

Secretly TBB 251

Chapter 251: Decided

“You have to speak to your daughter!

Because I don’t understand what is wrong with her!” Emma expressed angrily.

Avery sighed. “Mom, you can’t force me to do things.”

Benjamin looked at Avery. “Avery, your mother wants the best for you. You have to do this to make her happy.”

Avery looked at her father. “Wait, dad. Is this supposed to make her happy or the best for me? How can I even approach him? Would it make sense that I

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divorce him and I suddenly want to marry him again?” She raised her voice slightly.

It was morning and her parents wouldn’t stop talking to her about marriage.

Victoria Skincare was getting even more popular. Fortunately, CCS was near

and it was certain that Grey would be competing with Hattie very hard. Since

Grey was getting, even more, better in business, the family excluding Lucy wants her to marry Grey again so they could at least protect the family from bankruptcy.

Emma huffed. "Come on, Avery. We all know how Grey was hesitating to leave you. He would definitely want you back. There's no way he wouldn't want you back."

Avery rolled her eyes. "Mom, you aren't telling the truth. Would dad accept you back after you divorce him?"

"Sure," Emma looked at Benjamin quickly and winked at him. "We actually divorced before we got you. All the same, you are going to marry Grey because that's the best for you!"

Avery regarded her parents for a moment before she got up, took her phone, and started towards the front door.

"Where are you going?" Benjamin asked quickly.

"To grandfather's company," she responded and walked out of the room.

Emma released a sigh. She thought Avery was finally going to follow what they wanted.

Avery couldn't stop thinking of her parents' decision. Though a part of her desperately wanted Grey back she also knew that she would never feel comfortable in the marriage because of what she had done for him. There was no way she would enter such a marriage again. Her dignity wouldn't even allow her to. She would rather leave the city and start a new business in another city. She drove right to the LX company where she knew her grandfather would be. Though, she knew that Emma and Benjamin would meet her in LX as they were just at home because they wanted to talk to Avery. Emma had been disturbing Avery about it but Avery's mind was made up already.

Avery arrived at the company and she let out a long sigh. She had decided earlier but she thought she could still spend some days in Jacksonville.

Her mother has shortened her stay.

Lucy was having some meetings with the shareholders when Avery arrived. She waited for the meeting to end.

She walked inside the office the moment she realized the meeting was over.

“Grandpa, I have something to discuss with you,” she initiated the moment she entered.

Lucy looked up at her for a moment before he resumed what he was doing on the laptop. “How are you doing?”

“Fine but I’m planning on leaving Jacksonville.”

Lucy was shocked for a moment. He abandoned what he was doing and gestured to the seat in front of him. “Why? Is something wrong?”

Avery sat. “I haven’t told my parents about this but I feel you should know so that you can call Smith back. I won’t be able to take up your company as I’m leaving and I believe Smith should be the one to correct the mistake he had made,” she explained.

Lucy sighed. “Is that your decision?”

Avery nodded briefly. Though, she was shocked at her grandfather's new behavior."

Yes, because I will not marry Grey. And I do hope you stay with my decision. I'm going to do what I love now," she finished, stood, and took a short how before she walked out of the office.

Lucy let out a sigh as he watched her leave.

He admitted it was his fault. Everything that happened between her and Grey was his fault. He shouldn't have believed Smith over Avery. Now, Smith had done the worst to the company and he couldn't stop thinking about it.

"Well, Hercules isn't around and we don't know when he will be?" Maria told Lawrence.

Lawrence sighed, disturbed already. "Must I have a face to face conversation with him? Can't I talk to him on the phone?"

"Well," Maria hesitated. "Unless you speak with our supervisor."

Lawrence nodded quickly. "That's better than not having anyone to see. I'm sure this is really going to benefit Hercules. My delivery company could do a lot for Protos Pubblicita," he expressed.

Maria nodded briefly. "Follow me then, I will lead you to the supervisor," she started away while Lawrence followed her.

They entered the elevator and stopped on the second floor.

Lawrence adjusted very well so that the supervisor would be able to reason his request.

Maria walked to the door and knocked slightly before she opened the door and led Lawrence inside.

Grey looked up and regarded Lawrence for a moment. A smile spread across his face at who it was.

Lawrence didn't notice Grey immediately until Maria introduced him and walked out.

Lawrence couldn't believe his eyes. "Grey? What are you doing here?"

Grey sat up. "I should be asking you that question. What are you doing here?"

Lawrence cleared his throat meaningfully. "I need to speak with Hercules and I want you to set up a meeting."

Grey's piercing gaze was watching him as if he could read his mind. "Do you remember what you did the last time I came over to the company and requested my salary?"

Lawrence swallowed harder.

"Well, you should forget about it. Protos Pubblicita isn't ready to work with you."

Lawrence frowned immediately. "You aren't even Hercules! How could you say that? I demand to see Hercules at once! And it's my right to!" He raised his voice slightly, showing how angry he was.

Grey laughed. "Go ahead," he muttered.

Lawrence blinked once, then twice. "What do you mean?"

"I will set up a meeting with Hercules for you but I will also be telling him some

things. Lawrence, you are used to getting intimate with your workers before you employ them. It's what you do but I'm not sure Hercules would be ready to work with you after hearing all this. In fact, he might fight for those girls whose life you have ruined," he said in a thick voice.

Lawrence grew even angrier. "What! How dare you threaten me!"

Grey frowned. "I'm not kidding, Lawrence.

Get out of my office!" He yelled.

Well, he was only watching Lawrence all these while but he did a lot of bad things to him as well. He even sided with Seth to do

bad things to him and Grey wasn't going to forgive him. There was no way he would even allow him to work at his company.

Lawrence stood, angrier than before. "I will leave but I will show you. I promise you, Grey! You will be fired soon! In fact, if you aren't careful, you won't get any salary!" He swore and stomped out.

A message popped up on his phone suddenly and Grey looked down at it. A

smile curved. up around his mouth at what he saw.

Chapter 252: Confession

Grey drove right to Alfred's house after work. Charles informed the elders about the meeting and they decided to meet at Alfred's house instead of going to the hotel like they used to.

"How is he doing?" Grey asked when he settled down.

They all knew who he was referring to. And they knew it was only good that

Grey was taking care of him and not killing him for all he did.

"He's getting better but he still hasn't regained his memory," Alfred revealed.

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Grey nodded briefly. "Let's go straight into the discussion then. I need the plan to evaluate the spies once and for all. I need to officially pronounce myself Hercules."

Alfred regarded him for a moment. "Do you think it's the time to do that?"

Gregory groaned. "I guess the time will never come, or will it?"

