

Secretly TBB 211

Chapter 211: The Spy within

Grey pulled to a sudden stop and looked at Richard. "That's good. That means I won't be following you to the estate."

"No, you can follow me over. I mean I only need to pretend to be you," he protested.

"No, I have a way to check if the driver is also a spy. And don't worry, I'm positive that my plan will work out," he assured.

Richard reluctantly nodded. "What do you want me to do now?"

"I'm going to call Charles and let him know of our plans. So, what you are supposed to do is very simple. Just act as if you are Hercules and I will finish the rest," he explained, not really in the mood to expatiate.

Richard nodded briefly. "That's fine," he got down and maneuvered around the car to the driver's seat.

Grey got down and stepped aside for Richard to enter the car.

"But why don't we do this the easy way? We could just take everyone and torture them till they spill the milk," Richard suggested.

"Yes, right but that will mean torturing innocent people. Now, go!" He ordered.

Richard nodded briefly and started the ignition.

The main door of the building was still far away but Grey was certain he could trek it. He would do anything that would clear the estate of spies. Then, he could be thinking of taking charge as the Mafia boss.

He brought out his phone to dial Charles's number. He didn't pick up. So, redialed.

He could hear a faint sound of a fast-approaching car. He hung up and tried to listen again.

This time, it sounded so near. It was as if a car was almost near. Was it Charles? Maybe that was why he wasn't picking up.

Yet, Grey had strange feelings to hide. What if it wasn't Charles?

So, he walked inside the flower garden. He bent and stared at the street while waiting patiently for whoever might be driving near.

Truthfully, it didn't take long before a red car suddenly pulled to a sudden stop in front of him. The car was tinted and Grey couldn't see what was happening inside.

Just then, the door opened and Grey saw the driver get down. His shirt was slightly unbuttoned.

And he was followed closely by the attendant from earlier.

The first thing that came to Grey's head was the fact that the driver was actually working with the Attendant. Thank goddess he didn't allow him to drive or Grey might have unrevealed the

hint in front of him.

"You are a bad guy, Philip" the attendant laughed as Philip moved closer to kiss her.

Grey went dumbstruck for a moment. They were lovers?

"You are going to be the end of me, Tiana," Philip finally kissed her, his hands rubbing her ass slightly.

“No, not here,” Tiana pulled back. “Anyone could be coming. Let’s go there,” she suggested, pointing towards the other side of the flower garden.

“Yes, that’s actually better. We could have some minutes to ourselves. I can’t wait to eat you. out,” Philip laughed.

“Yes, go ahead. I will take the wine while you dress the place,” Tiana said, with a smile.

Philip nodded briefly, like a fool before he hurried inside the flower garden.

Grey blinked once, confused. Were they going to have sex on the flowers? Or was there something else that Grey doesn’t know?

Tiana retrieved a wine and two wine glasses from inside, closed the door, and walked towards the same path that Philip had gone to.

Grey walked out from where he had been hiding, just in time for his phone to ring. It was

Charles.

He didn’t pick up and instead moved towards the path that Tiana and Philip had He

gone. walked for a moment while pulling the flower away from his face before he saw that someone had actually created a space in the flower garden.

He walked for some minutes before he stopped again as he stared at the tent amid the flower garden.

Philip and Tiana were at the front of the tent. Grey couldn’t see their full body, except for their heads and their hands as they held a cup full of wine.

"You sincerely don't know how much I've always wanted to spend time with you," Philip started.

Tiana smiled." Same here. But tell me, was it the Hercules that told you to get down?"

Philip shook his head and drank more of the wine. "No, just one of his spoilt brat of a friend or maybe part of the elders," he responded and drank more.

Tiana nodded briefly. " If they were two, then Hercules wasn't with them. Do you think he's inside already?"

Philip thought for a moment." That can actually be the case. Though, I don't know when he did. He could be before I arrive or maybe he's still on his way. I took Charles to the mission as well," he explained.

Tiana laughed and gently placed her cup of wine away." Let me pour you more," she hinted and reached forward.

"No, I think it's enough. We should hurry up before anyone comes over. We dont_," he pulled to a sudden stop.

Grey couldn't see anything again but he knew that the guy was now lying on the floor and Tiana was smiling as if nothing happened.

Tiana stood and adjusted her clothes, a dark frown suddenly appearing on her face. She

searched all over Philip for the car keys.

Just as she turned towards Grey, he hid quickly.

Tiana didn't note anything and moved closer. Just when she was a step nearer, Grey's phone rang. Damn, it was Charles.

Grey could have picked it up the other time because Charles was disturbing already.

Tiana stepped back. "Who are you? Step out!" She yelled in fright.

Grey stepped out from where he was and Tiana's eyes went wide with shock.

"You? What are you doing here?" she stammered, as she slowly backed away.

It was at that moment that realization dawned on Grey. Does it mean that Philip wasn't a spy? And only Tiana was?

Chapter 212: Sack Letter

"What are you doing here? Damn, I should be the one asking you that!" Grey snapped.

Tiana shook her head slightly. "Nothing, I," she pulled to a stop suddenly and went on her knees. "Please, forgive me. He was going to make me do things that I don't want. That was why I had to drug him. I didn't kill him and he's alive!" She rattled off.

Grey regarded her for a moment before he moved closer. "Tell me then why you are trying to find out what Hercules looks like."

Tiana opened her mouth wider in shock, as an acknowledgment of a tactical error.

Grey crouched in front of her. "Do you know what I love? I love when people tell me the truth immediately. I don't like to stress over it," he expressed in a thick voice that Tiana's heart started beating faster.

She shook her head negatively. "I didn't do anything wrong, I swear! I didn't try to find out who Hercules really was. I was—" she was forced to a stop as Grey hit her neck slightly. She dropped to the floor unconscious.

Philip's phone rang suddenly. Grey got up and moved closer to him. He took the phone from his pocket and stared at the name on the screen for a moment before he picked it up.

"Hey, Philip! You better tell me you have the videos now! I will not take it easy if you miss this opportunity again. You can even get the truth from Charles," the voice stopped for a moment. "Hello! Hello!"

Grey's head spun even harder. What was happening? Was this also about who Hercules was? "What truth are you talking about?"

There was a few seconds of silence. "Who's this? And why are you with Philip's phone?"

This is Hercules," Grey announced.

"What! You are the Hercules!" Philip voiced out from behind him.

