, you can do it.” “No,” Maria shook her head quickly.” They were specific. They want you to be their ambassador.”

Grey chuckled silently.” That should be Smith’s idea and not Avery’s.” Maria observed him. “You seemed to know these people closely but well, what should we do? They don’t necessarily want you to display your face, they just want your words and signature for it.”

“I know what he’s doing. He just has been scared that Victoria Skincare would take over,” he revealed.

“Why?” Maria raised confused brows.

” Because LX corporation is a cream company.”

Maria nodded once in understanding. “What should we do now? What reply should I give them?”

” None,” he said quickly. ” I’m going to be the ambassador for Victoria Skincare,” he announced

Chapter 182: The truth

Avery called Chris when she was on her way and Chris was so happy that Avery was coming over. In fact, he thought that Avery was ready to accept his proposal.

When he knew he had her cornered already. He did literally everything for her and even her useless husband was gone for good.

Though, Chris had no intention of making their marriage permanent. He just lusted after Avery and had been feeling so down because Avery had rejected his advance.

A couple of sex would do the trick and he would find a way to divorce her. He and his four friends contributed 5 million dollars each to the quest.

If he won Avery over, he would get 25 million dollars for himself. So, everything was just a game. Well, there was nothing else he could do, or what would Avery do if she discovered that most of the things he gave her were imitations? Divorce was the easiest.

"Avery, welcome," he walked her inside and gestured to a sofa, a wide smile on his face.

Avery wore a dark frown as she sat. "I'm not here to sit and have fun. I came here to confirm something."

It was at this point that Chris discovered the expression she was giving. "Yes, what's it?"

"I spoke with Smith and he told me something but I want you to confirm it. Is it really true?" Avery didn't want to give Chris the space to lie. She was determined to hear the truth.

Chris cleared his throat meaningfully and raised skeptical brows at her. "What do you mean?" "Did you really plan to get me to divorce Grey? Was it all staged?" Chris huffed. "What type of question is this?"

You divorced Grey, what does that have to do with me?"

Avery gave him a long stare. "Smith told me everything, you don't need to lie again."

Chris observed her for a moment and saw the look she was giving off. He cursed underneath his breath and looked away. He had never thought that Smith would betray him. Well, he knew Smith was a fool like Seth but he didn't know to what extent he was.

"That's why you are here?"

“So, you did it? What type of lies did you make up?” Chris looked at her again.” Grey isn’t meant for you, you should forget about him.”

“And is it up to you to decide for me? Why would you meddle in something like that?” Avery was starting to feel even more frustrated.

She had wondered why Smith was suddenly siding with Chris. Well, it was because they were planning something bad together. “Calm down, Avery. I’m the right one for you, you know this.” “Maybe I do. Tell me all you did,” Avery said softly, Chris sighed.” It doesn’t matter. He’s gone for good. We can get married now. Where do you

want to go on your honeymoon? I would take you everywhere and anywhere,” he announced. Avery ignored his rantings.” What did you do, Chris? I want to know everything.” Chris sighed again.” I sincerely don’t know why you are asking all these questions. It doesn’t even matter.”

Avery stood up.” It’s ok if you won’t tell me. Smith would do that anyways,” she turned to leave. She had barely turned the knob when Chris’s voice came from behind, the word shocking Avery. “Well, Smith came up with the idea and I just say he was only acting in your best interest. I mean I can give you anything you want.” Avery shook her head briefly. “You lied about the lady you saw with Grey? You didn’t even know who she was to him?” Avery didn’t wait for him to talk before she hurried out. When

she got inside the car, she placed a call to Smith. Somehow, she couldn’t rule out the fact that there was something Chris was hiding from her. “What do you want now, Avery?” Smith’s cold voice boomed. ” Chris said you planned the whole thing. Is that right? Did you really talk Chris into all this?” Avery yelled at him.

Smith was shocked for a moment.” What! That’s not true! What! He told you that?” He couldn’t believe that Chris was putting the whole blame on him because he thought Avery might come back to him. “I will tell you the truth then since he just acted like a fool that he is.”

Avery waited. “Well, I agreed that I decided to ruin Grey’s open sale but it was Chris that brought up the idea of taking a picture of him and the secretary. Well, we both know that these two aren’t dating,” he revealed.

Avery felt her head fly off. " And that wasn't all. Chris pretended to be sick and intentionally angered Grey so that he would punch him and he would use it against him." Avery couldn't believe her ears, she couldn't even believe what she was hearing. She couldn't talk, shock kept her motionless and speechless.

"And lastly, he paid some thugs to attack you guys, while also pretending it was Grey that sent them."

It was at this point that Avery couldn't continue to be silent. "You mean Grey didn't know anything about it? Chris actually sent the men?" "Yes! That's what I" He didn't finish as Avery hung up and smashed the phone against the screen of the car. She was so angry and was seething, with rage, She thought it was really Grey but it turned out that Chris had only tricked her into divorcing him.

Avery opened the door and hurried toward Chris' house. She opened the door and met him at the same spot, though at the sound of the door, he raised his head to look at her,

A smile spreads across his face, as he beholds Avery. He must have thought that Avery had come back to accept him.

"You will get a contract termination tomorrow morning. We will be terminating all the contracts we signed. LN corporation is not going to work with you again," she finished and didn't even wait for shocked Chris to say a word before she hurried out of the house.

She wasn't only feeling guilty, she was feeling very sad. She had never felt so sad in her entire life.

She got inside the car and turned around as if going towards Grey's former house, the one she knew he lived in before he moved into her family house but stopped suddenly. It was wrong that she would want to see Grey after all she had done. Even though that was exactly what she wanted.

How was she going to face Grey despite how she had treated him even to the last moment? What other things have Smith lied to her about?

The whole thing wasn't even Grey's fault but her family's lack of trust and lust for power. But Avery had always blamed the innocent man. It was at that moment she realized it. That she loved Grey Fox.

