

Secretly TBB 261

Chapter 261: The contract

"What!"

"You heard me right, Mr. Grey," Tina laughed and stepped out of the elevator.

Grey regarded them for a moment before he walked out as well, and towards Jane's office.

He knocked slightly and when there was no response, opened the door and walked inside. Jane was sipping her coffee.

"What's all these all about? Aren't you supposed to be prepared? We have an appointment this morning!" Grey has been pissed off already.

Jane smiled.

"Easy! I will be ready soon. Do you have to shout?" She stood. "Have you heard about the news? Turns out that Hercules was dead or do you also know about it?"

Grey sighed. "How can I? Am I at all familiar with him?"

"Well, you do receive orders from him, don't you?"

"And you as well. The last time I checked, you were the only one that could communicate with Hercules. So, I don't know why the question was being directed at me."

Jane regarded him for a moment before she burst into laughter. "Alright! You always find something to say," she stood and gathered some files on the table. Then, she looked up at Grey. "Should we leave now?"

Grey didn't talk and instead walked out of the office, towards his car.

Jane hurried after him and was able to enter the passenger's seat before Grey could pull out into the street.

"Why are you here if you can't even be cautious about your secretary on what she could say?"

"Well, Hercules didn't communicate with me. So, how do I stop people from talking? There's freedom of speech, isn't there?"

Grey released a sigh. "You are messing with trouble, Jane."

"Are you trying to warn me by using Hercules? We all know he's no more. I don't even know who I take orders from."

"Well, Charles can still fire you from work," Grey reminded her.

Jane laughed. "I was employed by Hercules. He is the only one that can sack me. Things don't work as you think."

Grey decided to disregard her. It was just for a few days anyways. Everything would soon be back to normal.

He pulled up in front of the Spinfluence company.

"Are you sure we are going to win this contract? You might want to communicate with Charles before you do this," she advised.

Grey ignored her, got down, picked up his suitcase, and went inside. Jane came up behind him after some minutes.

"Good morning," a man hurried closer to him as he stepped inside the lobby. "You must be Grey from SU world."

Grey nodded briefly. "I am. When will this start?"

"Soon. Please, follow me," he said and started walking away.

Grey and Jan followed after. They entered the elevator and stopped on the second floor.

Chris and some men were sitting at one side of the meeting table. So, Grey and Jan walked to the other side.

"You can have your seat. We will start soon," the man revealed and walked away.

Grey and Jane moved to their seat.

"Do you think it's right to be here like this?" Jane inquired.

Grey ignored her and stared at Chris from the other side who was watching him as if to make him disappear. There was this thick expression on his face and Grey knew he was determined to win the contract. But Grey was going to win at all costs and disgrace Chris.

Aman walked to the host chair. "Good morning everyone," a man said suddenly and everyone looked up at him. "We will start the auction now. As I've told you previously, this contract is worth billions of dollars but we are going to sell it for you in a small amount. That aside, we will introduce you to the CEO of this company so that you can get more contracts in the future," he revealed.

Aman got up and distributed some copies to Chris and Jane.

"We will start with 5 million dollars. Is there anyone interested?"

Jane looked at Grey. "5 million dollars?"

"I will take it," Chris said suddenly.

"We will pay 5.5 million dollars," Grey said suddenly.

One of Chris' men whispered into his ears and he looked up again. "6 million dollars then."

"This is getting deep. I know Chris is bent on having this contract," Jane whispered.

Grey ignored her remark. "7 million dollars!" He said suddenly.

Jane's mouth dropped in shock. "What! That's too much! Do you think Hercules is alive to sponsor this?"

Grey looked at Jane. "Will you like to leave or will you keep shut?"

Jane let out a sigh and kept shut.

Chris was baffled. He heard the news about Hercules that morning. And even though he was the CEO of SU, he thought he wouldn't have the time to show up at Spinfluence. He heard that the original owner of the contract was a very influential man. In fact, he owned several companies outside the city. If he could click a contract with him, it would earn him a lot of money. It doesn't really matter how much he lost in the struggle, Chris opened his mouth to say something but his secretary cut him off.

"You can't increase it more than this. It's going to affect us," she warned.

Chris shook his head. "We have to get this contract."

"But you do know that Grey is hell-bent on getting it as well and if we spend all the money on getting the contract, how are we supposed to execute it?"

Chris grunted and thought about it for a moment but the money blinded his eyes.

"I will deal with it. 7.5 million dollars!"

Don't do this, Grey. It's dangerous. We don't even have that amount of money in SU. How are we supposed to fund this?"

Grey regarded Chris for a moment.

"8 million dollars."

The man hit the table.

"And that's it! SU world is getting this contract!" He announced.

Chris hit his forehead in pain.

"Don't be sad. 8 million is too much for a contract. SU is going to be affected by it. They are going to lose!"

Chapter 262: Against the Boss

Chris felt a stab of annoyance. He had spent a lot to make sure the other antagonists were eliminated until it got to SU world. He even paid some of the workers.

Who would have thought he wouldn't be winning the contract after all the stress he had gone through?

Grey walked closer to him, with a smile plastered all over his face. "Hi, Chris."

Chris gave him a dark frown. "You must be happy that you won the contract. s

Grey laughed. "Are you expecting me to be sad? Well, it felt good to realize you lost to me."

Chris clenched his teeth together. "Have you forgotten? Hercules is dead. Do you think Alfred will help you forever? Especially after this recent news?"