Grey looked back at Hercules, realizing he was awake. Though, he didn't know how long he had been listening.

His eyes went wide with shock but it only lasted for a few seconds as he got up and made a run for it. He ran back outside.

Grey ran after him. Though he didn't hang up and the caller didn't hang up either. He could. have heard Philip the other time and was waiting for the results.

"Boss! What's happening?" Richard asked suddenly.

Grey stared at Richard for a moment, then slowly at Charles. Charles caught Philip already. Philip wouldn't have taken the way if he knew people were waiting outside for him.

"Why are you running?" Charles yelled at Philip but he didn't reply.

Grey huffed and brought forth the phone only to discover it was still on.

"Grey," Charles started but Grey cut him off quickly before he revealed more about him.

"It looks like there's someone here that wants to know who Hercules really is," Grey hinted and stared down at the phone in his hand.

Charles moved nearer while dragging Philip with him. "What?" He couldn't believe it until he had seen the minutes reads on the phone.

"Where's Philip?" The voice asked.

"Please, save me!" Philip yelled. "Save me and I will tell you what Hercules looks like!" Philip pointed out.

Richard hit Philip across the face angrily and he shut up immediately.

You can try to do that, perhaps you will be able to rescue him," Grey teased and hung up. He walked closer to Philip. "So, you are the spy?"

Philip shivered. "I'm sorry." He stammered.

Grey smiled. "You have a lot of explanation to do," he said and hit him around the neck that he slumped.

Charles looked at Grey with admiration. "How did you do that?"

Grey shrugged briefly. "Just something I learned over the years. But how come you guys are here?"

Charles sighed as he finally let go of Philip and watched him slump to the floor. "Richard told me everything. Well, I've recently sacked the maids. So, there was no one else aside from the driver. I called

you severely to tell you this but you didn't pick up. So, we thought something had happened to you and decided to come over," he explained.

Grey nodded briefly and turned to look at Richard. "Get the attendant. She's in there," he pointed toward the flower and watched Richard leave.

Do you mean all these people are spies?" Charles asked, still shocked.

Well, that's it. Keep them secured in a private room. I still have some questions to ask them. Make sure the two are in separate rooms. I'm still doubting the attendant," Grey ordered. And mind you, what I did

will wear off in thirty minutes," he hinted.

Charles nodded briefly. "I will do that," and he moved aside to call someone, perhaps one of

his men.

Richard walked out, with Tiana over his shoulder. He dropped her in the back seat before he moved closer to Grey. "Is there anything else I can do?"

Grey darted at his wristwatch. "Leave it to Charles. We should start practicing," he walked to the second car and entered the passenger's side.

Richard soon appeared at the driver's side. By now, Charles was done and was moving closer to Grey.

"We have a lot to do today, Richard. We don't have the time to lag behind," Grey reminded

him.

"I will settle with this and meet you guys at the practice ground. I've shown Richard where the guns are," Charles mentioned.

Grey nodded once. "I will be expecting you," he said and Richard drove.

Grey's phone rang again. This time, it was Maria. Grey picked it up.

"Hello Boss, the meeting has ended. David moved the motion again and the majority confirmed it. A sack letter will be given to you on Monday," she revealed.

Grey laughed. "Seriously?" It sounded so funny to him.

"Yes, and unless you intervene as the Hercules, you will have to stop coming to work.

Grey

released a sigh. "I will think of something better by Monday," he assured.

"Will you be showing David who you are?" Maria couldn't help but ask. She didn't like the fact that Grey had to undergo different forms of treatment when he was the boss.

Chapter 213: The dressing

Grey smiled and tried to insert cartridges into the pistol.

Richard watched him do it, only to clasp his hand together for him. "You are a fast learner, I'm impressed, boss."

Grey looked at him for a moment, a smile still tugging at his mouth before he aimed at the Target. He shot it severally and the bullet almost penetrated the bull's eyes.

"This is fast. In no time, you will be able to hit the target correctly," Richard complimented. "We should take a short break. What should I get you?"

"Wine is ok," Grey responded and placed the pistol on the table.

Charles appeared from behind him. "You are swift. Did your father teach you all these?"

Grey moved to sit. "I'm a full option, which is why I am being very careful. Imagine if I had shown those people I was Hercules, what would have happened?"

Charles nodded briefly, finally surrendering. He moved to sit in front of Grey. "I understand but sooner than later, you will still have to show your men that you are Hercules."

Yes but not now. I will be sure of where I'm stepping into by that time."

Charles relaxed in his chair. "Alright, we will be waiting."

Richard walked back with a glass of champagne and three glasses of wine. He served Grey and Charles.

"The Billionaire club party is tomorrow. Are you coming with me?" Grey inquired.

Charles thought for a moment and slowly nodded his head. "I will. I should enter the hall with you. Aphrodite already told me this and I've prepared."

Grey smiled and slipped his wine. "Actually, you will be entering with Richard and not me."

Charles was shocked. "What do you mean?" He glanced at Richard and looked back at Grey. "Are you kidding me?"

Grey shook his head slightly. "No, I'm planning to give Giovanni a show. So, we will be having two Hercules. One will be without a mask and the other will be with a mask. Richard will be acting as me and

he would be the first to show up at the hall. While the reporters are clustering around him, I would enter through the back door, then Richard and you can tell the the truth," he explained.

reporters

Charles smiled." So, you really met with the godfather and he's going to give you his support?

Grey nodded again. " Yes but I'm going to do him a favor in return. I will be going to Italy after the party," he revealed.

"Alright. So, giving Richard a role is just to upset Giovanni?" He asked amazingly.

Grey laughed." You got that right actually. He must be so frustrated now and I wonder what he would do when his plan fails. He would regret leaving the president of the club to me," he expressed.

Charles regarded Grey for a moment and suddenly stood up. "Then we have a lot of work to do. We need to spend a little of your money, Hercules."

Grey looked up at him. "What are you planning?"

Charles smiled softly. "We are definitely giving you guys the same hairstyle. I'm going to call the stylist and then order one of the expensive suits in the city," he looked at Richard. Consider yourself lucky. You will be wearing millions worth of suits," and he walked away, his phone hanging beside his ears and his mouth moving faster.

Richard knelt in front of Grey, with a happy expression. "Thank you so much, Boss! I appreciate this opportunity you gave me!"