## Chapter 183: The tattoo

Grey got down from the car, with a bright smile on his face He hesitated to pick up his phone before he walked inside.

He was in his workout clothes. He went to the gym directly from work Eventually, he ended up driving to a nearby restaurant to have something to give him energy before heading home Also, he spent a lot of time with Alex Though, for a reason unknown to him, Alex never mentioned Pablo

He opened the door and saw Beatrice in the kitchen

"Mom," he called happily. "How are you doing today?" Actually, the word 'mum' felt so strange in his mouth. Maybe it was because it has been so long since he mentioned that word

Beatrice turned to look at him, a wide smile on her face "Have you had something

"Yes, on my way but with the aroma in the air, I will still be taking a bite"

Beatrice smiled." Go and shower The food will be ready soon"

Grey smiled again and took the stairs up to his room He felt a bit exhausted but he was glad to be making progress. He took a long shower and got dressed in brown trousers and white shirt. He buttoned up to his chest and left the others exposed. Well, he was in a hurry

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“So, what did you cook exactly?” Grey initiated as he moved to grab a seat “Wow, this looks delicious, what’s it called?”

“It’s My plate’. Here, it is filled with green beans, Brussels sprouts, tomatoes, and carrots,” she gestured towards the side of the plate.” Here is a fried chicken and well, lastly,” she sighed. “Cheese.” She explained and turned around, heading to the living room

“I’ve never tasted this and it looked delicious How did you get it?”

“Grey, someone sent this,” Beatrice said suddenly and extended a folder towards Grey

Grey regarded it for a moment, then took it It was at that moment that he saw that the seal was broken He pulled out some papers and realized they were divorce papers.

“You didn’t tell me you were married,” Beatrice said suddenly, as she pulled out a chair to sit

Grey saw that Avery had already signed. “I thought it was useless since I was getting divorced, “he explained “Well, if I had known then I wouldn’t have pushed you. Though, I don’t think you should drive off every woman just because your first marriage didn’t work well. And I’m sure Caramel is a nice person.” Grey nodded once.” She is but we can never be together,” he went through the papers carefully before signing then he placed them back into the folder and dropped them on the chair

“Why not?”

Grey huffed He was surprised that Beatrice was talking in favor of Caramel and wasn’t even

asking him about Avery. Well, at a side, he was appreciative. He didn’t even want to go into the story of how he became a live-in son-in-law. “I got divorced today and you want me to get married to someone else?”

“No, you could date the person for now, You won’t get married immediately, you know?”

Grey smiled.” That’s weird. Besides, I have other things to take care of.”

“Well, you can’t be single forever.”

Grey’s phone rang suddenly, interrupting him from what he was about to say. It was Caramel. “Hi Caramel. You are in front of the main door?” He announced and looked at Beatrice quickly to catch a glimpse of her happy expression. He pulled away the phone. “Did you call her over?” Beatrice laughed. “Why would I do that?” Grey placed the phone back to his ear and stood. “I’m almost there,” he hung up and moved towards the door,

When he opened the door, Caramel turned around towards his direction and Grey’s eyes strayed towards her exposed cleavage. She was exceptionally sexy, like usual

“Caramel, is something wrong?”

“I have something to tell you. May I enter?”

“Yes, you may. I have been expecting Caramel to come around!” Beatrice yelled from behind

Caramel smiled. “Ma’am, I didn’t know you were in.”

Grey sighed. “Did you guys plan this?”

Caramel laughed. “Well, I’m here to tell you about Alex,”

Grey regarded her for a moment, with brows drawn together. “Let’s discuss somewhere else,” he suggested

Caramel nodded briefly.

“Are you coming in?” Beatrice called out again.

Grey craned his neck to look at her. "No, we are going out." "Wait! What!" There was a horror expression on Beatrice's face. "Don't listen to him, Caramel!"

Just as Caramel took a step closer, almost entering the house, Grey stepped forward suddenly, preventing the movement. He turned her around quickly and his left arm went around her, the action made Caramel shiver

"We will be back, Mom," he announced before he led her out of the house "Should we go in your car or mine?"

"Yours, because I'm still come over to greet your mother."

Grey groaned annoyingly "You guys do as if you've known each other for ages."

Caramel laughed and slowly pulled away from him She went to the passenger's side while Grey took the driver's seat

"What did you want to tell me about Alex?" Grey initiated as he pulled out of the house.

Caramel looked at him, then she noticed the overlooked buttons that allowed the vivid display of his chest. She swallowed harder and looked away.

"Are we just going to drive around or do you have a destination?" She asked, ignoring his question.

Grey smiled. "Why don't we rock MegaPhone Attitude club?"

Caramel eyes shot out with terror. "There's no way I'm going there!"

Grey turned to look at her, then realization dawned on him. "Oh, don't worry about that. It would be ok."

Caramel shook her head briefly. "I don't want you to lose your salary again," she stressed even though she knew a lot was involved. Though, she decided not to ask him anymore questions until he was ready to let her know.

Grey glanced at her. "Trust me, Caramel. You will be fine."

Caramel smiled. "Alright, suit yourself." Grey laughed for a few seconds. "So, what did you want to tell me?" Caramel took a deep breath. "You asked me if Alex has a tattoo, remember?"

Grey shook his head severally. "Yes." Caramel looked at him. "He has, 1 confirmed it."

Chapter 184: Caught in between "Do you know what his tattoo is?" Caramel nodded briefly. "A lion." The pieces clicked together immediately. "Can you describe it?"

Caramel regarded him for a moment. "I will draw it instead."

Amusement filled Grey's face. "What? You can draw?" Caramel nodded briefly. "Very well. It's one of my hobbies."

A smile evaded Grey's face as he pressed the accelerator. "Show me what you got then."