"Why don't you leave that for me? But for the meantime, enjoy the loss," he finished and walked towards Spinfluence workers.

The workers of Protos Pubblicita were also murmuring and discussing the news when Grey walked inside.

A knock sounded on the door quickly.

"Mr. Grey, it's Maria."

"Alright, come inside," Grey invited.

The door opened and Maria walked inside. "Boss, is everything alright?"

Grey looked up at her, with raised brows. "Is something wrong?"

Maria nodded briefly. "A company has withdrawn and has sent a request to terminate our contract. There's current news circulating about your death. What's happening?"

Grey sighed. "A company withdrew?"

Maria nodded briefly. "Yes, they said they would need to see Hercules to believe it. They said they are only in the contract with us because of you. But what happened?"

"Don't worry about it. There's just something going on. You will get to find out soon," he hinted.

Maria regarded him for a while as realization dawned on her. "You did this yourself?"

Grey nodded briefly. "There's something I need to get. Everything will soon be over. So, just calm down and wait."

Maria nodded briefly.

The door opened suddenly and Charles stepped inside. Maria turned to bow down to him before she walked out of the office.

"Hi, Grey," Charles greeted as he walked closer and pulled out a chair. "I saw the news this morning and I was surprised. I thought we had issues yesterday. What happened today?"

Grey smiled softly. "Todd must have told Giovanni. Todd must have trusted Gary. Though, I wasn't expecting it so early as well. I was surprised too."

Charles sat up and moved closer. "But what really happened?"

"Thomas is the spy-like I told you. And well, Gary had complications because they thought he was really walking for me. So, we had to make them believe him. And judging by the news, it seems positive," he explained.

Charles nodded briefly, satisfied by the result. "Does it mean we are saved now?"

Grey looked away.

"I don't think so. We need to wait for some days. Giovanni might be watching out for us. He might want to know what we will do. And when it's all confirmed, he will withdraw all of his men," he informed.

Charles let out a sigh. "But many of our men would withdraw too and we won't be able to call them back."

"Well, for now, no but we can do that later after Giovanni has been dealt with."

"Alright."

"Tell the men to keep looking for Fred but on a low key. He and Todd still have to die," Grey ordered.

Jane released a sigh before she eventually walked inside. She received a call from Giovanni that afternoon and wondered why he would call her over.

She had actually told Giovanni that she doesn't want to have anything to do with him again.

Though, after the breaking of the news, she was, however, thinking otherwise. She would like to be with Giovanni instead of Hercules, seeing how he had been treating her these days and the fact that he was even dead.

Partnering with Giovanni would be the best for her. She could actually own the world with him.

"Good day, boss. I was surprised at your call."

Giovanni smiled and beckoned her over.

"Come and have these drinks with me."

Alex looked at Jane, regarding her for a moment, while sipping his wine.

Jane hesitated for a moment before she walked closer.

"You must be Alex, Giovanni's son."

Alex smiled softly.

"I heard a lot about you from my father. It feels good to see you are back on our side."

Jane smiled and looked at Giovanni.

"Why am I really here?"

Giovanni sat up.

"You told me you haven't seen Hercules, right? But how do you communicate?"

"Well, he was me but I haven't been able to set my eyes on him."

"Then the news could be through," Alex smiled.

"Is there anyone that seemed closer to him? Someone we can ask and confirm his identity from," Giovanni demanded.

Jane thought for a moment.

"What about Grey."

Alex stopped suddenly and gave her raised eyebrows.

"Grey Fox?"

Giovanni looked at Alex.

"What are you saying? Hercules is supposed to be Grey Fox. Which Grey Fox are you talking about?"

"What!" Jane exclaimed softly.

"What are you trying to say? Grey Fox is Hercules, alright but what Grey Fox are you talking about?"

Giovanni was also looking at Alex and expecting an answer.

"Grey fox, the CEO of Victoria Skincare and the supervisor of Protos Pubblicita."

Jane was shocked for a moment. "Wait a moment, you mean he's Grey Fox? But his resume read Grey Funnel," she revealed.

The two men looked at Jane, surprised.

"What are you saying? Grey is Fox and not Funnel. In fact, he's a friend of one of my friends. So, I'm able to get his real name. In fact, he used to be married to Avery but they have divorced," Alex explained.

Giovanni was watching and a lot of things were going through his mind. "Could Grey Fox be Hercules? If that is the case, then the news is untrue."

No," Alex shook his head briefly.

"Grey Fox isn't Hercules. I've done a DNA test and it didn't match."

Giovanni nodded briefly. "Alright, but he will be useful to us. He will tell us everything he knows." "Well, I must warn you. Grey is stronger. We will need a plan to get him."

"I can work that out," Jane said suddenly, with a smile on her face.

Chapter 263: The coffee

"We got something for SU world. Talk with Jane and deposit the amount. I can't do it from my pocket because I don't want Jane to suspect me," Grey explained.

Maria nodded briefly. "I understand. I will see her tomorrow about it. Is there anything I can get for you?"

Grey thought for a moment.

"Just get me the usual."

Maria nodded briefly and stepped out.

Grey's phone rang suddenly. It was Jamal. Grey regarded it for a moment and let it stop ringing, only for it to start ringing again.

He didn't want to pick it up in the first place because he didn't know why he would be calling.

But when the phone started ringing for the third time, Grey had no choice but to pick it up.