Grey smiled and stood." Let's practice more before Charles Entourage enters," he teased.

Richard laughed and stood to join Grey.

Grey picked up the pistol and shot at the target several times. Though he didn't hit the bull's-eye, he was gradually getting better at shooting.

Grey's phone rang suddenly and Richard hurried to retrieve it.

"It's Charles," he revealed and stretched the phone to Grey. Grey picked up the call, even though the gun was still in his right hand.

"Hello, Charles."

"Please, come over to the living room. The stylists are here. I even ordered some suits for you. You only have to choose your choice," he expressed.

"Alright, I will be there now," Grey responded and hung up. He looked at Richard. "We need to go to the living room."

They both walked to the living room. Three stylists were waiting with their equipment.

Three suits were hanging on the hanger with a man beside it.

Charles moved nearer to Grey. "These people are neutral, so you don't have to worry about your identity. Also, the shoes are on the way."

Grey nodded briefly and moved closer.

So, Charles stepped back. "You are going to change all our hairstyles," he ordered and gestured to where Richard and Grey were supposed to sit.

Charles didn't sit and instead moved to the rack to select a suit type.

Hattie walked into the office, furious. She couldn't believe that Beatrice tricked her again, for the second time. She gave her the fake recipe.

She was so angry that she wanted to kill Caramel, only to receive the information that she was gone. The security guards said some people came over and took her.

She didn't need anyone to tell her it was Hercules. She would have thought Grey who was the CEO of Victoria Skincare was the Hercules but there was no way that would be.

And she knew that Hercules would want to side with anyone as long as the person was either against her or Giovanni.

She placed a call to Giovanni but he didn't pick up.

She cursed mentally and decided to go and see Giovanni that evening or maybe she could wait till tomorrow.

And also, Giovanni told her that he had a special plan. Hercules already accepted the invite and would be coming to the Billionaire club on the second day. In fact, he would reveal his identity.

And so, Hattie was going to wait and while doing so, she would think of another way to get the cream recipe.

Chapter 214: The preparation

party. He

Grey got home late that night. He had to undergo some changes because of the definitely didn't want to give Giovanni the chance to recognize him as the Grey he met at the auction. That aside, he would likely be seeing Alex that day as well.

"Grey!" a soft voice called from behind as Grey took a step on the staircase. He stopped suddenly as realization dawned on him. He had forgotten that Caramel might be at home. Well, Caramel won't be at the billionaire club party, definitely.

Grey turned around slowly to look at her, a smile on his face.

Caramel regarded him for a moment in shock and admiration. Slowly, a satisfied grin curled up around her mouth. "What did you do to your hair?"

"Just a change of style. I realized I needed it," he lied. Thank goddess Charles would be coming over with the special deodorant and the suit or Caramel might suspect more. She was a great thinker anyways.

"Wow, it fits you greatly," she compliments. "I was going home anyways. I forgot my keys so I came back for them," she explained.

Grey nodded briefly. "Good night, sleep well. Are you coming over tomorrow?"

Caramel shook her head quickly. "No, I will be busy but I will check back by Monday," she responded.

Great felt glad by her reply. At least, it means that she wouldn't be seeing him when he leave. Well, it still wasn't yet the time for Caramel to know he was Hercules.

"Ok, bye," Caramel said and hesitated as if she wanted to say something. "Ok, bye," and she walked to the door.

Grey stared behind her for a moment until she had walked out. Well, Grey had the ounce to move closer to her and kiss her but he didn't want to put her in any danger. Being Beatrice's daughter was enough at that moment.

Initially, Grey was pulling back because she used to be Avery's friend but that wasn't the case anymore. Well, Avery divorcing him doesn't mean he can't have any woman he wanted in the

world.

But he still had to consider other things. Caramel would be in danger especially when she discovered who he really was.

Grey woke

up to a knock on the door. He groaned and managed to get up. He caught a glimpse of himself in the mirror. He was getting fit and his broad shoulders were getting more visible due to his recent training.

Greg opened the door and stared at Beatrice. "Good morning."

"Good morning, Grey. Charles is here to see you."

Grey sighed. "Let him in."

Beatrice nodded once. "And you should come downstairs for breakfast."

Grey nodded briefly. "Thanks, Beatrice."

Beatrice smiled and moved away while Grey closed the door. It didn't take long as Grey fell to the bed when the door opened and Charles walked inside.

"When is the party starting, Charles? Why are you so here early?" Grey drawled tiredly.

"The party is starting at twelve but you have to get ready very soon. That aside, I need to make sure your look is complete. As Hercules, you need to be extra cool," he explained.

Grey groaned, a bit frustrated already. "Alright. I've been stressed already. Just give me an hour to sleep. Then, we can continue with whatever."

Charles nodded once. "No problem then. That's fine. I will get everything you need ready so I wouldn't miss out. I think that idea is the best!"

Grey smiled. "Where is Richard?"

"He's going to be here soon. We are dressing you up at the same time and in the same wear as you've ordered. We don't want to miss up with anything, so it's best you guys dress up at the same time," he explained.

Grey nodded once. "That's cool then. Send a message to the elders. They are not supposed to come here so it won't arouse suspicion. I will rather we meet at Gregory or Alfred's house," he suggested.

Charles smiled. "Nice idea. I will do that too while you sleep. You don't need to worry about anything, I will handle it all," he promised.

Grey closed his eyes as Charles walked out of the room.

Actually, a lot of people were invited to the billionaire party including the Robinsons. The members selected some millionaires and billionaires in the community.

"Aren't you going to get dressed?" Emma snapped, a bit angry at Avery.

Avery grunted. "I've told you mom. I'm not interested. I don't feel like going anywhere today."

"What! That's prosperous!" she yelled. "How could you say that? After you've refused to marry Chris. Are you going to stay single forever?" she demanded in harsh voice.

Avery groaned. "Mom," she stressed.

"What!" she snapped. "You need to get a rich man to marry. You can't stay like this forever! You need to get marry and you need to marry a rich man!" she whined.

Avery stood up. “Mom, I’m not interested and that’s it!” She got up, walked inside and made sure she locked the door to prevent Emma from entering the room.

“Avery! Avery! Open this door! I’m seriously going to report you to your father!” she expressed and eventually walked away.

Avery felt she needed to leave the house and receive fresh breeze because her mother was starting to bother her too much.