“Well, I don’t think we need to delay it any longer. Leo was the one that killed the previous Hercules. I don’t think it should delay Hercules from pronouncing himself.” Jayden explained.

Luciano sighed. “I think Jayden is right. We’ve been trying to hide Hercules’s identity for more than ten years. He’s the mafia boss and he would need to address his men sooner than later. It’s getting too late. I’m sure some of his men believe he doesn’t exist.”

Alfred thought about it for a moment. “So, what’s your plan.”

“Pretending Hercules doesn’t exist,” Grey announced.

Charles sighed. “That’s actually a bit dangerous.”

Gregory nodded briefly. “Very dangerous. But the main thing is how do we let

Giovanni know about this? We need a plan.”

Alfred looked over at Gregory. “What? I don’t think this is something we should do.”

“Why not? This won’t even hurt anyone.” Gregory protested.

“What about the men? There will be a great fall if they realized the mafia boss was actually dead. I don’t think we should go that way. It’s really a dangerous plan,” Jayden chimed in.

Grey let out a sigh. They were right. It’s just that he doesn’t know how else to handle the situation.

“Well,” he sat up. “You guys should think about it. We will discuss it later,” he stood and looked at Charles. “I need to speak with you for a moment.”

“I heard about the earlier event. Charles told me everything about Caramel. Are you sure we can trust her?” Alfred asked suddenly.

Grey looked at him and nodded briefly. “Yes, because she gave Alex the wrong strand of hair. So, at this moment, Alex doesn’t know who I really am. It would be easier for them to believe Hercules doesn’t exist, to begin with.”

“But, what about the person that was invited to the billionaire club and the Hercules that went to the company?” Charles questioned, disturbed.

Grey shrugged slightly. "A representative. That's why the mask was there."

Alfred sighed and went deep in thought.

Grey looked at Charles. "I need you to do something for me. Can you get five of your men?"

Charles nodded once. "I can do that. What do you want them to help you for?"

"Don is bringing in some hard drugs, I'm going to plant it in Hattie's company.

I'm going to need someone to make a report and get the police to see these hard drugs," he revealed.

"Giovanni is familiar with the police. They would end up releasing her," Charles muttered.

"Well, I know but that would keep her off till after CCS."

Jayden stood as well. "I will report then. You can leave it for us. We will do it," he assured.

Grey nodded. "You can speak with Don concerning the drugs then. I will be on

my way home," he announced and walked out of the living room.

Alfred walked him to the car. "Why don't you let Leo regain his memories before you showcase yourself? There might be more harm to it than you can see."

Grey hesitated for a moment, as he remembered the promise he made to Tiana.

"No," he shook his head slightly. "Todd is due for death. He has to die very quickly. I can't waste this perfect opportunity."

Alfred nodded briefly. "We will talk about it later then."

Grey nodded once. "And there's no need to wait for Leo because we don't even know when he would come around. That aside, he killed my father. Is there more he wants to say?"

Alfred let out a sigh. "Why. I mean there's no way he would just think of killing your father without a genuine reason."

"Well, there's nothing like a reason! There's no fucking way why he would kill his best friend!" Grey responded in anger. "He doesn't even have any reason and I don't want to hear more. He should be grateful I'm not killing him! That I'm not

avenging my father's death!" He stated and entered his car. He pulled out into the street. Somehow, he couldn't stop blaming himself for Samson's death.

Had he known, he would have let the men watch over him. It was one of the reasons why he had to take the position officially.

That aside, he didn't want to think about Leo at all. He didn't want to stress himself over it because he would definitely get annoyed about it.

His phone rang suddenly, jerking him out of his thoughts when nothing else would. He glanced down at the screen and went into a few minutes of shock.

Why was Avery calling him?

The phone stopped ringing, only for it to start again.

Grey pulled over to pick up the call. "Hi, Avery."

"Hi, Grey. I'm in front of your house. Are you at home? Can we see for a few minutes? I wouldn't waste your time," she rushed the word.

Grey could only stare for a moment, still shocked at what was happening. When

was the last time that he saw or spoke with

Avery? And he wondered what was going on.

Nevertheless, he sped up so he wouldn't keep Avery waiting so long.

Truthfully, Avery was in front of the house.

Grey hurried down, not even able to drive into the garage. He moved closer to

her.

"Avery!" He called and she looked up at him, a smile on her face.

She looked different and Grey couldn't guess what was going on.

"Hi, do you want to come inside?" Grey offered.

Avery thought for a moment and slowly shook her head. "No, actually. It's alright

like this."

Grey regarded her for a moment in silence." Is something wrong?"

Avery looked away while dragging her breath. She didn't even know where and

how to start but she know she had to see Grey and tell her something before he

leave.

“I’m leaving the city!” She said suddenly.

“What?” Grey raised skeptical brows at her.

She looked up and faked a smile. “I’ve made a decision to leave Jacksonville. It

seems like I don’t have much luck here,” she explained.

“Wait, Avery. Is something going on that I don’t know? Where are you going to?

And why are you leaving Jacksonville? What about LX company?” He

bombarded her.

Avery let out another sigh. “That’s like a story on its own, Grey. But there’s

something I really want you to know,” she hesitated as she gathered her

strength. “I love you, Grey.”

Chapter 253: Reassurance

Grey blinked once, then twice. Confused and shocked was an understatement.

Grey was flabbergasted. He remembered how much he went through during

their marriage. How Avery tampered with his dignity and ego.

It was weird that she could be confessing her feelings at that moment.

“And no!” She said quickly. “I’m not telling you to come back. I just had to tell you this, I mean before I leave,” she let out a sigh and looked up at Grey. “I regret everything that I’ve done to you. In fact, I regret how our relationship came to be. I’m sorry for trusting Chris over you. I’m sorry for letting you go through all you did. I hope you can forgive me.”

Enter title...

Grey nodded once. “It’s ok. I forgave you already, a long time ago but if that’s why you want to leave, you shouldn’t. Isn’t your life here?”

“I don’t think so, Grey. Nothing is going well for me at this point. I feel like a loser and I need to start something to feel alive again,” she explained.

Grey stared at her, as he didn’t know what to respond with.

“Our marriage would have been the perfect one but it started with lies. I really love you but destiny gave us a joke. It would have been the best marriage ever,”

she cracked laughter that was filled with sorrow.

Grey regarded her for a moment. Well, she knew how much it cost her for her

grandfather to find them the way he did. And to now discovered it was Smith

that set them up. Somehow, it felt like it wasn't her fault.

"Well, we can restart," he said suddenly, even when he didn't expect it. Caramel

was still there and he wouldn't deny the fact that he truly loved Caramel. But he

didn't want Avery to be sad as well. If this would make her happy, he would

gladly do it.