"Hello Hercules," Jamal boomed from the other side as if he was trying to check if Hercules was really alive.

Grey hesitated.

"Hi, Jamal. Are you calling me to confirm if the news was true or not?"

"Not really," He stammered. "I mean I got disturbed for a while. But yes, I wonder if it's true."

Grey let out a sigh. "It's not true but you are not to say a word about it. If the words get out that it's not true, then I would know you are the one behind it. It's not a threat."

Jamal swallowed harder. "No problem. I understand. I also want to inform you that you were invited to the CCS party."

"I won't be able to attend. But I will be able to participate in whatever from that day on," he promised.

"Alright. I understand. Bye for now."

Grey hung up and let out another sigh. The news was really circulating and people are getting worried. Well, it shows how much the plan was working. He would need to meet with Tiana and permit her to proceed.

A soft knock sounded on the door. "It's Jones, Boss," a soft voice reviewed.

"Alright, come in," he invited.

The door opened and Jones walked inside. "I received a message from SU world. Miss Jane would like for you to come at this moment. She said representatives from Spinfluence are suddenly around and waiting to speak with you," she explained.

Grey gathered his forehead as he looked up at her. He didn't get why representatives from Spinfluence would be in SU. But if they really are, they would no doubt want to speak with Grey since he was the representative from SU.

"Alright, be prepared. We will leave together."

Jones bowed slightly and walked out. His phone rang almost immediately and it was Tiana calling.

Grey picked it up.

"Hello, Tiana."

"Hi, boss. I heard the news."

"Yes, and I was going to call you. How are you doing by the way? How is the wound?"

"Fine boss, I feel alright though my blood still boils for revenge and it won't stop until I've taken it."

"That's great. I'm going to SU world. Meet me there. I will pick you up on my way home so that we can discuss."

"Alright boss. I will be there very soon. I will stay around so I can watch out for you when you leave."

"That's good then. See you soon," he finished and hung up.

He got up and walked out of the office, with his phone and briefcase. Jones was already coming his way.

At the sight of him, she moved to take his briefcase and they both walked to the elevator.

The elevator opened and Violet stepped out.

"Boss, I got your lunch. Are you going somewhere?"

Grey thought for a moment and looked at Jones as he stepped inside the elevator. "Take it from her. I will have it when I'm done with Spinfluence."

"Alright boss," Jones nodded briefcase and took the bag from Violet before she stepped inside the elevator too.

"Send a message to Maria and let her meet me in SU world. If Spinfluence would be seeing me now, it's great to even discuss the necessity today," he ordered.

Jones nodded briefly and took her phone to call Maria.

"Hi, good morning ma'am.," Jones continued as Grey stepped out of the elevator.

"Hercules is dead for real! I'm sure of it! That's why he doesn't come to work!" Someone said.

"Lie! He came once, didn't he?"

Grey pulled to a sudden stop as he turned to look at the three women standing together and talking about Hercules.

Then, he started towards them.

"I guess you guys don't have anything to do than gossip, right?" He said suddenly, startling them so that they turned to look at him.

"Bo.boss," they chorused together in a terrific-filled voice.

Grey regarded them for a moment.

"Jones, have these people fired immediately!"

The ladies yelled suddenly. Please boss, please! Don't fire me! I'm the only one my siblings depend on! " one of them beseeched softly.

They all went down on their knees as they beg. The others were looking at them already.

"Oh, you knew about that but you decided to gossip? You must be joking," he smiled softly and looked at Jones. "Give them the last warning," he looked at the girls.

"Be careful," he finished before he walked out of the lobby.

They took the company's car so that one of their staff can drive.

They soon arrived at SU world.

Jones moved aside to talk to Maria just as Grey entered Jane's office. The funniest and weird thing was that there was no one in the office aside from Jane.

"Welcome, Grey," Jane said with a smile.

Grey gave her skeptical brows.

"Where are the representatives?"

Just as Jane opened her mouth to say something, the door opened and Tina walked inside with coffee.

Grey regarded Tina for a moment before he looked back at Jane.

"Why aren't you talking?"

"Well, they are waiting in the other office. I will take you there but you can take your coffee. Jones said you haven't eaten."

Grey sighed.

"I will do that after I'm done speaking with the representatives. Jane shook her head. "This isn't the first time you will be having coffee here, right? I don't think you should fret because of it," she stood and picked up some documents.

Grey let out another sigh before he took the cup and sip the coffee.

Just as he was about to drop the cup, it felt like he was suddenly feeling dizzy.

And when he finally decided to place the cup on the table, he felt it slip out of his hand and hit the floor with a thud.

What the fuck was happening?

He looked up at Jane and realised she was staring at him too, with a funny expression and a teasing smile on her lips.

"Hello Grey," she said.

Grey gathered his forehead. "What did you give me?"

Chapter 264: Trapped and Framed

Grey felt his muscles contract as he tried to concentrate on Jane.

Tina was laughing.

"I didn't know he could be this weak."

"Shut up! How dare you speak to your boss like that?" Jane laughed.

"Don't worry, Grey. You only need to see someone. Don't worry, you will be fine," she assured in a teasing voice.

Grey struggled to keep his eyes open but the more he tried, the harder it got for him and he found himself on the floor.

He finally turned over so that he could be looking up at the ceiling. Don't worry," Jane walked nearer.