Meanwhile, Smith was getting prepared for the party by going through his wardrobe full of suits. The main reason why he was going to the party was to secure business deals and spread

news about his company.

If he could get one or two of the millionaire to patronize him, LX would be walking out of misery in no time.

And the nice thing about the party was that almost every millionaire and billionaire in the country would be in attendant in the party. In fact, Hercules would be showing up.

So, it was a great opportunity and he would be miss it.

Lucy on the other hand wanted to meet with Hercules personally. This was why he decided to go to the party.

Chapter 215: A stunt

The billionaire club party had started already. Some of the bigwigs in the society were already. present. Reporters and paparazzi filled the vicinity, each trying their best to get a view of a shot of the Billionaire.

That wasn't even the important thing. News had spread like wildfire among them. Hercules was going to attend the party and it was the first time in ten years that he would be attending a public gathering. People just couldn't wait to see his face and what he really look like.

Three cars pulled to a stop in the driveway, the leading number displaying Giovanni. One of the entourage rushed to open the car door as Giovanni got down, accompanied by several men. Alex and Hattie also got down beside him and they both entered the hall.

The paparazzi took several photos but the reporters were clearly uninterested. It looked like they were really waiting for Hercules.

The party had started long ago and every important guest had arrived except Hercules. And it was slowly starting to look as though he wouldn't appear. Well, it has always happened in most cases in the past ten years.

Some of the reporters had sneaked in while pretending to be among the guests for the party to wait for Hercules.

Suddenly, a black car pulled up in the driveway.

"Hello Jessica, you need to come out! Hercules has arrived!" One of the reporters sent a signal to the other that was inside the hall and was trying to see if Hercules had entered the hall unnoticed.

What they didn't know was that the godfather specifically chose the hall for Grey. There was a door at the back that Grey would actually be taking.

Soon enough, reporters were clustering around the black-tinted car and waiting for Hercules

to come out.

Some of the bloggers were even displaying online, "So, Hercules has arrived and we will be showing his face," one of them said.

The driver got down and rushed to the back seat. He opened the door, just in time for Charles to come out from the passenger's seat.

At first, people doubted the fact that it could be Hercules especially because it was only a car that pulled off in the driveway. They were expecting more than that because Hercules's friends were billionaires as well.

But they figured immediately that Alfred and the rest must have decided not to come together with him to the party. Just seeing Charles and everyone believed that the next guy that would be coming out of the car was Hercules.

Richard stepped out in styled hair and Stuart Hughes R. Jewels Diamond Edition suit that costs \$892,000.

"It's really Hercules!" Everyone yelled in excitement as Charles stepped beside him and they both were escorted inside by the entourages.

Giovanni stared right at the door as Richard emerged with Charles. His eyes went wide as he stared at Richard.

"That's Hercules?" Alex was shocked. He had seen Richard once but didn't for once imagine he could be Hercules.

"Seriously?" Hattie laughed. "I didn't expect it all to be this easy. This is all it is to Hercules' face?"

Giovanni smiled softly, feeling accomplished.

"Tell us, Hercules, before you join the party," one of the reporters stopped Richard and Charles before they would disappear into the hall full of big wigs. "Why did you reveal your face today?"

"Well," Richard started, with a smile on his face. "My name is actually Richard and I'm not Hercules. That!" He stopped briefly as he gestured ahead. "That Is Hercules."

Everyone followed the path of his gaze and description at a tall guy in a blue Stuart Hughes R. Jewels Diamond Edition suit, matching the one on Richard. He was wearing a black mask and was closely followed by one of the most popular female Billionaire_ Aphrodite. Hercules has this physique that made the women drop dead at his sight, an aura that spoke authority and emanates wealth.

Aphrodite has her hand in his as they walked inside. He was closely accompanied by his friends, the Billionaire as well; Alfred, Gregory, Luciano, and Jayden.

“What!” The reporters expressed shock as they stared back at Richard.

“Yes, this is not Hercules, that is the Hercules,” Charles added as they both hurried towards Grey.

Some men came from nowhere and took over the entrance so that no reporters would enter the hall.

Lucy and Smith couldn’t stop staring at the famous Hercules. Even though Lucy wanted to speak to him, he knew it wasn’t yet time to.

Though, Smith kept thinking perhaps Avery might have been able to win his heart if she had been present.

Giovanni’s jaw dropped in shock as he stared at the real Hercules, noting immediately that the initial one was an imposter.

“I told you, dad, that it wouldn’t be him. It was just too easy,” Alex complained.

Hercules was supposed to take off his mask. This deal was long gone. Why are the members. not complaining?” Giovanni contended.

”

Which meant that you lost the opportunity to be the Billionaire boss for nothing,” Hattie noted sadly.

Giovanni clenched his fist beside him. It was palpably clear he was upset at it.

Grey smiled softly, pleased at how he had played Giovanni. He knew that he must be quite frustrated as to why the members weren't complaining.

He stopped at the table that displayed his name while the elders protectively stood around him.

hapter

A stunt

"Giovanni seemed quite perplexed. How could you think of pulling this stunt?" Alfred started.

Jayden laughed. "Hercules has a lot of stunts up his sleeve."

"I just knew he would give Giovanni a headache," Gregory added quickly.

Grey was watching Alex with such intensity that forced Alex to look back at Grey. Their gaze held and locked for a few minutes before Alex looked away towards the entrance, his eyes went wide in such a way that Grey was forced to look at what he was looking at.

Grey eyes went wide with shock as he stared at Caramel at the entrance. She was in a blue long gown that was v-shaped and showed her cleavage.

Then, he remembered that Caramel had seen him in his current hairstyle. Ok, maybe there were a lot of men with his current hairstyle but Caramel was intelligent.

Was there a way she wouldn't link it together?

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Chapter 216: The Real Boss

Grey looked away, his mind making a quick calculation of what he was supposed to do Caramel must know he was hiding something What if she guessed it was him? And she found the root of it?