Avery faked a smile, somehow glad by Grey's utterance. She didn't expect it

even though a tiny part of her wanted that to happen. It was so comforting to her

that Grey didn't hate her after all.

"I thought you hated me already," she forced the words out but they came out

with tears. "I thought you would say nasty things to me. I'm sorry but being like

this but__," she was cut off as Grey pulled her into a bear hug.

He stroked her back slightly. "It's ok, Avery. This isn't really your fault. It's all

your family's fault," he muttered.

Avery sobbed quietly. "But it's still my fault. I shouldn't have treated you the way

I did. I shouldn't have taken it all on you. I'm really sorry," she felt happiness

surge through her at her confession. She felt lightheaded and electricity run

through her at Grey's touch on her body. If they weren't outside, she might

actually give in to lust.

"It's ok," Grey pulled back after a while. What do you want to do now? Will you

love for us to go back?"

Avery nodded briefly. "Yes but it's too late,

Grey. I've lost everything and I have to work hard to get them back, that is if I

can still get them back," she expressed.

Grey nodded briefly. "Actually, I have someone else I love, even though I've

always liked the bond we shared. We shared the same room, and stayed in the

same house for months."

Avery felt a lump appear in her throat at the revelation. She guessed it as well. It

was normal anyways that Grey loved someone else with all she had made her go through.

Yet, it was heartbreaking.

"Is she someone I know?" She asked softly.

Grey nodded once. "Yes, it's Caramel."

Avery looked away quickly and tried to suppress a tear. "It's ok. I don't plan on staying anyways. My mind is made up but," she hesitated as she looked up at

him. "Can you do me a favor? A last one?"

"Yes, what's it?"

Avery hesitated again. "Kiss me."

Another shock!

While Grey was hesitating, Avery went on her toes and dropped a kiss on his lips. "Bye

Grey, maybe we will see or maybe not, I'm not sure but I want you to take very

good care of yourself," she didn't wait for him to say anything when she turned around to leave. She hesitated again as if there was someone she was looking at.

Grey followed the path of her gaze and found out it was Caramel. It was after a minute that it registered in his head. Caramel must have caught them kissing.

Avery walked away nevertheless and

Caramel turned around to leave as well.

Grey hurried towards her before she would shut the car's door.

"Caramel," he called her slowly but she wouldn't look at him.

"I'm sorry I came uninvited. I'm leaving already. Please, let me go." Her voice was shaking.

Grey released an exasperated sigh. How could he handle two women in a day?

"Caramel," he started again but Caramel cut in quickly.

"I understand if you are trying to get back with her. I mean you guys were

married

before and_” her voice trailed off. “I’m supposed to be happy at your reunion

but__, “she stopped abruptly as Grey pulled her out of the car suddenly.

Caramel was crying already.

Grey held her by the shoulders so that he could force her to face him.”Caramel,

will you listen to me?”

Caramel sobbed quietly. “You don’t need to explain. I’m ok with anything you

decide on. I mean I’m very selfish. Why would I want my friend’s husband? I’m

just so incorrigible. I don’t know what came over me!” She cried the more.

Grey regarded her for a moment. “Avery is leaving the city,” he revealed and

forced Caramel to look up at him.

“What?” She exclaimed softly.

“Yes,” Grey nodded briefly. “She came here to tell me a lot of things. And

besides, wasn’t I the one that asked you out? If I didn’t love you, I wouldn’t

have. I do ok?” He assured her.

“And Avery?”

“I will not leave you for her,” he assured again before he pulled her into a hug.

Caramel felt secure and somehow believed his words.

Chapter 254: Upcoming Fight

Grey made sure Caramel had left before he walked inside. He placed a call to

Jamal immediately.

Well, he couldn't say but he knew that Avery made the best decision. At least,

he wouldn't have to choose between her and Caramel.

Jamal picked up after the second ring. ”

Hello, Hercules.”

“Hello, Jamal. I want to inform you that your son has been accepted as one of

the workers in the Italian shoe company.” He announced.

Enter title...

“What!” Jamal squealed with happiness surging into him. “Is this for real?”

“Well, I gave you my word and I don't like going against it. Your son will be given

special treatment so you don't have to worry about him getting fired," he

explained.

"Thank you so much, Hercules," he appreciated. "I'm really grateful," he

expressed deeply.

Grey nodded briefly. "Alright, but keep to your word and everything will go well

and normally."

"Sure," he admitted.

Grey woke up late that day. He was still feeling a bit tired from all the trips. Tiana

was currently in the hospital and Grey had Jimmy and some of the men stay to

watch over her so that she wouldn't go ahead with killing Todd behind his back.

That aside, she was badly injured but she wasn't even worried about that. She

was more concerned with avenging her son's death.

To be candid, Grey would have done the same thing.

In Hattie's case, he was taking it very slowly. Grey was going to take the CCS

award from her, and destroy her before he kill her for killing his mother.

Grey got dressed in a Brioni Vanquish li suit and admired his features in the mirror.

"Grey, breakfast is set!" Beatrice announced. from outside.

Greg gave himself one last look before he walked out with his briefcase.

"Are you really going to pull out? I mean for the CCS award?" Beatrice asked

the moment they settled down to eat.

Grey regarded her for a moment. "Are you worried I would?"

Beatrice sighed. "I will like it if you don't but I will go by anything you decide on. I

mean," she hesitated for a moment. "It's the right time to avenge your mother's

death."

Grey smiled softly. "I know and that's exactly what I'm doing. I'm not pulling out

and I'm going to avenge my mother's death.

Hattie will be arrested soon," he darted at his wristwatch. "Soon, the reporters

and presenter will go around with it. I give it an hour, it will be on the news," he

revealed.

Beatrice smiled and nodded slightly. "Nice!

This is what I want!"

Grey pulled at the garage of SU world. He entered the lobby before he pulled

out his phone to call Jane.

Jane picked up after the third ring as if she was intentionally ignoring him.

"Hello Grey," her voice was lazy.

"Hi, Hercules said I could come over here to discuss the contract you told him

about," he revealed.

Jane sighed. "Come to the second floor," and the phone went off before Grey

would say anything else.

Grey shook his head briefly. A tiny part of him wants Jane to be sacked while

the other wants to take pity on her.

He walked to the elevator and followed the instructions. He knocked on the door

slightly.

There was no answer but Grey walked inside nevertheless.

Jane had this lazy expression on her face.” How are you doing Grey? After

sending me on exile? How do you feel?” There was sarcasm in her voice.

“How am I supposed to feel?”