"You will be in safe hands. Now that Hercules isn't alive, it will be best if I take sides that benefit me."

Grey couldn't keep his eyes open any further and eventually succumbed to the nightmare.

Jones was done speaking with Maria and also taking the tea that Tina gave to her.

Actually, she told her to relax while Grey met with the representatives from Spinfluence. So, she relaxed and took her tea slowly.

The door opened suddenly and Tina walked inside.

"Hi Jones, are you done?"

Jones nodded briefly and took the briefcase. "Are you sure Mr. Grey doesn't need this briefcase?"

"Of course, he doesn't. He's done speaking with them already. In fact, he left with them already," she informed.

Jones got up. "What about his briefcase? Why didn't he tell me he was going?" She felt agitated.

Tina smiled softly. "The thing was that I forgot to inform him. He was so occupied with the representatives that I wasn't even allowed to speak with him but don't bother, he didn't ask you and he didn't get angry that you weren't close," she explained.

Jones nodded briefly.

"Thank you. I will leave then. He must have returned to the office since his car is there."

Tina nodded briefly.

"He might have. I don't know about it."

Jones nodded again and walked out of the company. She walked to the car and entered it.

"We have to leave now. I will call Mr. Grey on our way."

The driver nodded and started the ignition.

Tiana was waiting in the garage. She saw the car drive inside and when Grey and the secretary walked inside but it amazed her to see that only the secretary walked out.

She still decided to wait, perhaps Grey wasn't done with whatever he was doing inside.

Acar pulled to a stop suddenly and Maria walked out. Tiana knew Maria because Richard told her about her.

He told her several things about how she could easily access Hercules. She could go to Protos Publicita and seek Maria. Then, she could ask to see Grey through Maria. Maria has been with them and has been Grey's eyes and ears in the company.

Richard also showed her to her from afar. The only thing that hasn't happened was getting to exchange names and familiarize ourselves.

Grey must have been occupied. Maybe that was why he called Maria over. He would obviously be coming out with her.

Tiana brought a car, which made it easier for her to wait.

It took a few minutes which seemed like forever when Maria walked outside again but she wasn't with Grey.

It was at this moment that Tiana decided to ask Maria about it.

Tiana got out of the car and moved closer to Maria. "Hi, Maria."

Maria looked up suddenly, startled that her phone nearly fell from her hand. She was dialling Grey's line but he wasn't picking up. She didn't know where Grey was and has also been trying to reach him.

"Who are you?"

"I'm Tiana and you are Maria."

Maria raised skeptical brows at her. "How did you know that? Have you been stalking me?"

Tiana sighed.

"No, I'm here to meet with Hercules. He told me to come over."

Maria's eyes widened as she glanced back to confirm there was no one behind them.

"Don't use that word. Anyone can be anywhere. We call him Grey but is everything alright? I heard he left already."

"Left? No," Tiana argued.

"There's no way he would have gone out and I wouldn't have seen him."

Maria looked at her.

"Are you sure? I'm just trying to call him but he's not picking up anyways."

Tiana was starting to get worried.

"I saw him enter but he didn't come out. Only his secretary did and they drove out minutes back."

"Yes, Tina told me that he left with the representatives from Spinfluence but I'm unable to get across to him. Maybe he's somewhere very important and wouldn't want to pick up calls."

"Then why are they lying? Grey told me to come here. He wouldn't change his mind without informing me," Tiana protested softly.

Maria regarded her for a moment before she dialled Grey's line again.

"Hello Miss Maria," a voice said suddenly.

Maria creases her forehead. "Who the fuck is this? And what are you doing with Grey's phone?"

"I'm sorry ma'am but I saw it was urgent because you didn't stop calling. Mr. Grey forgot his briefcase and his two phones were in it."

Damn! Maria was shocked for a moment. She quickly looked down at the screen to confirm she wasn't calling Hercules's line.

That would have exposed the truth about him.

"Where's Grey?" Maria demanded.

"Well, I don't know. He left his briefcase with me and went with the representatives. I haven't seen him since then. In fact, I'm currently at Protos Pubblicita but he's not here," she revealed.

"Ok, I will be there for the briefcase. Don't leave work just yet," she instructed her before she hung up. She looked at Tiana.

"He isn't at work either. Are you sure you didn't miss him when he came out? He could have walked out when you weren't watching. Grey is brilliant," she announced.

"He would have called me for a change in plan."

"Well, he left his phone with Jones. So, there's no way he would have been able to inform you."

"But" she hesitated.

"He wouldn't have tried something like that in the first place. Why do I feel like something is wrong somewhere?"

Chapter 265: Kidnaped

"I don't think it's something for you to worry about. I think his plan just changed. He would definitely call you back when he gets to me," Maria suggested.

Tiana shook her head briefly.

"There's no fucking way I would leave like this. If something didn't happen, he would have gotten back to me," she argued softly

Maria shrugged briefly.

"Grey is very strong and brilliant. And I don't think you know him that much. He could have changed his mind because of one thing or the other," she revealed.

Tiana huffed and turned away.

"I'm not leaving here until I see Grey."

Maria regarded her for a moment before she walked to her car and drove out.

Tiana moved to her car and continued to watch out for Grey. She felt that something was really wrong somewhere. How could Grey have left and she didn't see him?

Truly, he was the boss and could change plans at any time. He could do anyhow he seemed fit but there was something else wrong. Why would the workers lie about it?