It was still very dangerous and he still didn't know how Caramel would react to it

"I'm moving out now," he announced suddenly

"Why?" Aphrodite was the first to ask, shocked

"Not really," and he looked at Charles Follow me, and he walked away

Just as Caramel turned to look at him, Charles moved to block the view However, Caramel knew Hercules was around because the news was already circulating on social media

Caramel didn't want to attend the party but suddenly, she received the invite and thought it was the maker of the dress that Grey got for her The manager really did tell her that she would be able to attend any red-carpet event till the end of the year

So, Caramel decided to show up She had even forgotten to inform Grey about it Though, he believed he wouldn't know because he wouldn't have been invited

Just as she walked further inside the hall, her gaze met Alex But Caramel was still angry It doesn't matter if the mother she knew as her mother wasn't the one that gave birth to her It still stands that Giovanni was the one that murdered her and she would never forgive his family ever

The look Alex sent her way showed how much Alex loved her Well, he had always loved her which was why he had always protected her all the years while pretending to be a friend to her Also, it was Alex that sent the invite. He had missed Caramel and wanted to see her but she wouldn't grant his request

"The members of the Billionaire club have multiplied within years and today is the coronation of the new Billionaire president. I will go ahead with mentioning the names of the members before we proceed," the man with the microphone explained and he started mentioning names Whenever he mentioned names. the light would find its way toward where the person was, showing everyone to whom the name belonged

This went on for some minutes. He made mention of Alfred, Gregory, and Jayden's names Aphrodite didn't join the club so her name wasn't mentioned.

"So, now. We are moving over to the main reason we are here. As you all know that the club changes its president every two years. And you would all be amazed by who the new president is. He's someone that you all wouldn't have expected," the man expressed with a smile on his face. He hesitated as the audience waited impatiently, in anticipation. The president hasn't been replaced in the past six years Giovanni has been the only one taking the position. The funniest thing was that no one could confront him. So, they let him keep the position. It was also what helped him improve his businesses. And that is Hercules!" He yelled.

The light went directly on where the elders were, still waiting for Grey to come back. They didn't know what had happened or why Grey suddenly excused himself.

"We need to find him," Alfred said with urgency.

Suddenly, the light above their head went off and it concentrated on the entrance of the other door that probably led to some mini-changing rooms.

Grey emerged in designer clothes and shoes, and Charles was also beside him in designer wear. Grey had a hoodie on which he used to cover his hair and there was a mask on his face.

The light followed him up the stairs and towards the stage.

A round of applause ensued from the background

Caramel stared at Grey, shocked. She had heard a lot about Hercules but she had never been to the same gathering with him. And for once in her life, she was anxious as to who was under the mask She hoped that he would remove it

Suddenly, a hand was in the air. It was one of Giovanni's men. Giovanni just whispered into his ears

*The president broke the first rule," he started and the light went over his head so everyone could concentrate on him. "It was strictly suited to the coronation. The suit is the uniform So, he deserves to be impeached!" He yelled.

Giovanni smiled slightly and looked at Alfred, feeling pride in himself. He didn't know why Grey changed but he was going to use it to his advantage.

Alfred shook his head briefly "Why did Grey change in the first place?"

"I have no idea and he could have discussed it with us before going ahead and we would have warned him," Gregory responded.

Jayden sighed. Does this mean he would be impeached? He hasn't even started his year Giovanni is only looking for ways to take the position from him," he complained

"What do we do? We have to do something to help him Hercules shouldn't be disgraced in such a way!" Aphrodite stated firmly.

The man on stage looked shocked "Is this true?"

Everyone started murmuring between themselves They knew for sure that Hercules would be impeached immediately

"He shouldn't have changed. I thought he was suited when he entered?"

Grey huffed and took the microphone from the man on stage. He looked at Charles and signaled to him.

Two men walked to the stage, pushing in a hanger where Grey's suit was hung.

"This is my first contribution as the president," he started and everyone went quiet and wondered what Hercules was going to say to stop the impeachment. Even the godfather was worried. He didn't want the impeachment to happen but there was nothing he could do because it was the rule "I heard that an auction would happen today and decided to open the floor," he let his voice get deep so that no one would be able to compare it with the usual Grey that they know.

*This is Stuart Hughes R. Jewels Diamond Edition Suit which I bought yesterday, specially for this party," he revealed. Charles moved closer to show the receipt to the members and they all confirmed it.

Thank goodness that Charles brought the suit through his account as Hercules.

"And it cost \$892,000," he announced.

Some people took to social media to research it, while some already knew the price. The Diamond Edition suit was expensive.

"What is he doing?" Hattie asked, worried.

Giovanni sighed in defeat. He's going to win."

"I'm going to start the bidding with as low as \$200,000."

Everyone gasped.

Alfred smiled "He's trying to buy the suit himself."

“That’s not even possible!” Gregory complained.

Alfred shook his head briefly.” He wouldn’t, the guest will.”

He barely finished talking when someone raised a hand from the audience.

“I’m taking that suit for \$300,000!” The man yelled.

Chapter 217: Options

“Yes! Wearing the president’s suit and considering the fact that he’s one of the richest men in the city is definitely worth it. Who knows, the person wearing it might be the next president,” the MC said and several hands went up in the air.

*\$350,000! For the suit!”

Grey finally dropped the microphone, raised both hands in surrender, and walked down the raised platform. Charles joined him and they both walked over to their table

Grey caught Giovanni staring hard at him as he passed by him. The anger in his eyes was enough to burn Grey’s alive if look could kill.

“I will be taking it for \$400,000, another one from the audience said

Just as another person raised a hand, the MC spoke quickly “The president doesn’t want it to extend \$ 400,000. So, the suit goes to Mr Clifford’ He announced

A round of applause filled the hall as Grey finally reached his table

“What kind of stunt was that?” Gregory asked, still angry “You could have been impeached and that would forever mean embarrassment to you

Grey smiled softly. "I have my way around it. Just don't worry," he assured them and looked over at Caramel. He couldn't help noting how beautiful she looked in the dress she was wearing. Just as he turned to the left, he caught Alex's gaze over her and there was no way that wasn't a look of an admirer. It was palpably clear that Alex loved Caramel.

The thought of it made Grey's blood boil. It was what he had feared after all.

"By the way, I need to beg for something," Aphrodite said suddenly, pulling Grey's attention to her.

Grey raised a brow and waited. "Is something wrong?"

She nodded briefly. "I told you I needed to return to Italy but I thought I could spend this week with you because of the party but I need to meet up with a meeting by tomorrow. It's very important and the

company is one of the most important ones in Italy. I sincerely don't want to miss the opportunity. I don't know if you can give me the space to return now," she explained.

Grey nodded briefly. That's ok. Did you bring any bodyguards? If not, you can tell Richard to drop you off. Call me when you get to Italy."