Caramel observed him for a moment and realized he was happy. Somehow, it pleased her that he was so happy. She didn't know if he had signed the divorce papers but she didn't want to ask, not when they were on their way to have a nice time. At first, Caramel didn't know why Grey would ask her for something like that but she knew that whatever it was, she kind of trusted Grey to handle it all. So, she didn't need to ask questions, especially when he didn't feel like explaining to her. Though, she was sure that there would come a time when Grey would be so free to tell her anything that was on his mind. And till that time, she would patiently wait.

Grey's arm was around Caramel as they entered the big hall. There was a dance floor on one side while the club was on the other. His gaze searched quickly for Don, but his arms were doing the most work of marking territory.

Some of the men seemed to recognize him and stepped aside but Don or Richard was still nowhere to be.

Grey pulled out a chair for Caramel but she gave him a skeptical look. "When am I drawing?"

"I thought I said it?" A teasing smile was on Grey's face.

Caramel raised confused brows. "About what?"

Grey chuckled and moved behind her. Then, he slowly pulled her down to sit. "We are here to have fun. You can draw at my house later."

"You mean your mom's house," Caramel corrected with a smile.

"Whatever. Does it matter?" He walked to pull out a chair as well.

Caramel laughed." It doesn't, sincerely but I want to draw now." She pouted cutely. Grey regarded her for a moment. He couldn't help but want to compare the two women but unfortunately, they both looked very beautiful in their own way. Somehow, Grey didn't want Avery to go but she seemed like a lost cause and Grey couldn't stop thinking about Caramel. He and she shared some connections anyways. Even at that and the fact that Beatrice wanted them together, he found it strange to be with her.

Maybe it was because Caramel used to be Avery's friend or it was because he was too occupied

with business and finding the spies. "You seriously want to draw?" Caramel nodded again, with pouty lips. She looked cute like a toddler that got her favorite candies.

Grey smiled at this. Somehow, he was starting to actually like Caramel. "Ok, let's take a room here and I will ask how we can get you the paintbrush and all the other things that you need. I will get some things to drink while you paint. How about that?" Caramel nodded briefly, with a smile on her face." That's fine. It's just that I have what I need with me already," she revealed.

Within some minutes, they had settled in the perfect room and Caramel got ready to paint.

To Grey, she looked excited and he could really tell that she loved drawing so much.

“Should I stay over?” Grey asked as Caramel was about to start.

Caramel looked up at him. “Have you forgotten our agreement? You are supposed to get us something to eat and drink while I draw. Don’t watch me and be back in thirty minutes. I will be done by then.” She

expressed.

Grey smiled softly. “I’m eager to see what you will bring to life,” he stood and finally walked out of the room.

Don and Richard were waiting for him, with big smiles on their faces. “What the fuck!” Grey exclaimed softly, a bit surprised. “Come with me! She mustn’t see you,” Grey said hurriedly and led them out of the hallway, and back to the club. “I didn’t see you guys when I walked in.”

“Yes, we had some personal issues to deal with,” Don responded. “Oh, is that the future Hercules’ weakness?” He asked quickly.

Grey gave him a long stare. “What do you mean by weakness?”

Richard smiled softly. “Your family is considered as your weakness. So, well, your wife and children are your weakness.”

It was at that point that Grey realized what they meant. Then, he remembered that they didn’t know about Avery. Only the elders knew.

Grey grunted, “Stop thinking so abroad. She’s just my friend. And well, I can’t afford to have a weakness now, can I?”

Don shrugged slightly." It doesn't matter. We would protect her with our lives." "Shut the fuck up, Don!" Grey said quickly. Just as he turned around, his eyes went wide at who he was looking at.

What was Avery doing at MegaPhone Attitude that late in the night?

"Let's talk later. That lady over there must not see you guys with me," he said urgently.

Don and Richard took a short bow before they walked away.

Grey hesitated for a moment and regretted not bringing the files. He could have handed it out to her, without necessarily having to see her again. Avery reminded her of so many bad things

that he didn't want.

Nevertheless, he moved closer to her. It was at that moment that he realized that a bottle of champagne was in its middle as Avery had consumed half of its content.

"Avery," he called softly. Avery looked up at him, with a smile on her face. "Grey?" Grey bent slightly towards her." What are you doing? When do you plan on going home?" Caramel regarded him for a moment and slowly pushed back her head, "Don't deceive me. I know you are not Grey!" She pointed at him while hiccuping. "I can't see Grey," she took the empty cup and realized it was empty. She proceeded to take the bottle of champagne but Grey took it from her.

Grey had no idea why she was drinking. The first time she did it was when they got married. Well, they were now divorced and there was no reason to drink because of him. Just then, Chris entered his thoughts.

He wondered what Chris had done to Avery that made her so sad. "Give that back!" Avery stretched towards Grey to take the bottle of champagne, instead, she lost her footing and went backward. Grey caught her quickly before she would hit the floor. When he looked up, his eyes met with Caramel. There was a form of pain on her face.

What just happened? It looked like Grey was caught in between two women. And somehow, he was bothered, not about Avery but about Caramel.

Chapter 185: Matched Caramel rushed forward quickly. "Is she alright?"

Grey nodded briefly. "I'm taking her to her car," he announced and scooped Avery in his arms,

Caramel hesitated before she took Avery's phone and rushed behind Grey. Then, after him, so that she could open the door for Grey,

Grey shook his head as he watched Caramel. "She's drunk. Open the back seat."

Caramel furrowed her brows but did as instructed.

Grey placed Avery in the back seat and closed the door, to look at Caramel. "I'm driving her home."

"What?" Caramel exclaimed softly, unable to believe her ears. "I thought you said you would never go back to that house."

"Well, I can't just leave her here, or can I?"

Caramel kept mute and instead, stretched out the phone to him. "I will finish the paintings for you."