“Good or bad. Though, I’m sure it’s good. If it’s bad, then Hercules should have

called me back to work.”

Grey smiled softly. “Well, if that’s it. Then, I feel very good.”

Jane regarded him for a moment with a deadly stare. If a look could kill, Grey

would be dead already.

Grey wasn’t offered a seat but he sat nevertheless.”We need to talk. The earlier,

the better.”

Jane huffed. “You must feel so high because

Hercules holds you in high esteem.”

The door opened suddenly and Tina walked inside.

Jane looked at her. "What! You didn't bring anything for our guest?"

Tina bowed slightly. "I'm sorry," and she hurried out of the room again.

Grey had this cute smile on his face as he turned to look at Jane again. "I'm not here for anything else besides from discussing the contract. I need to go back to work."

"No," Jane sat up. "Let's talk about something else. Like about Hercules. What does he look like? Have you ever seen him before?"

He didn't know why Jane was suddenly looking for Hercules.

"What?" Grey had this teasing smile on his lips. "Are you going to set a meeting with him secretly? And get his favor?"

Jane laughed. "Who wouldn't want to? Though, I'm sure you wouldn't want to tell me about him. Would you? You are being favored because he only heard what you told him. And who knows what you tell him?"

"The truth_"

The door opened again and Tina walked inside with a tray of coffee. She placed it in front of him. Grey looked down at it for a moment before he took it to drink.

It was ok and there was nothing amiss with it. He thought Jane was up with one of her tricks.

“Now, Jane. Let’s discuss this contract or I’m leaving,” he stated firmly.

Jane nodded briefly and pulled out a letter from her desk. She extended it out.

Grey took it and perused it quickly. He raised a brow at Jane. “Cctv world corporation?”

Jane nodded briefly. “Yes, we are the two companies that Spinfluence has in mind. So, there’s going to be a competition between us.

Was Grey seeing wrong? Cctv world corporation was headed by Chris. Was it the Chris he knows?

“There’s a physical appointment with Spinfluence in three days. And guess what, Cctv world will be present as well. Then, Spinfluence would determine who to sell the contract to. And I must tell you that the contract is worth a lot,”

she explained.

Grey nodded briefly. "May I see the picture of the CEO?"

"Sure," Jane pulled her laptop closer and pressed some keys on it. Then, she

turned it towards Grey.

Grey stared at Chris in a blue suit. So, the two were going to fight soon? And

Grey must win.

Chapter 255: Suspect

"So, are we accepting?"

Grey looked up at Jane and nodded briefly. "We are and we will be attending the

interview."

Jane nodded briefly.

Grey stood up. "I will leave then since there are no other things to attend to."

The moment he walked out of the elevator, his phone rang suddenly. It was

Beatrice.

"Hello, Beatrice."

Enter title...

“Grey! Hattie has been arrested!” She announced. “It’s all over the internet,” she expressed happily.

Grey nodded briefly. “I told you. And even though Giovanni rescues her, there will still be some leftovers of what she had done. That should keep her off for now.”

“Yes, later then.” And the phone went off.

Grey pulled a call to Maria and she picked up immediately. “Hello, Maria.”

“Good morning boss.” Maria sounded clear from the other end.

“There’s a piece of ongoing news about Hattie. You have to take your report because it must appear in our magazine till CCS day.”

“Noted sir, I will send some people toward the location and we will start preparing the news asap,” she responded.

“Alright, I will be in Protos Pubblicita soon. Take care,” he hung up and entered

the car.

He placed a call to Jimmy. He picked up after the first ring.

“Hello, boss. Is there anything I can do for you?”

“Yes, there’s a piece of news currently on Hattie. I want you to spread it on the internet. Make sure other websites take it

Though, I know Hattie will pay websites to take it down. So, you have to open several websites and make sure it doesn’t link it to you because we won’t be taking it down until CCS day,” he ordered.

“Yes boss, I will do that,” Jimmy responded.

Grey nodded and hung up. His phone rang almost immediately. It was Charles this time. He picked it up.

“Hi, Grey. Are you at Protos Pubblicita?”

“No, but I’m on the way. Is something wrong?”

“Not really. I will tell you all there is to it when I get to Protos Pubblicita,” he informed.

“Alright. See you there soon,” he finished and hung up.

Grey entered his car and drove right to Protos Pubblicita.

Charles pulled up at a parking space just as Grey did as well. It made it look as

though they were coming together.

“Boss,” Charles greeted when he was closer. “Should we talk in the car then?”

Grey thought for a moment and nodded briefly. “Let’s do that,” he invited him to

his car. They entered the back seat. ”

What’s it all about?”

“Well, Alfred called me over this morning to tell me some things.”

Grey raised his brows at him. “What is it all about?”

“The elders discussed overnight concerning what you told us and we’ve finally

decided on what to do,” he hesitated. “We’ve decided to go on with the plan.

Everyone is counting on the success,” he announced. Grey regarded him for a

moment. ”

Alright, but I will need all your help.”

“Yes, what can that be?”

“Call me Gregory. We are all going to my estate together. Like I told you earlier,

Fred is my instrument. Now is the time to use him.”

“So, what are we going to do with him?” Charles asked, confused.

“I will tell you about it when Gregory gets here. Tell him to meet me at home

after work. The earlier, the better,” he decided.

Charles nodded briefly. “I will do that. Till then,” he bowed slightly before he got

out of the car.

Hattie had a dark frown on her face as she entered the car. She was fuming

with anger and it was vivid on her face. Even though she didn’t spend more than

an hour in the police station, she still felt angry at the reporters that appeared at

her company that morning.

It was as if someone set her up.

“I’ve told you severally, aunt, to be careful of where you place your drugs. It

shouldn't be in the company in the first place," Giovanni scolded angrily.

If it wasn't because he didn't want to abandon her, Giovanni might have

pretended he didn't hear anything. He didn't want anything that would stain his

dignity to the whole world.

"I didn't do it," Hattie stressed.

Giovanni sighed. "Well, we have to find a way to stop the media and the internet

from publishing more stories about you," he said, ignoring her remark.

Hattie shook her head slightly. "You don't believe me?"

"Well, maybe I don't. You told me you wouldn't touch Victoria. In fact, after the

pronunciation of her death, you told me you had nothing to do with her.

Eventually, it turned out that you killed her. Now, you want me to believe you?"

Hattie huffed. "What? Are you trying to compare something like this? It's way

different!" She argued.

Giovanni adjusted his suit. "It's not because you lied in both."

“Well, I agreed that I lied about that one but I’m saying the truth about this. I had

no idea how the drugs got to my company. I left everything at home. In fact,

Grey burnt some days back,” she explained.