Aphrodite smiled and moved to kiss Grey on the forehead. "Thank you, boss."

Grey nodded quickly and looked over to Caramel only to discover she wasn't around anymore. His heart leaped and he cursed aloud.

His gaze searched around quickly for her and found her walking towards the restroom. Unknowingly, a sigh of relief escaped his mouth.

"Are you ok, Boss?" Charles asked suddenly, noting his unusual behavior.

Grey nodded briefly. "Make sure Aphrodite gets to her port safely. I can't afford to run Helter Skelter because of my beloved ones." He expressed.

Charles nodded once and walked out of the hall.

"The next course of action is a law in the Billionaire club," the MC started. "but since the Billionaire club has been having the same president running for years, they forgot about it. Now that they have a new

president, the rule would come into existence," the MC explained, a smile dancing on his face

"Why did you change your clothes in the first place?" Alfred asked again.

Grey smiled. Because I feel like it."

He didn't want to tell them about Caramel. He didn't want them to worry about her.

Alex beckoned one of the attendants over. Then he signaled for him to send a cup of wine to Caramel's

way

Caramel just walked out of the restroom when the attendant walked nearer to her and stretched out the tray of wine.

Caramel smiled and took it.

All this was what Grey was watching that made his fist clench beside him. He muttered thickly underneath his breath severally.

"There will be an auction between the ex-president and the new president," the MC announced

Luciano looked at Grey. We must not allow Giovanni to win. If you do, the news will fly in tomorrow and everyone will think he's the richest, as they have always thought."

Grey was already prepared for him as he brought his card, the one that has Hercules on it

"Never mind. I have it under control." He assured them.

An antique Chandelier was displayed on the projector and some men hurried to give Giovanni and Grey the microphone so that their voices could be heard from all around the hall

*This is Givenchy Royal Hanover German Silver eight-light chandelier crafted in 1736 by William Kent
The opening bid will begin at \$5 million."

Giovanni looked over at Grey, with a dark frown. He didn't imagine that he would be battling with a man.

that was old enough to be his son.

Everyone however listened with focus. They couldn't wait to decide who was the richest between Giovanni and Hercules. And for the Billionaire club, the members couldn't wait to earn more for the club

account. That was the main reason for selecting a rich man as their president.

Grey stared back at him. Their gaze held and locked for a moment.

Grey picked up his microphone. "\$6 million," he started, looking away from him.

"Do you think Giovanni might try to increase the price knowing fully well that Grey wouldn't back off? So that Hercules might suffer a loss?" Gregory wondered aloud.

\$8 million," Giovanni bid.

“Yes and I think it’s the best opportunity to actually ruin Giovanni. If you do that, Giovanni would suffer a great loss,” Jayden chimed in.

“But it means Hercules would lose. People have been waiting for him to show up. He can’t afford to lose now,” Alfred suggested. “I don’t think letting Giovanni win is worth it. We can always deal with Giovanni in

some other ways.”

“Yes, Grey’s reputation is hanging on the line. Hercules needs to show everyone who the boss really is and win this game of power and wealth,” Luciano added.

Grey regarded his elders for a moment, as he thought of who to listen to and what to do.

Should he allow Giovanni to win or not?

“\$8 million for Mr. Giovanni,” the MC expressed and stared at Grey as if expecting him to bid more.

“\$20 million,” Grey bid and murmurs ensued from around him.

“Boss, what are you doing? Are you going to take Gregory or Alfred’s suggestions?”

“\$30 million,” Giovanni said suddenly and the whispers doubled. Everyone was really enjoying the game. And it doesn’t look like Giovanni wants to lose either.

And, Grey knew exactly what to do.

“\$30 million for_,” the MC was interrupted by Grey. “\$70 million!” He announced.

Chapter 218: A dance

*70 million dollars?” The MC laughed. “The president and the ex-president are not ready to let it off for each other. And it’s starting to look very interesting. But to make it look even more interesting, whoever wins will be the first to dance. There will be a chance to look around the hall and dance with whoever

they choose to dance with,” he announced.

At the announcement, Alex’s ears went even wider as he stared over at Caramel.

Then, a man went up to the stage and whispered some words into the MC’s ears before he walked down again.

“Wow! Nice!” The MC laughed again. “I was just informed of something. To make it even more interesting. the winner can allow anyone to do the dance. And the video would be displayed all over the internet!” He expressed.

“This is even becoming very interesting. And Aphrodite isn’t even around,” Gregory joked.

Grey didn’t answer and instead looked over at Caramel. If there was something he wanted to do, it was to dance with her and he was going to do it.

“Dad, you are winning this game of power and wealth because there’s someone in here that I must dance with,” Alex uttered and looked at Giovanni.

‘Who?’ Hattie asked, shocked.

Alex frowned. “You will see in no time. Anyways, I will be adding to your money. We must win this game at all costs.”

Hattie smiled. Do you think your father isn’t capable of handling Grey“”

Alex looked at Hattie. "Grey? Who's Grey?"

Hattie regarded Alex for a moment, then looked over at Giovanni. "You didn't tell him?"

Alex searched their faces. "Tell me what?"

Giovanni waved it off. "We will discuss it later, after this party. Let's focus on this for now."

Alex nodded and looked over at Caramel again.

*100 million dollars!" Giovanni voiced out.

It seems like Giovanni is so geared up. He would stop at nothing to win," Charles uttered. He arrived a few minutes later after he saw that Aphrodite was safely on the plane.

*150 million dollars," Grey said quickly before the MC would say something

Murmurs filled the air and the reporters were already inside, taking pictures low-key. They knew that the bouncers would lead them out if they made mistakes.

*150 million dollars for Hercules. It's going, any opposition?" The MC smiled.

There was hesitation. "500 million dollars!"

Everyone whooped, slightly praising Giovanni already.

"I think you need to let it go now. It looks like Giovanni is bent on winning," Giovanni noted.

"Well, Grey has the money to proceed," Alfred stated. He's so bent on letting Grey win.

"I know but 500 million dollars is just too much," Charles complained." What do we do?"

*1.5 billion dollars!" Grey announced suddenly

There was soft gasp from the audience. Even the elders were shocked

It was at that time that Giovanni realized that Grey meant business He couldn't proceed

"Grey is not going to let go I think you should stop," Hattie advised

"Do you think Hercules has such huge money to dash out? It's definitely going to take turns on him, Alex complained

"Well, we can only find out later. But for now, Grey will have to win. You can't afford to give out more money," Hattie explained.