Grey nodded briefly. "Wait for me, I will be back soon," he informed.

Caramel nodded briefly and walked away.

Grey got into the driver's seat. Well, he wasn't supposed to drive Avery home but he couldn't leave her behind as well.

He looked at her through the front mirror and noted how calm she looked while asleep.

Chris was angry that he flipped everything on the table away. The wine bottle shattered on the floor.

How was he supposed to know that siding with Smith would lead to his loss? And he was almost there. Avery was almost his. His phone rang suddenly, forcing him out of his thoughts when nothing else would. Funnily enough, it was Smith.

"What the fuck did you think you are doing? Blaming me?" Smith yelled from the other end. Chris felt a surge of anger. "Are you kidding me? Why did you tell Avery about everything initially?"

"Was that why you had to lie? Because you thought Avery would come back to you if you did?" Smith chuckled. "You don't know anything, Chris. Avery is very stubborn. In fact, she could be one of the most stubborn girls you have ever met. She would never marry you," he revealed.

"You want me to help you get rid of Grey? Dream on because that would never happen," Chris expressed thickly,

"I don't care! I know what to do. I don't need your damn help. Let's go our separate ways!" And Smith hung up on him.

Chris threw the phone away angrily. He didn't believe he lost in two ways.

"Why are you still here? I thought you divorced Miss Avery already," the security guard fired at Grey. He had never loved Grey anyways. It wasn't surprising to Grey. Grey ignored him and opened the back seat. He took Avery in one scoop. "I'm talking to you, Grey!" The man said harshly.

Grey looked at him. "I will leave when I put her to bed," he responded softly before he walked

inside. There was no one in the living room. So, it was easy to enter the bedroom without getting confronted. He hurried out after he had safely placed Avery on the bed.

The security guard was still speaking to him but he didn't respond and walked out instead.

He flagged down a cab. He was late already as he had to go home to retrieve the divorce papers. When he entered the house, thankfully Beatrice wasn't in the living room.

He got the files and made sure he placed them on the passenger seat for Avery to see. With that, he won't need to see Avery again.

He got back to MegaPhone Attitude very late and he wondered if Caramel was still around. She could have left angrily.

Don walked closer to him the moment Grey stepped inside.

Grey's gaze searched around quickly for Caramel. "Is Caramel gone?" Don raised a skeptical brow. "Caramel? That's her name?" He smiled. "She's in. Though, she ordered some wine minutes ago."

Grey released a relieved sigh. "Talk to you later then," he excused himself and hurried towards the room

Caramel was painting something he couldn't really see the moment when he stepped into the room. She looked so focused that she didn't even know Grey was in the room with her.

A few minutes before she pulled to a stop and picked up her wine cup, she felt eyes on her and looked up "Grey. She called softly she didn't smile or frown, her face did something in between the both

"I'm sorry for keeping you waiting for so long, I."

"Check this out," Caramel said quickly and stretched out her paintings

Gley looked down at the flowers that she had painted. He took it and smiled. It looks so real."

\*Yes, I know I told you i was good, didn't 1? Gary laughed briefly "li you are this good, why did you venture into the business world? You could have been martin ChaneI sagtwed." \* \* easy to do my tatwi

wouldn't allow me." she expressed sadly Grey sat beside ther, while still admising the palling "Did you order while waiting for me?

Caramel nodded briefly and picked a drawing from the seat beside her. "And I was about to get bored," she stretched it out." Because I finished the painting earlier."

Grey regarded her for a moment. It was totally strange that Caramel wasn't questioning him like usual. He took it nevertheless.

"How did you get this?"

Caramel smiled. "That's a secret. I'm not going to tell you," Grey continued to stare at her." Well, I had some drinks with him, because he was reluctant to tell me about the tattoo. I believe it's a nice one but he's so hideous about it. Alex has never been like that," she explained.

"Were you guys always close?"

Caramel nodded briefly. "Yes, since high school."

Grey hid a smile. He didn't believe Caramel was actually working for him. He sighed and stared down at the paintings.

His eyes went wide as he observed it, comparing it quickly with the lion tattoo that he saw on Pablo

Alex had the same tattoo and it could only mean two things. He could sincerely be the Pablo he was looking for or he was the second in command.

All the same, he was right on track and Alex was who he needed to keep tailing,

## Chapter 186: Fix it

Grey got to the gym alone that morning as Richard called in sick.

He has been hitting the gym for three days now with no information from Pablo but he didn't want to relent especially when the lives of his men were in danger. Grey knew they were still alive due to what Alex had told him. Actually, he had a lot to do that morning. He needed to make a voice message that shows he was in support of Victoria Skincare as the Hercules. So, Maria was coming to Beatrice's house.

Then after that, he would tell Linda to proceed with letting the world know that Hercules was the second brand ambassador.

"Grey," Alex smiled brightly at him.

Grey reciprocated it. "Good morning to you."

Alex regarded him for a moment. "You are actually looking more fit than I expected, maybe it's because of your body structure. You are naturally gifted with broad shoulders," he complimented.

Grey sent him a smile. "It's all due to your hard work."

Alex nodded briefly. "I'm having a little party at my house in three days, would you be able to make it?"

Grey nodded quickly. "Why not? I will never miss it." Alex laughed at this. "Well, I have good news for you," his face went straight and he moved his mouth closer to Grey's ear. "Pablo wants to meet you tonight."

The news came as a shock to Grey. "Really?"

Alex pulled back and nodded. "Come at the same time you did the other time."

"Alright. I will leave now so that I don't get late for work," Grey informed him and they both shook hands before Grey walked out.

Grey's head was busy calculating how their plan would work. The moment he got inside the car, he placed a call to Gregory. He picked it up after the second ring. "Good morning, Hercules." "It's indeed a great morning. I'm meeting Pablo tonight," he announced.