Giovanni scoffed.

Hattie regarded him for a moment. “Is this still because of Victoria? You love her

more than you love me?”

Giovanni looked over at her. “It has nothing to do with her.”

“Of course, it doesn’t! I’m your sister and

Victoria chose Hercules over you. Rio over you! Remember that!” She

expressed it strongly.

The words seemed to get to Giovanni and he went off for a moment before he

released a sigh.

“Who do you suspect? I mean who is courageous enough to have set you up?”

Hattie sat back and thought about it for a moment. “I have a grudge against

someone but I don’t know if he’s capable of doing this. Only Grey knows I do

drugs.

Could it be Hercules?”

Giovanni let out an exasperated sigh. Grey doesn’t use police. Why would he do

so? He’s a mafia lord. Who is this first person you suspect?”

“Grey of Victoria Skincare.”

Giovanni looked at her. “Grey? Victoria Skincare?”

Both names sound familiar to Giovanni’s ears. Well, they all pointed at Hercules.

Chapter 256: A setup

When Grey got home, Gregory and Charles were already waiting for him. It took

him a while actually because he had to sort out some things at Protos

Pubblicita.

They were having a cup of wine when he walked down the stairs after a change

of clothes.

“So, may we know what this plan is all about?” Gregory started.

Grey nodded briefly, and poured himself a glass of wine. “A big plan, Gregory,”

he took a seat beside Gregory. "The three of us will have to go to my estate. We

Enter title...

caught one of Charles' men that was spying on us and trying to find out how

Hercules looks like."

Gregory gathered his brows. "Seriously? We seems to have a lot of spies

admist us.

"Yes," Charles confirmed. "I didn't know and I've been with him for some years

now. It seemed like it was planned," he explained.

"So, Fred is still my prisoner. So, I plan to let him go. Actually, it would look like

he escaped. It will be staged," he explained.

"So, you mean that Fred would be the first person that would spread the news

about the dead Hercules?" Gregory asked.

Grey nodded briefly. "We need someone to make it credible.

"But what position will that leave Protos Pubblicita and all the companies under

it? "Charles demanded.

"Well, Protos will not take up any story concerning it. It would be as if Fred only

saw a secret of our group. So, We will act innocent about it. Though, I'm sure

Alex and the rest would want to broadcast it. I will be waiting for them anyways.

Gregory smiled softly. "I actually love this plan. When are we executing it?"

Grey thought about it for a moment. Tonight will be the best. It's easier to

escape when it's late. We will arrange it. But there's something we have to note

and that is, you guys should not mention my name. Fred doesn't recognize me,

same as Todd. So, it would be easy i partake in this plan. "

"So, who should we say is personating you?"

"Well," Grey shrugged slightly. "Anyone. We can make up anyone that they don't

know."

Gregory nodded and carefully placed the glass of wine on the table. "We should

get going then."

Grey nodded and stood.

“But Grey, why do you think Caramel is working for you? Does she know who you truly are?”

Grey shook his head briefly. “No, she has always been like that before we started dating. Let’s move!”

They arrived at the estate hours later and it was almost late at night.

Charles brought along some of his men. Gregory and Grey settled down to drink wine happily as if they had no issues in the world to bother about.

While Charles pulled aside one of the men he trusted the most. This same guy have been his friend since he was young.

Gregory doesn’t want to trust him but Grey decided to give him a trial.

“Do you understand?” Charles demanded. “I am counting on you for this.

The guy looked up at Charles as if he couldn’t believe the words coming out of Charles’ mouth.

“But this isn’t true right? The boss came to your house months back, right?”

Charles nodded briefly. "Yes, he did. The only advantage we have is that Fred wasn't around then. Gary, if you can successfully do this, the Hercules will reward you handsomely.

Gary nodded briefly. "I will do everything to make sure it works."

Charles patted him slightly and walked to join Grey and Gregory. "Let's go, Gregory.

Gregory nodded briefly and stood to follow him while Grey continued to sleep his wine.

Charles and Gregory walked towards the room. They hesitated in front of it and

Charles signalled the guards to leave.

Gregory turned to look at Charles. "What are we going to do?"

"Well, you do know there's no Hercules anywhere."

"Keep quiet!" Gregory said hurriedly.

What if the man in here hears us."

"I sent someone inside few minutes ago and he said he was asleep. That aside,

we will be eliminating him soon. So, I'm not worried about that. All I want us to discuss about is the fact that Giovanni would soon discover the truth. What will happen at that moment?" He opened the door and stepped inside.

Gregory stepped inside after him. "We should demand from this guy everything he knows. Then, we can know how to defeat Giovanni."

"Well, we need to do that because no one must know that Hercules isn't alive.

We need to protect the position until we find someone else to replace him,"

Charles replied and regarded Fred for a moment.

His head was hanging at the other side as if he was unconscious.

Gregory moved closer to Fred, took a bucket of water beside him and poured it all over him so that Fred would jerk up. No one knew if he was listening initially or not.

"Boss," Fred stressed out.

"Should we kill this guy immediately? He seemed to have heard everything we

discussed the other time," Gregory initiated.

"No!" Fred said hurriedly. "I didn't, boss. I heard nothing."

Gregory looked up at Charles, with a smile on his face. "Seriously? Why does it look like you heard something? I'm sure you know that Hercules isn't real already.

Fred kept mute, unsure of what to do. Please, spare me, "he said instead.

Gregory nodded at Charles briefly before he walked away from Fred. "You will tell us everything you know about Giovanni."

"I know nothing. I'm not really closed with Giovanni, I swear!" He yelled fearfully.

The door opened suddenly and Gary walked inside. He regarded Fred for a moment before he walked closer to Charles and whispered something onto his ears.

Charles feigned surprise as he looked at Gregory. "We need to leave now!" He said and hurried out of the room.

Gregory turned to look at Gary. "Guard him very well," he told him before he

walked out of the room as well.

Gary smiled softly as they walked out of the room. He rushed towards Fred.

“Now is the time you have been waiting for,

Fred. Giovanni is waiting for this message.”

Fred looked up at Gary, skeptical for a moment. “Who are you?”

“I work for Giovanni and I’m here to rescue you. I will help you out of this estate.

You should get to Jacksonville as fast as possible and relay this messages to

Todd so that he could tell Giovanni immediately.”

Fred was still confused. “What message?” Gary hesitated. “That it’s all an act.”

Chapter 257: Suspiciously

Grey, Gregory, and Charles left the estate late so that Fred would be able to get as further as he could.

Gary went with him, so Charles noticed. Though, he knew it was Gary that would plan his escape out of the spacious estate.