Giovanni felt a surge of anger as he stared at Grey and eventually decided to let go. There was nothing he could do anyways and according to what Alex had said, the money would affect Grey That was enough for him.

* 1.5 billion dollars for Hercules, any opposition? The MC inquired and Giovanni shook his head The MC smiled. "Hercules won the game!" He declared

Music blared from the speakers all around in response to what the MC had said

Grey nodded briefly, feeling pleased with himself The reporters moved closer to take a shot as murmurs filled the air around them.

Some men moved closer to take the microphone

“So, the Givenchy Royal Hanover German Silver eight light chandelier goes to Hercules! And the second prize will go as planned. I will encourage all the sexy and beautiful ladies in the house to step forward and give Hercules the chance to select the one he would dance with, he informed

“Wow! I love this! Sincerely!” Luciano exclaimed softly.

“I love this. This should tell Giovanni that Grey isn’t his match, Alfred expressed

Within minutes, there was an adjustment as ladies stepped forward Everyone silently praying Grey should take them. It would be a pleasure dancing with one of the wealthiest men in the city. Perhaps, he would even go out with them if he found them beautiful,

But Caramel, didn’t step forward because she wasn’t even in the mood of competing with others as to who Hercules would go for. So, she stood where she was, while watching the drama unfold

“It’s now time! Hercules would move around the ladies and select his preference for the dance!” He announced and the light fell on Grey.

“Why do I feel like Grey already has who he wants to go for?” Jayden observed.

Gregory looked at Caramel and then back at Grey. “I think I know.”

Grey stepped away from them and moved towards the ladies. The first lady he saw was Chloe. Well, he didn’t expect to see her at the gathering and quickly wondered if Avery was around as well.

Even if she was, she had too much pride to step forward. Same as Caramel because she was already standing afar.

Grey didn’t even need to stress himself about moving around and checking the ladies when he knew who

he wanted.

If Caramel wouldn't step forward, Grey would go to her.

Grey regarded her for a moment before he stepped forward.

"It looks like someone eventually caught Hercules' fancy and guess what? She's not among the ladies standing in the light," The MC revealed.

Grey stopped in front of Caramel. Seeing him, Caramel's mouth opened in agape. She hadn't expected Hercules to come to her, not even when she was not stepping out in the light.

Grey didn't talk and instead stretched out his hand to Caramel.

Caramel watched Grey for a moment and a flash of something flickered across her face. Maybe she was going to reject him.

Chapter 219: Why?

Caramel wanted to reject Hercules but she knew how much that would cost her And well, she didn't want to be on a tone's bad side

That aside, it was Giovanni she hated and not Hercules.

She slowly accepted the invite.

The ladies whooped in delight as Grey led Caramel to the opening. The ladies stepped back, somehow wishing it could have been them.

Never has it been that a president would dance in designer clothes but Hercules was breaking the rules And no one was worried about it.

In fact, everyone was happy with the newly elected president, knowing full well he was capable physically and financially.

A piece of soft music played slowly

Caramel smiled nervously. "I don't really know how to dance"

Grey pulled her closer suddenly and moved to whisper in her ears. You don't need to Just follow my steps, and I will lead you."

Caramel felt her heartbeat increase at the contact of their body from under the material.

The reporters and bloggers were around them, already recording them They allowed it eventually

The silence that existed between them felt awkward that Caramel had to say something. "Why did you choose me? I was not standing with the rest of the ladies."

Grey smiled. Caramel was always inquisitive.

"I like when someone stands off from the crowd," he responded in a deep voice.

Caramel blushed slightly as Grey turned her around, against her wish. Grey knew how to dance and he was really leading her very well. He was strong too and it was easy for him to move her as he wished

"Do you mind if I talk to you about something?" She started, unable to let the opportunity waste Caramel was also very calculative. This was why Grey had to change his clothes.

"Shoot," he made Caramel take two steps forward before he held her by the waist so that she could turn on her own.

Caramel sighed, feeling exhausted already but she whirled around severally until Grey stopped her by moving her closer again.

“Can I work in your company? Protos Pubblicita? I was going to submit my letter of application on Monday but since I’m dancing with you, I see no reason why I have to stress myself.”

Grey smiled again. Trying on your luck?” He laughed and for once, Caramel actually thought it was Grey that spoke.

Yes, isn’t that what life is all about?”

Grey didn’t answer and pulled backward, as the music ended.

Caramel stared at him, desperate. She was going to slowly stop running her father’s company and find a job that suits her. Then, she would be able to tell her father the truth about her status.

Men moved forward as another music started playing. It looked like it was the time for everyone

interested in dancing to dance.

Everyone went for their choice of women and Alex saw it as the chance to pick Caramel.

Just as he got to her and was about to open his mouth to say something. Grey was already by her hand, with an invite.

Caramel regarded Alex for a moment, before she slowly took Grey’s hand, leaving Alex fuming in anger.

He was so angry that he could jump at Grey and start a fight there but it would only tarnish his reputation and that of his father. So, he decided to be calm about it.

“Were you going to accept Alex’s hand if I hadn’t gotten there?” Unconsciously, the question slipped out of his mouth.

Caramel looked shocked for a moment. “Why must you ask such a question?”

Grey shrugged slightly. “Just curious. I saw the way he looks at you.

Caramel looked away, blushing even harder. “I might or not ”

Grey groaned. “Come to Protos Pubblicita by 8 am on Monday and request for Maria She would reply to your request.”

Caramel looked up, with a smiling face that made Grey’s heart skip a beat.

At that moment, he had a stronger desire to kiss her but he would have to remove his mask for it.

“Hey, mind if I borrow him for a moment?” Chloe said suddenly, coming in between Caramel.

Grey looked at her, with feelings close to anger. “No one borrows Hercules” He boomed, with a voice that sent chills down the ladies’ spine.

Chloe nodded quickly. “I didn’t mean that but I just need to speak with you for a moment.”

Caramel saw the tension and smiled softly. “I’m tired of dancing anyways. I will just get something to drink,” she said quickly and excused herself.

Grey regarded her for a moment. “It better be something very important or you will be sorry for disturbing me,” he warned and took her hands so that they could dance.

"I know it's you," she said softly.

Grey raised skeptical brows and watched her for a moment. "What do you mean?"