"What!" It came as a shock to Gregory. "But that's too fast to make a plan?" Grey smiled and pulled into the street. "Well, we don't need excess planning. We've already discussed how we want it to be. You guys only need to carry it out." Gregory went silent for a moment. "Can you make use of Luciano's men for those that would attack Atomic Liquors? Your men should be the ones that would prepare to visit Giovanni's home. You know we can't trust your men just yet." He suggested.

"Yes, you are right. I will inform others and do as you've suggested."

"Fine but, can you include Don? Tell him not to take any of his men." He ordered.

"Alright, I will give you feedback when the plan is settled."

Grey hesitated, "keep an eye on your men, and you would be able to apprehend the spy today. I will be waiting for the results," Grey responded and the line went off.

Grey pulled off and looked up to see Maria smiling at him, A smile escaped his face as he approached her.

"Have you been waiting for so long?"

Maria shook her head briefly. "Just for thirty minutes."

Grey smiled, and entered the house, while Maria followed quickly. "I could have told your assistant to follow me but I didn't want to let her know you are," she pulled to a sudden stop when Grey turned to look at her.

The hard look Grey gave her almost made her stop breathing.

"The main reason why you are still living despite knowing who I am is because of your loyalty. The moment that is off, you go as well. Understood?"

Maria nodded quickly. "I will never betray you, Hercules," she stated boldly. "I just want you to know you can call me over if you need anything. There's always a way to go about everything," she explained.

Grey smiled. "I knew that I made a nice decision to make you my secretary. Give me a few minutes to get dressed. And get everything ready." He ordered.

Maria nodded again, a smile playing on her face. She was just so glad that she was directly serving Hercules. "I will do that."

Grey walked upstairs and knocked gently on Beatrice's door. "Beatrice?" "Grey," Beatrice boomed from inside. "I'm getting ready for work. I will be out soon." "No problem, take your time. I have someone here from the office. She came too early and I don't think she had breakfast."

"Oh, sure. I get that!"

Grey entered his room for a shower.

What would he do after discovering Pablo's real identity? He hadn't really thought about it. But well, what would happen next would be confirming his identity as the son of Giovanni.

He would be able to think of the next thing by then. He got dressed in a black tuxedo. He decided to keep it cool that day. He did his tie and grabbed his briefcase before he walked out of the room.

“Thank you so much for the meal,” Maria appreciated and turned to look at Grey,

“Not me. You can express your gratitude to Grey. He told me to do this,” Beatrice responded and walked to the kitchen,

Maria bowed slightly for Grey, “Thank you, sir.”

Grey waved it off. “Let’s start.”

Maria rushed forward and picked a note, She handed it over to Grey. “Here’s what you should

say. I’ve prepared other things for you to write.” Grey took it and stared down at the words. “I’m adding a bit of mine,” he informed her and looked up. “Are you using the voice changer?” Maria nodded briefly. “I will clear any traces back to you. Though, the handwriting would be difficult to do, unless you want someone else to write for you.”

Grey shook his head briefly.” That can remain the same. Did you bring my stamp? Because I’m definitely going to use a different signature.” Maria laughed. “I did. I came with everything, you don’t have to worry about anything,” she assured.” So, what do you want to add? I could decide how it would go.”

Grey regarded her for a moment. “My mother’s name is Victoria.”

Realization dawned on Maria. “You named the company after your mother’s name?”

Grey nodded briefly. “Well, I’m just going to say I felt attracted by the name, then I brought the cream and realized it had the exact scent as her. And, they did it great. It’s feasible enough, isn’t it?”

Maria nodded briefly.” I will fix it.”

Grey looked up and realized that Beatrice was looking at him, with admiration on her face and she was near tears.

If at all he was going to let Hattie go, for what they did to her mother. He wouldn't let them go for what they did to Beatrice's son.

Chapter 187: Shocking revelation "So, when are you getting married to Chris? What is your preparation concerning it?" Emma bombarded

Avery woke up on the other side of the bed. She had no idea how she got home or what had happened after she drove away from Chris' house.

Her mother had been disturbing her that morning and the only thing she could feel was sadness and regrets. It wasn't until she entered her car that she discovered it was really Grey that she saw the night before. She saw the divorce papers and knew for sure that it was over for her and Grey.

It was her fault anyways. She could have gotten the fact straight before making decisions.

"Avery!" Emma called suddenly, dragging Avery forcefully out of her thoughts.

Avery felt so horrible that morning but she still wanted to keep the company for herself. So, she managed to get herself into the company but her mother had been distracting her.

"Mom, I've told you that I'm not interested. I don't want to marry Chris," she expressed in a low voice.

"Why? He's the best for you and I know he adores you. Why aren't you giving him a chance?" Emma was getting very frustrated. She did great work to make her father agree to the divorce. And she couldn't allow such stress to go to waste.

Avery looked up at her mom for a moment as she recalled all that Chris had done. It was at that moment that some pieces started to fill her head.

The day Don and his men came over to beat Grey. Chris acted as if he was powerless to help, yet he fought with Don because of her. Somehow, the words didn't match. Chris had definitely been up to something for a long time but she didn't even notice.

The realization of it pained her so much, to the bone but it was the end already. There was nothing she could do anymore.

“Chris isn’t who you think he is. So, it’s a no for me.”

“Wait, what? Is that your excuse? So, what was your excuse for having sex with a poor man like Grey?”

Avery felt alarmed immediately. “Mom! That was harsh! Don’t call him a poor man!”

Emma sighed, frustrated, “Alright. If you don’t want Chris, then you must have other men you can be with. We have a lot of men as rich as Chris.”

Avery grunted, “I’m not interested, mom and you can’t force me to.”

The door opened suddenly just as Emma was about to say something else “What the fuck just happened, Avery? Smith yelled, advancing closer Avery gave him a hard expression. Somehow, after the revelation, Avery had come to hate Smith the more.