And that made it look even more suspicious.

On a second option, she took her phone to call Charles since he was the only one whose number she had with her.

Charles didn't pick up until the third ring.

"Hello, Tiana. Is anything wrong? Why are you calling me?"

Tiana cleared her throat meaningfully. "I don't know why Maria isn't seeing it as something but has Hercules ever forgotten his phone in the briefcase?"

Charles went shut for a moment. "Well, Grey isn't careless. Is something wrong anyways?"

"Well, he has refused to come out of the SU world company after telling me to come over. That aside, I've tried calling him only to discover that he left his phone in the briefcase and his briefcase is with his secretary. Do you find that weird?"

Charles thought for a moment. "Well, that's it. Where are you?"

"I'm in the garage and I'm waiting patiently for Hercules to come out. But I've been here for a while now and he's nowhere to be found. I'm kind of bothered," she explained.

"Keep watching. I will be there soon." And the phone went off.

It was almost seven because Tiana have been waiting for a while. Suddenly, she was feeling sleepy.

She woke up suddenly to the screeching of the car. Several men walked out of the car and then suddenly, Grey was pushed into the boot.

Tiana placed a call to Charles again but he didn't pick up. When the car drove out, Tiana followed. She placed another call to Charles and this time, he picked it up.

"Hello, where are you? Some guys just took Grey away."

"What!" Charles yelled from the other side. "Where are you now?"

"I'm tailing them. I will let you know when they pull off but I think you should get the men ready," she advised.

"Alright, always update me.

Charles was relatively far from Jacksonville. So that was why he didn't get to Tiana immediately after she called. He in fact just arrived in Jacksonville. He placed a call to Alfred but he didn't pick up until the third ring.

"Hi, Charles. How are you doing?"

"I'm fine but Grey isn't. I just receive a message from Tiana that Grey was captured," he revealed.

"What? Captured by who?"

"I don't know but Tiana is tailing them and would give us feedback but I think we should get prepared for the hardest possibility," he explained.

Alfred was still not believing it. "How did this happen? Grey isn't soft meat. He's skilled in martial arts and he has the skills."

"Well," Charles shrugged slightly. "It could be planned. Grey must have been trying to get something."

"Without informing us? That doesn't make any sense, Charles. Grey would inform us if he has a plan or something," Alfred protested.

"What if it's something he thought of immediately? Well, he called Tiana over. It must have been it. Should I come over to your place or where are we meeting? We need to get the men ready," he informed.

"I will call you back soon after gathering up the men," he finished and the line went off.

Charles placed a call to Tiana to monitor where she currently was.

Grey felt something warm touch him, then he felt himself being moved. The potent of the drugs was much that he couldn't really fight back even though he was almost awake.

But something was confusing to him. Who was Jane working with? And why did she drug him? Does she know he was

Hercules? Does her sender know?

Well, she wouldn't have said what she did the other time if she knew. Though, Grey wasn't so sure about her sender.

He couldn't believe Jane could work against him but the fact that he was starting to know who his enemies were made it all so pleasing. He is certain anyways, that he would escape that place.

He remembered his phone suddenly. If Jane laid her hands on them, it would be easy for her to know who he was. He was always holding the phone for Hercules.

Grey was made to sit. He was able to relax his head against the chair and finally look up at the man in the room. The man was fixing a rope around him to bind him to the chair.

"Anything on him?" A deep voice asked.

And that was when Grey remembered he kept his phone in his briefcase when he walked out of his office in Protos Pubblicita. Thank goodness he did.

"Nothing! He has been searched thoroughly on the way here," a different voice responded.

"It's the drug going to wear off now?" A deep but familiar voice asked.

"Yes boss," the other voice responded again.

Grey managed to concentrate on something and saw a man in front of him.

"Hello Grey," the familiar voice said excitedly, and when Grey concentrated more on him. He saw that it was Giovanni.

What?

Chapter 266: Mission Accomplished

"You look so surprised," Giovanni laughed.

"What am I doing here?" Gre asked in deep tones .

"Am I here because I refused to withdraw from CCS?"

Giovanni laughed.

"You have issues to settle with me, Grey. Then you can bother about other things with Hattie."

Grey huffed.

"So, I was right?"

Giovanni gave a clear expression. "About what?"

Grey regarded him for a moment.

"Hattie is scared of losing. I mean isn't she sure of herself?" He teased.

Giovanni held a dark frown.

"I need you to answer some questions or you might actually start paying for blabbing your mouth earlier, especially what you did at the auction," he warned.

Grey found himself laughing.

"Oh, you were pained?"

Giovanni released a sigh.

"You do speak with Hercules. Have you seen him before? Is the news right?"

Grey sighed. 'You should be asking Jane this question. She used to be close with Hercules. Isn't she the secretary?"

"Not anymore Grey, after you came," Jane stepped out.

Grey looked up at her.

"So, it's pay time?"

Jane shrugged slightly. "My loyalty lies with Giovanni."

"And you work for Hercules?" Grey was shocked.

"Well," she hesitated. "I've always worked for Giovanni until recently. Then I realised he's the one I should have been with."

Grey smiled softly. He thought of giving Jane a second chance but it wasn't worth it at all. And he knows exactly what to do.

Grey looked at Giovanni. "I won't say anything. Do you want to kill me? You can go ahead with it."

Jane smiled. "I told you he knew something but he wouldn't say it. He's quite stubborn," she remarked.