"So, it's a success?" Gregory asked when they walked out to the car earlier the next morning.

Charles nodded briefly.

"I think it is since Gary isn't even back till now."

Gregory entered the car.

"He probably wanted to make sure Fred arrived safely or to make sure it's believable."

Grey nodded briefly.

"I guess that's the case. We should go back to Jacksonville and wait for the result," he suggested.

Everyone nodded in agreement before they entered the car.

On the plane back home, Charles kept failing Gary's phone but he wasn't picking up. The job alone was tiring, so at one point, he was frustrated.

He looked over at Grey. "Do you have an idea why Gary wouldn't pick up?"

Grey darted at his watch. "It's over five hours already and we will be arriving in Jacksonville soon. Why does it feel like something is weird?"

Gregory's eyes went wide with shock. "What If he was caught? And Fred knows the truth?"

"Well, that's dangerous," Grey muttered. "Let's give him a few minutes. In the next few hours, the news should be all about it. If not, then we will realize something has really happened," he finished.

Gregory nodded briefly.

When they got down from the plane and split, Gary still hadn't replied to Charles.

Gregory went his way while Charles and Grey drove right to Beatrice's house.

"I'm starting to think of this thing more than we discussed," Charles said suddenly as they walked inside the house.

Grey moved to switch on the TV. He placed a call to Jimmy which he picked up immediately.

"Hi, boss."

"Yes, is there currently any news about Hercules?"

"No, boss. There's nothing surfacing currently. Is there something you are looking for?"

Grey cleared his throat meaningfully.

Nothing, just stay watch. I want you to notify me if you see or hear any news concerning Hercules. Make sure you are online!

"Yes, boss!"

Grey hung up and looked at Charles. *

Nothing. Everywhere is as quiet as a graveyard." He muttered.

Charles raised skeptical brows at him." Do you think we got the wrong person? Perhaps we sent a spy on a job instead?"

"What do you mean?"

"Well, what if Gary is a spy as well? I thought I could trust him but what if he's actually monitoring me like Fred was doing? It can only explain the reason why I haven't heard from him all this while."

Grey gathered his forehead. "Then, that means trouble. We might have to go for the second plan."

Charles sighed. "What's the second plan?"

"If Gary is a spy, then we will have to rule out the initial plan. It would never be possible. I will never be able to get what I want," his expression became darker at this and he felt a surge of sadness. "But I can make sure Fred and Todd don't live, and that includes Gary as well," he revealed.

Charles nodded briefly. "I understand. I will get some men to track Todd and Fred. I will get back to you when I hear anything concerning them."

He turned to leave but the ringing of his phone pulled him to a sudden stop.

Charles picked up the call.

"Yes, Thomas. Is something wrong?"

"We've found Gary, sir," the man announced.

"What?" Charles exclaimed softly. He was too shocked at the news.

Grey walked closer. "Is something wrong?" He whispered.

Charles nodded briefly. "Where is he? Did he find Fred?"

There was hesitation. "Fred escaped, boss but Gary is in the estate already. Do you want us to come to Jacksonville?"

Charles looked at Grey. "I will talk to you later. Wait for my order," he finished and hung up.

Grey raised confused brows at him. "Is something wrong?"

Charles nodded briefly. "Gary is currently at the estate. Thomas just called me that Fred escaped but Gary is back at the estate. Should we go back to the estate or let them come here?"

"Then why wasn't he picking up the call? Grey asked.

"Maybe he lost his phone or he was in a place where he couldn't pick it up," Charles released a sigh. "Does it mean that this plan is a success?"

Grey regarded him for a moment before he turned away. "I don't think so. There's too much surrounding this thing and somehow it makes me feel even weirder."

"What do you mean?" Charles probed in.

Grey thought about it for a moment and he couldn't wrap his head around it. "It felt like something had happened, something we didn't expect. I mean why isn't there anything on the news yet? It can only mean that Giovanni doesn't know about this yet or he doesn't believe it."

Charles reasoned his words for a moment. "You are right, Grey. I mean we had the thought as well. What if no one recognized Gary?"

"Well, he should have been dead," Grey looked over at him. "He wouldn't be back."

"Then there's something else to it that we don't know, right?"

Grey nodded briefly. "Tell the men to come over. If Giovanni is trying to see if we are telling the truth, then we have to give him the proof that he wants."

"What?" Charles's brows were raised.

"We have to make him believe what Fred heard. We need to act suspiciously. Tell the men to meet you at your house here and call an emergency meeting with the elders. We must settle everything quickly. He expressed it strongly.

Charles nodded and placed a call to

Thomas. He picked it up immediately. Tell everyone to come to Jacksonville immediately," he ordered.

"Alright boss, we will leave here immediately," Thomas responded.

Just as Charles moved away to call the elders, Grey stared at the door with such force that it could have broken if looks could harm.

What if Gary is a spy? What if what they did was a failure? Somehow, Grey couldn't stop thinking there was more to it.

Chapter 258: A talk

Gregory looked at Grey. "You think something is amiss?"

It was evening already and the elders gathered at Alfred's house. Thomas and Gary have arrived with the rest of the men but Charles told them to stay at his house. The meetings with the elders have to come first.

"We need to move faster. We need to make Giovanni think there's really no Hercules," Grey started.

"How do we do this?" Jayden demanded.

"Anything that will strike as suspicious. Get the men to guard my estate unnecessarily. Get a man to go to my estate dressed like me. There should be a mask and others," Grey explained.

"What do we do with Gary then?" Charles asked suddenly. "Grey feels something is way off about him."

"You need to ask him questions when he gets here. I mean he would definitely have the answers to what we want."

Grey thought about it for a moment. "Let's play it slowly. We don't really know at this moment if Gary is a spy or not. We have to be careful. And for the meantime, we still have to continue pretending

Hercules doesn't exist. Let's have more conversations about it."

Alfred nodded briefly. "Then, we can take a shift and discuss at Charles' house."

"Yes. But I, Gregory, and Charles will have to meet with Gary. We will give you feedback depending on what he says,

Grey added.

"Yes, let's do that immediately," Gregory said and stood.

Grey looked over at Alfred. "How is he?"

Alfred sighed. "Still the same. He's not showing any signs of responding to treatment. Though, the doctor said it would take a while."

Grey nodded briefly and stood. "Let's talk later then."

Grey, Gregory, and Charles arrived at

Charles' house in their cars.

Thomas was in front of the door, with his head bowed.

Charles regarded him for a moment before he walked inside while Grey and

Gregory followed. Gary was at one side. looking lost with an expression that was hard to read.

Gary was the first person that Grey watched out for the moment he was inside the living room.