He was the one that started the whole thing anyway. Why did he set her up with Grey? And

why did he make them divorce?

“What is the matter?” Emma asked.

Smith ignored Emma and instead threw a magazine on the desk.

Emma picked it up but Avery wasn’t at all disturbed. “What!” she yelled suddenly and her hands shook around the magazine.

It was at this time that Avery looked at Emma. “What is it?” Emma looked at Avery. “Why didn’t anyone tell me Grey has a company? What the fuck is this?” shock was written all over her face. Avery took the

magazine from her and stared down at the written note from Hercules stating he was the second brand ambassador for Victoria Skincare.

Avery's head flew off. How did Grey convince Hercules even when they couldn't? Just how come Grey was moving so fast?

"How can you explain this, Avery?" Smith screamed.

Avery gave him a dirty look. "So, what does this have to do with me? Did anyone tell you I knew something about this?" she fired back.

"Fuck!" Smith cursed. "You are the head of the team! You should know that Hercules broke his terms! We had a solid agreement. He was not supposed to be an ambassador for any company except us!"

"Oh seriously?" Avery huffed. "Sincerely? So, what was I supposed to do? Prevent a meeting between Grey and Hercules?" "This is your fucking duty, Avery!" Smith yelled.

Emme turned to look at Smith, half annoyed. "You will stop this, Smith."

Smith looked at Emma. "Or what? This is her duty. Don't dare tell me to keep shut!" he looked over at Avery. "You will call that foolish secretary and we are having a meeting right now!"

Avery giggled. "Or what?" she decided she had heard enough. "What will you do if I refuse your order?"

Smith's eyes thinned on her. "Don't dare me, Avery."

"You know what?" Avery stood. "Do your worst, Smith but I won't be a part of it."

"Sincerely?" Smith raised a questioning brow. "Yes, Smith. I don't care anymore, do your worst and be ready to deal with Hercules. I sincerely don't have the time for it again. You won't push me again."

Smith regarded her for a moment. "I will handle this issue, you better back off or I will report you to grandpa Lucy," he threatened. He groaned and walked out of the room.

Emma regarded him for a moment until he was out of the room before she turned to look at Avery again. "What is this I'm hearing about Grey? How did he make Hercules become his ambassador? When did he start the company? How did he get one?" she bombarded curiously.

Avery was also lost in thoughts. She wondered how Grey went about it. That wasn't even the most important thing. What happened was that Grey's company would increase time

hundredfold and it would definitely affect LX corporation.

"Avery!" Emma called. Avery looked up at Emma. "What do you want from me this time? Are you asking me how he made it or why he accomplished it?"

Emma grunted inwardly. She didn't believe that Grey could open and manage a company. "That's a lie, Avery. There's no way that would happen! There's no way he would own such a company." She took the magazine. She was going to make some findings about the company. There was no way Grey would be managing such a fast-progressing company.

Chapter 188: A trap for Pablo Grey waited patiently for Gregory's call. It was late already and he just got back from the gym. He didn't see Alex but he knew that the spy must have informed him of how things were going to be. Maybe that was why he was absent because he needed to sort out some things with Giovanni. All the same, Grey was going to see the face behind the mask that night. Just as Grey pulled off into one of the parking spaces, his phone rang. It was Gregory. "Hi, how are things?"

"Good news," Gregory made a wheezy laugh. "We caught the spy on his way back. We let him deliver the wrong message before we got him. You can decide his judgment later but we are all set. We will move at your order." "One of Pablo's men would take my phone the moment I entered. There's no way I would be able to contact you," he informed.

"So, what do you suggest that we do?"

Grey thought for a moment. "Give me twenty minutes. Storm the whole place in twenty minutes. The basement should be where my men are. You just use the opportunity to get them

out."

Gregory sighed." We could be late. What if we get there and Pablo has already left?"

Grey smiled. "I will preserve the time if I have to. Just come directly to the mini club because that's where I would be. I will handle the rest," he assured. "Alright, we will go according to plan," he finished up and the line went off. He placed a call to Beatrice and she picked it up immediately. "Hi, Grey."

"Yes, mom. I forgot to inform you that I would be coming home late. You shouldn't wait for me or prepare dinner." He informed her.

"Alright, I understand. Just stay safe, ok?" Grey nodded briefly." Sure, I will talk to you later," he finished and the line went off.

Grey got out of the car and entered the club. It was seething with people as usual. There were a lot more people than normal. He found a spot to be while he awaited Pablo like he did the other day.

It didn't take up to ten minutes when he felt a tap on his shoulder. He looked up at a lady which was very much different from the one that took him the other day,

"Follow me," she whispered and started walking away. Grey followed behind quickly, his eyes darted at his wristwatch. He had spent thirteen minutes out of the time he had allocated to Gregory.

They walked for three minutes before they came to their destination. Grey pulled out his

phone and stretched it out as usual before he moved into the room. Pablo was sitting and probably waiting for him. The mask was still on his face as if he wouldn't remove it forever.

"Grey," his voice sounded familiar for a second. "Welcome, I've been expecting you," there was excitement in his voice.

Grey took a short bow. "I've been waiting for days for today. I thought you wouldn't want to see me again," he was sincere. There was silence at the other end and Grey couldn't guess his expression. He sat well and used the opportunity to dart at his wristwatch. He has three minutes left. "Am I seeing the man behind the mask today?" Grey inquired. Pablo laughed. "You will, soon. I will send Alex to you when the time is right. Alex told me what you want and I've thought about it. And I've decided to give you a chance in this business world," he revealed.

Grey smiled softly and realized that it was time for Gregory to start the attack. He nodded briefly. "How should I start?"

"Boss!" Someone yelled from behind and a man rushed inside. He moved closer to Pablo and whispered into his ears.