"Well, you wouldn't just die. I will kill everyone you love. And I will make sure you die slowly," Giovanni threatened.

Grey clenched his teeth at him and pretended to be angry but deep down, he was glad the plan would work in such a way.

"You won't get away with it, Jane."

"Oh, are you going to tell Hercules about it?" Jane had this calm look on her face.

Grey didn't answer.

'You will be killed, Grey but well, that will be easy. So, both options would lead to death," Jane revealed.

"I don't like when someone wastes my time," Giovanni said suddenly and Grey looked up at him.

Grey hesitated for a moment as if he was struggling with the words. "I've never spoken with Hercules because Charles was always the one I do speak with. Though, I heard that he was Grey Fox."

"And you? Why did you bear Grey fox?"

Grey looked away.

"My father loved Hercules. So, he named me after his son. He died a long time ago and I decided to use this name instead of his," he explained.

Giovanni stood well. He looked satisfied by the explanation.

"So, you doubt he was alive?"

"No, he's not," Grey said suddenly. "I was the man behind the mask."

"What!" They all exclaimed.

Alex rushed forward and grabbed Grey by the collar. 'You what? You were the one in the billionaire party? You were the one that danced with Caramel?"

Grey nodded briefly and Alex hit him across the face angrily.

'You bastard! How dare you! If she hadn't come, would you have seen her to the extent of dancing with her?" Alex yelled to his face. He felt so upset that he was fighting with a silly guy like Grey. Grey was nobody.

Grey spat out blood.

"You were the one that sent the invite?"

Alex didn't answer, instead, he turned away from him with a grunt. But Grey got the reply immediately.

"This is even getting more interesting. Grey Fox pretended to be Hercules?" Jane was flabbergasted.

'You were the one giving me those orders?"

Grey nodded briefly. At first, he decided to hide his identity but with the question that Giovanni asked, he decided it would make his story believable if they knew how close he was to the elders of Hercules.

"If my briefcase was with me, you would have confirmed. The elders asked me to pretend to be Hercules in the meantime. That's why I use the face mask," he explained further.

"I don't believe this is really happening. Grey has been pretending all these while and we never knew. It was him that demoted me!" Jane bellowed at him.

"And you will die a hundred times for it!" She was so angry. She remembered the embarrassment she had to go through after she was demoted and Grey was elevated. Not knowing it was Grey that was doing everything.

Grey smiled softly, satisfied. Well, he was the one but what they didn't know was that he was really Hercules and he has the right to do it. The issue was complicated. Grey was playing a chess game and these people were like pawns in his hands.

"So, Hercules is really dead? He doesn't exist? Then, you were the one that revealed my identity?" Alex asked suddenly as he turned to look at Grey.

"No wonder the DNA didn't match."

Grey feigned surprise. "What DNA?"

"I had a test done on you and confirmed that you aren't Hercules but now that you have explained this, it's clear you intentionally became my friend to get my identity." Alex fired at him.

Alex was really annoyed as the pieces came together. Grey was really concerned with Pablo until the news spread that he was Giovanni's son. Grey intentionally came to reveal his identity. Then, he moved closer to Caramel and was still acting like he was Hercules.

"So, that means he's the one committing the atrocities? He lied that he couldn't fight but he was so skilled in martial arts," Giovanni noted.

"I'm sure he's also the one that set Hattie's up," Alex remarked and turned to look at Giovanni. 'What do we do now?'"

Giovanni looked at Grey.

"You will do like I've said and we are withdrawing the men since it has been confirmed that Hercules is long gone. The elders won't have a say," Giovanni decided.

Grey felt a surge of happiness. Mission accomplished!

Chapter 267

"What do we do with him?" Alex demanded.

Giovanni hesitated on his way out and looked back at Grey.

"He can't leave," Jane burst in immediately.

"He saw me already. If we let him go, he would definitely tell the elders about me and they wouldn't let me off so easily," she complained.

Alex nodded briefly. "Yes, that's right. That aside, I find it hard to think of the reason why he was trying to move close to me when he was working with Hercules' men."

"Well, he obviously wanted to uncover your identity which he succeeded. He's very dangerous as Jane has said. So, kill him,"

Giovanni decided before he stepped out.

Alex looked at Grey for a moment before he followed Giovanni.

"Should we just kill him?"

"An accidental death. We have to make it look like he killed himself."

"What?" Alex raised skeptical brows.

Giovanni stopped to look at him.

"Grey killed himself because he felt guilty about impersonating Hercules. He wasn't threatened but when the news came out, he decided to end his life. But before that, we need to spread news that Grey

has been the one impersonating Hercules."

"So, what type of death should we give him?"

"Anything, Alex. Think! That's why you are my successor," he whined, turned around and left.

Jane stepped out with the rest of the men, not after sending him a dirty stare, i

It was getting very dark now and Grey started to think of a way he could communicate with the rest. He might actually die if he doesn't. Though, his hand was already working its way behind him.

Even though it was taking forever, Grey knew he would be able to get off the ropes and save himself before they would stage his death.

Something dropped on the floor in the dark or maybe it was someone.

Grey stopped applying force and looked towards the direction from where the sound came from.

Tiana walked out of the dark. "Hercules," she started but Grey shushed her up.

"Don't! They are on the other side of the door," he whispered to her.