Charles opened his mouth to say something but Grey beat him to it.

" Where have you been, Gary?"

Gary looked up, slowly. There was a flash of flicker across his face.

"I couldn't alert you after Fred's escape as I decided to go after him." Charles regarded Thomas for a moment. Leave with the men!" He ordered.

Thomas bowed slightly before he walked out with the others.

Charles walked closer to Gary.

"Is everything going well?"

Gary looked again.

"Yes, everything is fine," he responded.

"Then, what about_", Charles was saying but Grey cut him off again.

"Do you have anything to tell us?"

Charles regarded Grey for a moment, skeptical as to what he was doing.

Gary shook his head briefly. "I tried to stop Fred from escaping but I couldn't, I deserve death!" He bowed slightly.

"But" Charles started again but Grey interrupted him the second time. He showed a frustrated look. Gary knew what he wanted

and he doesn't even need to start explaining but Gary was acting as if he didn't understand anything, as if he wasn't the one he

planned everything with. Something was really wrong somewhere.

"Leave! We will speak to you later," Grey ordered.

Gary bowed slightly and walked out of the living room without another word.

Charles turned to look at Grey. "Why were you interrupting me?"

Grey shook his head briefly as if to make him stop talking. He instead walked towards the door, opened it, and pulled out his head to check if there was anyone around. Satisfied, he closed the door and walked back to Charles.

"Coast clear, Charles. We can talk now.

"I was going to ask Gary some questions but you were stopping me."

"Something is going on, something really strange is happening with Gary," Gregory observed.

Charles raised skeptical brows. "Then we should ask him," he was getting frustrated.

"No," Grey shook his head briefly.

"Gary doesn't want to talk. For some reasons unknown, he's avoiding talking about the plan. Why do you think that is happening?"

"Well, I was going to ask him if you hadn't stopped me," Charles stressed.

Grey shook his head again, slowly. "You aren't seeing what I am seeing, Charles. Gary is avoiding the talk because there's something else to it. For some reasons unknown to us, it looked like he was protecting us from something," he explained.

"This was why I had to check out for the men." He added.

"I think Gregory is right," Gregory chimed in. "It looks like he's scared of something."

Charles reasoned it for a moment and slowly released an exasperated sigh. "What do you suggest we should do now?"

"I will do this. Just do me a favor of separating your men between me, you, and Gregory. Then you can leave the rest to me," he assured them.

Gregory nodded. "That's cool too. I believe in your plan."

Charles nodded and walked out of the living room while Grey turned towards Gregory.

"Don't forget what you and Charles are supposed to talk about when I'm out. I'm going to be having a drive with Gary. It looks like he doesn't want to talk here for a reason and I will find out today."

Gregory nodded briefly. "I understand."

Grey nodded once and walked out of the living room. Ten of Charles' men were in the garden and Charles was discussing with them.

"Is anyone set? I need one of your men to drive me to the cinema," Grey said suddenly as he moved closer to Charles.

Charles looked at him. "Don't worry, Gary will drive you over."

"Then, I need him now," he expressed and started towards the car. Gary hurried to the car before him to pull the door open for him.

He then hurried to the driver's seat.

Where are we going?"

"Anywhere you will be very comfortable to tell me everything."

His response shocked Gary so that he looked back at him. "How did you know?"

Chapter 259: More plans

Grey relaxed in his chair. "Instinct, Gary."

Now, drive to 5star hotel and suites.

Whoever you are scared of might be watching us at this moment."

Gary nodded briefly and pulled out into the street. They barely drove a few minutes when Grey noticed a black car trailing them.

At first, it looked normal as if the car was merely driving but Grey was having his drive.

"Gary, take the left way," he ordered.

Gary nodded briefly.

"It looked like someone was after us."

Grey nodded briefly. "I've been watching the black car for a while now."

Gary took the turn and a sigh escaped him when no car followed but suddenly, after driving for some minutes, the car came from behind again.

"I said it," Grey confirmed.

"What do we do?" Gary asked, confused.

"Pull off at Alfred's restaurant. We will soon be there. It's at the right," he dictated.

Gary nodded briefly and complied.

Grey placed a call to Alfred which he didn't pick up until after the second ring.

"Hello, Hercules."

"Hi, are you at your restaurant? Or is there a way I can leave if I enter through the front way?"

"I will send a message to one of my attendants. You will be attended to when you get inside," he assured.

Grey nodded briefly just as the car pulled to a stop in front of the restaurant.

"I will need a car too because I need to leave this vicinity," he informed.

"No problem, boss. I will arrange that immediately."

"Alright," he said and hung up." Gary, get down," he ordered and did the same. He and

Gary entered the restaurant.

A young man in his twenties moved closer to them. He hesitated and brought out his phone probably to cross-check something.

Then, he nodded briefly.

"Please, follow me." He said and turned around to leave.

Grey glanced back to see if anyone had followed them in. He looked at Gary. "Let's move faster. If they won't follow us in, then they must think of staying guard to see when the car would move."

Gary nodded briefly.

They both walked through a door by the right and entered a long hallway. The only door it led to, actually led them out of the restaurant.

There was a black car outside. The man extended the keys forward.

Gary took the keys and walked to the car.

Grey turned to the other guy, "Thank you."

The other bowed slightly before he eventually walked inside while Grey moved to the passenger's seat.

And Gary drove out of the street until they were far away from 5star. He found a safe spot and pulled over.

"I think it's safe here."

"It's getting dark. So, it's going to be fine. We can talk here," Grey proposed and looked out through the window. "What is it all about?"

Gary let out a sigh.

"Fred wasn't the only spy in our midst," he announced.

Grey's head almost spun. He looked over at Gary.

"What happened?"

"He found me, while I was trying to make sure Fred escaped. Actually, it turned out that he was already planning Fred's escape.

They don't work for Todd, only Fred does. But he knew he was withheld for being the spy and he sensed that he must have seen something that would definitely be useful," he hesitated as if trying to

remember it all. I wasn't allowed to go back to the estate."

When Grey didn't talk, Gary saw it as an opportunity to continue. "I failed to understand their language. So, he found me suspicious and took me to Todd."

"So, that was why there was nothing on the news?"

"There won't be," Gary affirmed. "Because this news hasn't even reached Giovanni's ears. Todd has to believe this first and he's finding it difficult to do so," he explained further.

"But why are you still alive?"

"I had to pretend to work for Giovanni, even though none of the elders could identify me. I told them I would help them with anything I hear from you."

"That you would be a spy for us?" Grey completed and Gary shook his head briefly.

"It was the only way to survive. Even though, I got my bit of torture," he revealed and pulled up his shirt to reveal his stomach where bruises were.