Pablo got up. "What! I thought they were going to my father's house!" Grey looked up quickly, the words sinking in quickly. Realization hit in quickly. Alex just referred to Giovanni as his father.

He didn't expect everything to be so easy. "You need to leave now. We have little men to guard you and we can't risk revealing your identity," the man stated urgently. Grey stood up immediately. "Wait! What! What's happening? I'm starting to be scared!" He feigned a shudder and acted as if he was really scared.

Pablo went quiet for a moment in a thoughtful manner, then he looked at Grey. "Are you skilled in martial arts?"

Grey shook his head briefly. "I am not. Is something happening? Why is no one saying anything?" Pablo released a sigh. "Follow me, now!" He ordered and walked out of the room.

Grey hurried after him quickly, and some men followed behind. They walked through the hallway for some minutes until they reached the door. Pablo pulled to a stop suddenly, his hand on the knob. Grey looked back and realized there was no one coming their way. "We have to leave this place now before they come after us."

" Yes, boss. He's right. You have to leave," one of the men chimed in.

Pablo hesitated." No one has seen my face, so there's no way they would know it's me. I have to change my attire." He turned to look at one of the men. " Get me clothes to change into

now," he ordered and one of the men rushed away.

"You," he gestured towards a man."Tell the men to secure the basement."

The man bowed slightly and hurried away. "Grey," Pablo called softly. "I'm going to let you see my face today. Consider today as your lucky day." He announced. Grey nodded briefly." What do you want me

to do?"

Pablo went mute again, his gaze watching Grey. Then, he slowly raised his hands towards the mask, pulling it over very gently.

Grey raised a brow and waited. And well, he was going to enjoy the view.

The moment the mask went off, Grey's eyes went wide with shock.

"What!" He yelled. "You are Pablo?"

Chapter 189: Revealed Grey wasn't really surprised but he was shocked. He had always thought it was Alex but lie didn't think he could be the one, coupled with thie fact that Alex referred to Giovanni as his fatlier.

Alex smiled. "Now that you've seen me, Grey. You have successfully become my right hand," he declared.

Grey huffed inwardly. If only Alex knew who he was. "Here," one of the men rushed back with the clothes. He stretched it out to Alex.

Alex took it and stared down at it for a moment before he looked up at Grey. "No one must know about this. You are not supposed to tell anyone who the face behind Pablo is," he warned sternly.

Grey managed a nod, still pretending to be surprised. Well, he was a bit surprised. To even think that Alex was who he had been looking for all these while. He intentionally started the gym to hide his identity and he did it so well. Though he had his doubts, he was always forced to think otherwise sometimes.

"Let's go," he told his men but they barely took a step before he pulled to a stop again. "Don't forget the party. I will be expecting you," and with that, he walked away. Grey blinked once, and a smile appeared on his face. He walked back to the mini club where he got back his phone and texted Gregory about where his men were. Grey walked out of the hallway and saw some of his men but he couldn't find Gregory. Just as one of the men raised his gun towards Grey, Don stepped out from behind the men. "Don't touch him, he's with us," Don informed and moved closer to Grey. "Are you alright?" Grey nodded briefly. "You guys should go to the basement, I'm coming behind you."

"No," Don said at an alarming rate. "We can't afford to let Pablo see that you are with us."

"He won't," Grey assured. "Just let the men know that I will be with a purple nose mask and they should know I'm with them," he informed and walked out of the club before Don would say something else.

Grey walked to his car. He got inside and drove the car out of the vicinity. He didn't want Surveillance cameras exposing him to Pablo but he didn't want to leave Don and Gregory behind. He pulled off his t-shirt and opened the door to retrieve a nose mask. He retrieved a new t-shirt from the back seat before he hurried back into the club, with the nose mask on.

There was no one from Pablo or any strangers around. Don was suddenly gone.

Grey made his way toward the basement. A man came out of nowhere, aiming a punch at him. Grey dodged quickly. It was so fast that the man must have thought that he had gotten hold of Grey but Grey was faster

Grey punched him in the face and sent him reeling backward with a kick in the stomach. Another attacks him from behind. It was at this moment he discovered that he had once seen them with Alex. Alex acted as if he wasn't the owner of Atomic Liquors but he was. And well, he had seen the men twice at the gym. They were part of the instructors.

Grey twisted his hand and kicked him in the abdomen. When he saw that the men weren't getting up, he proceeded toward the basement

When he got there, there were some men standing guard outside. He couldn't find Gregory but he knew that he was inside. The men were not trying to attack, which meant that Don had successfully passed the message across. "You can't find Pablo here, he left already," Grey heard a familiar voice from within. Without even checking, he knew who it was. Yet, Grey stepped inside and stared at Alex. "You are making a mistake, Gregory. Who sent you? Hercules? Or the team of the elders?" Alex chuckled. "I don't know why you had to come after Pablo. He's not Giovanni, right? Even though he works in Atomic Liquors, it doesn't make him your enemy." Gregory huffed. "Just working here, in an

enemy territory makes us enemies. Release the men to us and we will leave peacefully. Refuse and we will have no choice but to take you as our full enemy," he warned. Alex looked at Gregory for a moment and his gaze slowly shifted to Grey. It didn't look like he knew who was under the mask but he was fascinated that there was someone who could hide his face in front of him. Maybe, it was Hercules. Though, he doubted it. There was no way the elders would allow Hercules to come to Atomic Liquors. "Give them what they want," Alex ordered one of his men.

The two men they held hostages were released and pushed forward. Gregory's men stepped forward and helped the men out of the basement. "Good, now we are on safer ground," Gregory smiled and walked out while the men followed. Grey got inside one of the cars the men brought. He only alighted to get into his car and he drove slowly behind them.

They drove for a while before Gregory finally pulled the driver to a sudden stop.

Grey pulled the car to a stop behind them. Gregory and Don hurried over to his car. Gregory took the passenger side while Don entered the back seat.