Tiana nodded briefly. "I've called Charles and he's on the way here with the men. I will cut the rope and escape you through the window," she explained.

"No," Grey shook his head briefly. "No, I can't leave now. I need to make them think I'm really dead."

"No," Tiana nodded briefly. "They are going to make you have an accident so that it would look like you killed yourself."

"Tell Charles to stick near, I'm going to get out of the car before it hits whatever so it would look like I really died," he explained.

Tiana hesitated for a moment before she slowly nodded. She stretched out a small knife. "You will need this then."

Grey took the knife and nodded briefly.

"Is there anything you want me to do?"

"Follow me when they set it up but make sure they don't see you. Stay off if they are staring. I will get out on my own," he assured her.

Tiana nodded briefly and moved backward, just as the door creaked open. She was already in the dark when the men walked back inside.

"Take him. Use the car," Alex said as he watched Grey.

"You won't get away with this, Alex!"

Alex smiled victoriously. "Unfortunately for you, I have. And I'm going to let Caramel know who you really are. She will eventually be mine."

Grey clenched his teeth against him, in rage as the men pulled him forcefully towards the door. He managed to hit the knife very well as he was led out of the room.

There was a car waiting on the side of the road. The street was a quiet one and judging the time of the night, there were no cars passing by.

"Finally! I am going to win, aren't I?" Hattie laughed. Though, she was still confused as to why Grey was so close with Hercules.

Though, they were all relieved that he wasn't Hercules and that Hercules was dead.

Grey was pushed inside the car and the car engine was switched on before the door was slammed shut.

Just as the car started moving, Grey started using the knife to cut the ropes.

It was when Grey got on the bridge that he knew what Alex was really planning. There was no way he would survive if he fell off the bridge.

Though, the ropes would make it confusing. Well, maybe Alex's men were going to take it off before the reporters would confirm him.

The ropes were off successfully but the car was still moving. Alex tried to open the door and saw that it was jammed.

Problem!

He hit against the door severely as the car moved faster towards the side of the bridge.

Grey used his knife to hit the door severely until it shattered. Then he pulled out so he could open the door from outside.

He grunted as he struggled harder. The glasses stabbed into him but that didn't stop him until he had succeeded in wrenching the door open

He rolled out just in time for the car to drive off the edge and hit the water underneath.

Acar pulled to a stop beside him suddenly and Charles stretched out his head. "Get inside Grey!"

Grey nodded as the door opened for him. He struggled inside and Charles turned the car around.

"Are you alright, boss?" Tiana asked suddenly.

Grey looked up at her. "Tiana, how did you find me here?"

Tiana smiled. "Long story," she looked down at the blood on the chair. " we need to get you to the hospital."

Grey held his bleeding hand to suppress the blood from coming out. "I'm fine. Call me Jimmy and Maria. Giovann is definitely going to spread news about me being the one impersonating Hercules. We will need ours as well. We need a clarion call to our men."

"What?" Alfred raised skeptical brows.

Grey smiled softly.

"It's time for Hercules to appear."

Chapter 268: Comeback

Leo couldn't stop pacing. He felt restless, not after what he heard about Grey.

He walked to the living room and saw that Alfred wasn't back. It could mean that Grey might be in severe danger. The thought of it increased his heart beat.

Actually, Leo remembered everything. He was just scared of letting Grey know the truth. He felt guilty anyways, that was why he stood off all these years. He couldn't bring himself to face Grey and tell him the truth.

But if something really did happen to Grey, what would be his existence in life? And would Grey ever forgive him if he kept shut about it and pretended he didn't remember anything?

He hit his head several times as the front door opened. He stopped and looked ahead as Alfred walked inside, followed closely by Charles and Grey and a lady he didn't seem to recognize.

Grey hesitated to look at Leo. "Is he," he turned toward Alfred.

"Alright?"

Alfred nodded briefly as he pulled out his phone to call a doctor.

"Any first aid box? He won't stop bleeding!" Tiana called out.

"On it," Alfred responded and hurried inside, still on the call.

Leo felt dumbstruck. He wanted to talk initially but the boldness left him. He doesn't even know how to start. The words felt too strong for him to say. But he would need to talk about it sooner than later.

"I will speak with Maria and Jimmy tomorrow. I will be here by morning. I don't want Giovanni and the rest to suspect anything," Grey said as Tiana started applying first aid treatment to his hand.

"Alright. I will tell them that," Charles stood and was about to step out when he stopped and turned toward Grey. "When are we having the meeting with the men?"

"Giovanni will call off the men today but it might be tomorrow before every one of them leaves. The men will take note of this. We will have a tag that will be presented to our men for identification for now. The meeting will be held tomorrow night on the ship. I will make my comeback," he swore.

Charles nodded briefly and regarded Leo for a moment before he stepped out.

Grey looks down at Tiana. "You are taking your revenge tonight. Fred and Todd will die," he assured.

Tiana looked up at him for a moment. "I want to be the one to kill them."

"Access granted," and he pulled out his phone and placed a call to Don. He picked it up immediately.

"Good day boss."

"How about the assignment I gave you?"

"Secured boss. I'm in the club where Todd is currently. He seemed to be happy as if he was celebrating something."

Grey smiled. He must be happy that Grey was gone and Hercules wasn't alive to start with.

"And Fred?"

"With him, boss. They are really having a celebration. Though, men are guarding them."

"Good. Take the men, Tiana will be with you soon. Give her the opportunity to shoot the bullet through their hearts."