Grey stared at it for what seemed like some hours. They all thought Gary had betrayed them but he was actually still working for them. Grey was right and they had to start acting suspiciously so that the plan would fall right back into place.

"So, that was why you are back?"

Gary nodded briefly. "I have to make them. believe I am with them and against you or_.

Grey cut in quickly. "Or Todd wouldn't believe what we had said. The plan wouldn't work and you will be in danger," he completed for him.

Gary nodded briefly. "I didn't know how to explain and I don't know how this would work out. It looks like a failed plan already," he lamented.

Grey watched him. "Who is this spy? And did you confirm it's just one?"

Grey nodded again. "He's just one and he's Thomas," he dropped the nutshell.

Grey smiled, really surprised about it. " Here's the first plan. Meet with Todd and let him know this___," he hesitated as he brought out his phone to record so he wouldn't forget everything he discussed with him. " Tell him I met with Gregory about Fred that escaped. Tell him we are devastated about his escape and we plan to find him and kill him before he tells Todd the truth."

Gary was shocked.

"What?"

Grey nodded briefly.

"We have to make them. believe you are really spying on us. At the same time, we want them to believeHercules doesn't exist."

Gary nodded briefly. "And what should I say about escaping from them earlier?"

"Well," Grey shrugged slightly. 'I discovered we were being tailed and directed you over here because I needed to speak withGregory in private," he smiled.

"Very simple."

Grey placed a call to Don. He wasn't just going to do the talking, he was going into action. Don would physically start looking for

Fred to make Gary's words believable.

In no time, Todd wouldn't have a choice but to believe Gary. And the initial plan would go accordingly.

Chapter 260: Murmurs

Grey placed a call to Charles on his way home. That was after he had spoken to Don and told him things he must do and how it must be visible. But he was yet to let Charles know the second spy was Thomas.

Grey had gone back to pick up his car while

Todd went home in a cab.

Charles picked up as Grey entered his house.

"Hi, Grey. Where are you?"

"I'm at home. And I was able to speak with Gary. You can come to Protos Pubblicita tomorrow so I can tell you about everything. Though, I want you to beware of Thomas. He's the new spy that was implanted by Giovanni."

"Alright, I will be there tomorrow then. But I didn't know Thomas could be the spy. Though, I still wonder what is really going I will tell Gregory to be careful too."

"Alright."

Gary walked out of the living room after speaking with Charles casually. He noticed that Charles had also changed the way he talked to him, which could only be because

Grey had informed him of the latest news. He was walking towards the garden when a hand yanked him out of the way. He stared back at Thomas.

"Where did you go, Gary?" His voice was hard and matched his expression. "Is this how you will prove to us that you are with us?"

Gary yanked his hand away. "If I say I'm with Giovanni, then I am," he said with a clear expression. "I don't have a say in where Grey or the other elders wish to go and you guys shouldn't have made it visible that you were actually tailing us," he scolded as if he was really annoyed.

Thomas let out a sigh. "I will inform them. So, anything?"

Gary nodded briefly. "Grey spoke with Alfred about Fred. They are scared that he would expose their secret. So, they are looking for him and if they find him, they will kill him. immediately," he explained.

Thomas gathered his brows. "What secret?"

Gary shook his head briefly. "I don't know. I think you need to ask Fred. It looked like he was the only one with this secret."

Thomas nodded briefly. "Cover me. I will be back in an hour."

Gary nodded briefly. "No problem. Just make sure you are back very early. I will make sure the ladder is waiting for you," he assured.

Thomas nodded briefly, in a pleasing way. "Later then." And he walked away.

Gary regarded him for a moment, with a smile spread across his face.

"What the fuck is this?" Beatrice yelled suddenly and hit the door slightly.

Grey stirred in his sleep. It took him a moment to realize it was Beatrice and she was actually trying to tell him about something. He got up, moved closer to the door, and opened it.

Beatrice wore a worried expression.

"There's ongoing news about Hercules! You need to watch it!" she said hurriedly.

She didn't even wait for his invitation before she dashed inside, took the remote and took the tv to a station.

A presenter appeared on the screen with a headline, 'Is Hercules really dead or alive?'

Grey's eyes went wide with shock for a while.

He wasn't shocked that he saw the news but because he wasn't expecting it. Could Don's attitude have triggered and made them believe there really was no Hercules?

"What's wrong? Why is there news that you are dead?" She asked, worries written all over her face.

Grey forgot that he didn't take Beatrice along in his plan.

"Beatrice, it's " he didn't complete the word when Caramel walked inside.

"Mom, I didn't know you would be here," she muttered, then looked up to the news that the Presenter was still talking about."

What! Hercules isn't alive?"

No one spoke because they didn't know how they were supposed to reply to her question. Well, it was a rhetorical question.

"I mean this isn't possible, right? How can it be? I danced with him that night!" She stressed it out.

Grey inclined his head to a side.

"I thought you said you won't be going to the party.'

Caramel sighed.

"I told you that I didn't mean to but could I have danced with an imposter?"

Grey shrugged slightly.

"Anything could have been the case."

Beatrice still had this worried expression as she watched Grey. She thought Grey was supposed to look towards keeping his identity and even revealing it, not the opposite.

Grey wasn't able to explain anything to

Beatrice that morning because Caramel insisted on driving Beatrice to work.

So, Grey had to go to SU alone.

When he entered, there were murmurs concerning the latest news about Hercules.

"Did you hear the news? I couldn't believe it! "Someone said suddenly.

"I mean it's not possible that Hercules doesn't exist! How could that have happened?"

"I even heard his name is Grey. He died ten years ago. His elders were only trying to prevent Giovanni from finding out. That was why they got someone to impersonate him,' someone explained.

"Yes!" One chimed in. "That was why he was always using a face mask. They are scared of the world knowing."

"But how then did this leak out?"

People were worried. Though, some were happy and that would include Alex and

Giovanni.

Grey stepped inside the elevator but before the door would close, three ladies walked inside and Grey noticed Tina in their midst.

"I bet Grey is a long gone case. Or maybe he's just a coward!" Tina said suddenly.

Grey felt alerted. "Are you guys talking about me?"

The ladies hesitated for a moment before they all turned to look at Grey as if they were just realizing that someone was behind them.

"Oh, you are here?" Tina stressed, with a teasing smile.

"Was I invisible? You didn't tell me I've become one of the marvels."

Tina laughed so loud and heartily as if she had been keeping it in for so long. "I thought you had Hercules with you. I didn't know it was an imposter that has been backing you up. You think you will be able to order anyone here after the truth has leaked out?"

What? Grey was flabbergasted.