"Is there anything you aren't saying, Grey? You seemed quieter than usual." Grey let out a sigh. "You are right. I saw who Pablo is," he revealed. "What?" Don was shocked. "Do we know him? Have you seen him anywhere?" "Yes," Grey nodded once. "But that's not even the main thing. The important thing here is that Pablo referred to Giovanni as his father. He must have thought I knew nothing of the mafia

world. That was why he wasn't careful," he explained. Gregory nodded once. "I didn't expect your plan to work so well but tell us who Pablo is." Grey held his gaze for a moment. "Alex, the guy that spoke the other time," he revealed. Everyone's eyes went wide and dark with shock.

Chapter 190: Bait "There are lots of reporters outside the company and they wouldn't leave," Violet revealed anxiously. Maria raised skeptical brows, "what do you mean? Why are reporters here?"

Violet sighed. "They want to see Hercules. There's news everywhere that Hercules is back." "What!" Maria exclaimed softly. Before she could say something else, Jones walked inside. "Miss Maria, we need to do something. The reporters are currently in the lobby. Despite how much we've managed to pull them back, they wouldn't leave without seeing the Hercules," she informed her.

Maria looked at Violet. "You and Jones should prevent them from moving further. I will speak with Hercules and seek his intervention."

Jones's eyes widened. "What? Hercules? Is he really back?" Maria nodded briefly. "Did you think Hercules doesn't know what happens in this company? Go now!" She urged them. She waited for a moment as the two ladies walked out before she moved out too.

She hurried towards Grey's office. She knocked and waited for Grey's permission before she walked inside.

Grey was on the laptop. He was looking at the Victoria Skincare website and saw that it was really moving faster. In fact, his words as Hercules did a lot to push the company forward.

Within a matter of days, the company was on the search list and also the trending cream company. Somehow, it was now beside the popular Smooth Therapy. The thing looked pleasing to him and he smiled.

"Boss, we have an issue," Maria announced but Grey didn't look up. Instead, he raised a hand as a means for her to proceed. "There are reporters in the lobby, looking for you."

Grey looked up at her, with raised brows. "What? Me?"

Maria nodded briefly, then shook her head again." I mean not as Grey Fox, but as Hercules."

Grey regarded her for a moment." Why do they want to see me?"

"They heard you were alive. It must have been the steps you took yesterday. Anyways, everyone now knows you are back and wants to see you," she revealed.

Grey relaxed back in his seat, as different thoughts went through his mind. He finally settled on something and looked up at Maria. "Inform them that I went out of the country yesterday and would be back soon. Tell them I would be back very soon and would visit the reporters for my identity reveal.

Maria felt alerted." Isn't that extreme?" She asked, concerned." I mean do you plan on revealing yourself anyone soon? Also, do you think they would be convinced and leave?! mean that's what Jane has always told them."

Grey smiled softly." Don't worry about the others, just do as you are told. They would leave."

Maria slowly nodded." Alright, I will do that," and she walked out of the office.

Grey made a decision yesterday, even without the other elders. He was going to give it to Giovanni when he didn't expect it.

Gregory was supposed to inform all the elders. Grey planned to expose Giovanni's weakness to the world. He wouldn't give him the time to be the businessman or the wealthiest of the year. The award has always belonged to Grey's father anyways and well, Grey was only going to take back what was his.

His phone rang suddenly, jerking him out of his thoughts forcefully. He picked it up."Hi, Jimmy." "Hi, Boss. I've sent it out." Grey smiled." Good. Well Done. You can go to Beatrice, she would give you something tangible."

Jimmy laughed, knowing Grey was talking about money." Thank you so much, Boss." "How is Lan?" "Fine sir. He and his wife have been discharged. But they still need to go back to the hospital for checkups," Jimmy supplied. Grey nodded briefly." Later then," and he hung up. He knew that the

reporters would leave soon. He mentally made a count from 1-3. His phone beeped immediately and a notification popped on his phone.

It read, 'Shocking news! Pablo is Alex and he's the only son of Giovanni.'

Grey smiled at this. Mission accomplished.

Maria was a bit shocked as the reporters left one after the other. Some of them moved to whisper into each other's ears while some only checked their phones and left.

Violet walked towards Maria, just as Maria's phone beeped suddenly.

She stared down at the notification. She didn't know who Alex or Pablo was but she was concerned that Giovanni's son was back.

"We have representatives from LN corporation," Violet informed.

Maria regarded her for a moment, as she thought quickly about the reason why Smith would be in Protos Publicita.

Smith was still fuming when Maria walked inside with Violet,

"Good morning, Miss Maria," Mia greeted softly. "We need to discuss this as soon as possible."

There were three more people sorted in the meeting room.

Maria regarded them for a moment. "Yes, no problem," she said and looked up again. "Is everything alright?"

"No! How can you even ask that?" Smith fired suddenly,

“We came here with a proposal which Hercules was supposed to fulfill. Why did we sign a contract in the first place if he wouldn’t go into every detail?” Mia pressed further. Maria raised skeptical brows. “I don’t know what you are talking about.”, Smith banged on the table suddenly.” Stop saying that, Maria but you do know what I mean. Hercules was supposed to be our ambassador. Why would he be an ambassador for Grey?” “ Because Hercules signed a contract with LX company and not LX corporation,” a deep voice expressed and Grey stepped out. “There’s a huge difference between the two.” Smith looked up at Grey and hot anger surged through him.”And why the fuck is he in here? Send him out! We are having a very important meeting here!” He was enraged. Maria looked at him.” We can’t do that. Mr. Grey is the new supervisor and he has every right to attend whatsoever meetings he chose to.”

Smith’s face fell. Only a question went through his mind. How did Grey rise to such a position? How could he be the CEO of Victoria Skincare and still be a supervisor at Protos Pubblicita?