Chloe moved even close to him. "I know it's you, Grey Fox."

Grey's hands on her went rigid as he watched her. "How?"

Chloe stepped back. It wasn't a coincidence that I saw you amid the richest men in the city at 5star suites and then realized you entered the hall with them. Then, I compared your height and your blue eyes. Eventually, you had this familiar gaze on me before you moved to dance with Caramel," she explained.

Grey dropped his hold on her left hand. With her right hand in his, he led her out of the hall.

Charles and Richard rushed after him, skeptical as to what was happening.

Grey led Chloe to his car. He opened the door. "Enter!" And ordered.

Chloe gathered her clothes and entered the car. Her heart was starting to breathe even faster and she was starting to regret telling Grey what she knew.

Grey walked to the driver's seat, just in time for Charles and Richard to reach the car.

"Boss' They called but Grey ignored them and drove out into the street.

"You know what," Grey started in his usual voice. "You were right. I am Grey," and he pulled the mask off

Chloe's eyes went wide with shock as she stared at Grey's handsome face.

Then, realization hits harder that she almost collapsed.

“Are you going to kill me? Is this where you are driving to?”

Grey glanced at her. “Why do you think I would kill you?”

Chloe swallowed harder. “Because I now know the truth. I’m the only living witness aside from your elders

that have seen your face,” she whispered, her voice sounding unlike her.

Grey nodded briefly. “Good that you know you deserve it.”

Chloe’s heart almost stops breathing. “So, you are really going to kill me?”

Chapter 220: The dead among the living

Grey didn’t reply and instead, pressed on the accelerator. The road wasn’t that crowding and Grey overtook some of the cars until he arrived in a secluded place.

He pulled up and stared at Chloe. “Why did you send the letter?”

Chloe’s eyes went wide and dark with shock as she regards Grey for a moment It was at that moment that she noticed how handsome he actually looked, especially with his new hairstyle

Grey was the Hercules? The most richest and influential man but he pretended to be a lowly live-in son-in-law. And someone like her, who could not look at his face on a normal day, who could not afford the less expensive thing in his house abused him.

It was all more reason that he would want to kill her And well, the funniest thing about it was that no one might press charges. Hercules wasn't only the richest, he was a mafia boss

"Answer me, Chloe. You didn't think I would get it's you? How did you even get to know about Caramel's kidnap? Were you stalking me? Did Giovanni send you? And how did you get to find out where Caramel was?" He asked in a deep voice

Chloe released a sigh. "I will answer your questions but can you take it slowly? You are going to kill me, I know but I will tell you everything you want to know," she said sincerely

"I came to your company that day. I mean you should remember because you paid for my room and even ordered for me," she explained.

Grey nodded briefly. He remembered vividly. He actually saw her when he entered the suites. And since she didn't want to come forward for her phone, Grey decided to repay her in another way.

"And I saw your friends talk about Caramel's disappearance before they entered the special room. Well, I didn't hear much but I heard Hattie and I just had to join the figure together. I didn't understand at first," she looked away as if trying to remember it all. "Then, I tried to contact Caramel. When I couldn't, I knew my intuition was right. So, I visited Hattie "

Grey raised confused brows at her." You did?"

Chloe nodded briefly. "I was able to get where Caramel was. I was a model. So, I was very close to her and others. So, I sent you this letter to inform you about it. I didn't know if Hattie had spies around me. So, I didn't want to step forward," she revealed.

Grey regarded her for a moment and slowly released a sigh. "So, who do you work for?"

Chloe shook her head. "I don't work for anyone."

"Then, why did you help me?"

Chloe thought for a moment. "To repay you for forgiving me. I was able to save my job, thanks to you. So, I decided to repay you," she expressed truthfully.

Grey pulled back and went silent for a moment.

Chloe was still looking at him. "Are you really going to kill me?"

Grey shook his head briefly. "If my elders know about this, you will die. So, try your best to keep your mouth sealed. No one must hear of this, not even Avery or Caramel."

Chloe had this shocked look on her face. "Caramel doesn't know?"

Grey nodded once. "I'm only going to let you go because you helped me concerning Caramel but I will

still be watching you. If you fumble, you will die. Is that clear?"

"Y_ yes boss!" She stammered, fear overwhelming her.

"Great, I will take you back to the hall then," he took the mask and wore it.

Chloe wanted to say a lot of things. In fact, she wanted to ask him why he was hiding his identity but she couldn't dare talk. So, she kept mute as Grey took a U-turn and drove towards the hall.

Grey let Chloe get down before he decided to look for a parking space for his car.

He walked out of the car and locked it. Just as he turned around, he stopped immediately as his eyes centered on a man that was also watching him from afar.

It wasn't just any man, it was Leo.

Grey couldn't move for a moment as he continued to stare at Leo. Leo was also watching him as if he couldn't guess who was staring at him. It must have been because of the mask.

And suddenly, Leo started moving towards the entrance of the hall.

Grey hurried towards him but he was near the door.

Before Grey could reach the hall, he had entered and mixed with the guest. His gaze searched around quickly as his blood boiled with anger.

Frustration reeled his eyes as he searched everywhere for him. He wasn't sure the other day he saw Leo but he was damn sure this time that it was Leo. He couldn't have hallucinated about him.

Charles and Richard hurried towards Grey. "Boss!" They chorused at the same time.

Grey ignored them and entered the hall, with his gaze still searching around for Leo. When he couldn't find him, he moved closer to where the elders were.

"You didn't see him?"

Everyone raised skeptical brows at him.

"See who?" It was Alfred that spoke.

"I saw Leo enter this hall. You guys didn't see him?" He was getting even more frustrated.

"What?" Charles stressed, confused. "My dead father?"

Grey looked at her "Fuck! Yes! That was what I said! I saw your dead father!" His voice raised slightly and Charles jerked backward

Thank goodness for the music playing or it might have been a disaster.

"Calm down, Grey," Alfred soothed "Wait, let's calm down and discuss this. You saw Leo or do you think you did?" He was doubtful.

Grey tried to calm down. Well, he couldn't believe it as well. There was no way he would be seeing a dead person Could Leo have been alive all these years? Why did he stay away from the elders? And

importantly, does Charles knows he was alive?

"I saw Leo enter the hall. I didn't think, I really saw him," he confirmed.

Everyone stared with eyes gone dark and wide with shock.