"Understood boss!"

Grey hung up and looked at Tiana.

"I want to hear the news tomorrow. I want to see them dead."

Tiana sobbed slightly.

"I will avenge my son's death and make you proud," she finished with the bandage and left.

Alfred returned inside.

"The doctor is on his way. What's your plan? If Giovanni spreads the news about you, you won't only have to show your face to Giovanni but to the world as well. Are you up for it?"

Grey turned away.

"I am but it's not yet the time. Giovanni wouldn't be able to spread anything about me if they don't see any corpses in the river. They would be confused, while they are at it, we will drop ours. With Todd's death, it would be more complicated."

Alfred nodded briefly

"Excellent idea, Grey. I love the way you reason. Are you staying over tonight?"

Grey shook his head briefly.

"I have to return home. I have some explanation to give to Beatrice."

That aside, he needed to stop Alex from seeing Caramel.

"You can take one of my cars then."

Charles walked inside. "Maria is on her way here with your briefcase and phones," he announced.

'Tell her to go to my house. I will meet her there. No one must see her come here. It will be dangerous for her. And we don't know who might be spying on her."

Charles nodded briefly and stepped out to call Maria again.

The door opened almost immediately and the doctor stepped inside. "I'm sorry for coming late, is everything alright?"

"Just make sure the wound doesn't get infected," Alfred told him and he got to work.

Grey sighed.

"I'm fine though," he complained.

Within some minutes, Grey was done and was already driving home alone. He told Charles to go home. They would plan the necessary tasks by the next day.

Grey got a call from Tiana a few minutes ago that they were at the club already.

Acar suddenly appeared out of nowhere and pulled over in front of him, thereby blocking his way. He was forced to pull over as well.

Did Giovanni already realise he wasn't dead? That he sent men after him? That wasn't really possible. It has to be someone else.

The door opened and some men hurried out of the car, holding metals and baseball sticks. They had this dangerous look on their faces.

Grey didn't do anything and just watched them move closer to him.

"Hey! You must be Grey right?" one of the men demanded.

Grey nodded briefly. It was already confirmed at that moment that it wasn't Giovanni or Alex that sent the men after him.

Then, who can this be?

'Yes, what can I do for you?" Grey feigned an innocent look.

"Get the fuck out!" one of the men yelled at him as he pulled the door open by force.

Grey looked up at them.

"Who sent you?"

One of the men held him by the collar and pushed him against the car.

"No problem. Since you will be dying tonight, we might as well answer your question. Lawrence sent us."

Chapter 269: About Grey

Grey was shocked for a moment. He couldn't believe it.

"Lawrence sent you guys to kill me?"

"Yes because you are the only one preventing him from getting a contract with Protos Pubblicita. Why do you have to do something like that? You aren't even the owner of the company. You are just a mere worker. And when you are gone, he will eventually get what he wants," the man explained.

Grey smiled softly. He didn't think that Lawrence would result in something so dirty and that he was really going to destroy him finally.

"Hey!" The man yelled again.

"Why are you smiling? What's so funny!" The facial expression changed as he raised his hand to hit Grey's face but Grey caught it quickly, squeezed it, and kicked him by the leg.

A cry of horror escaped him as the other men rushed towards Grey.

Grey dodged a punch and gave the closer man an uppercut. He kicked another one and rushed punches to the closer men.

Within minutes, they were all lying on the floor and groaning.

"Now send this to Lawrence.

"He's long gone!" He spat out, entered his car, and drove off.

Lawrence told the men to be careful anyways because Grey was skilled as he had to fight his security when he refused to give him his salary. But the men weren't expecting a strong man like him.

When Grey entered the house, Maria rushed forward, his phone was ringing and it was Aphrodite.

Grey took it but he didn't pick it up. Instead, he looked up at Maria.

"Thanks for bringing my briefcase. You can go home now or do you want me to have one of my men take you home?"

"I will go on my own but what really happened to you? Tonia was right, You have never left your phones behind."

Grey regarded her for a moment. "Follow Charles's words and meet me at Alfred's house tomorrow. We will discuss more," he finished and went up the stairs while dialling Aphrodite's number because the phone had stopped ringing.

Aphrodite picked up immediately. "Grey! What the fuck am I hearing about you? What was that? Why is there news about your death? I was scared for a moment."

"Calm down, Novia. You are too fast for me and what was I supposed to answer to you first?"

Aphrodite sighed.

"I was worried to death and I've been calling your number for a while now but you wouldn't pick up. What is really happening?"

Grey sighed and sat. "I was kidnapped by Giovanni."

"What!" Aphrodite exclaimed softly. "Does he know who you are?"

"No, he doesn't and I intentionally spread the news about me. It's all a plan and everything is going well already," he explained.

Aphrodite released a sigh. "Are you sure?"

"Trust me, Novia. I have this under control. Is everything fine over there and when are you coming over?"

"Well-", she thought about it for a moment.

"Everything is fine actually but I'm not sure when I will be back. You can tell me whenever you need me and I will hurry home."

"Alright. Don't worry, I have everything in control."

Novia released a relieved sigh.

"Alright then, take care."

And the phone went off.

Grey sighed and dropped the phone on the bed. A soft knock sounded on the door suddenly.

Grey looked up.

"Yes, come in."

Beatrice stepped inside with a tray of food. "I got you some food. Charles gave me a hint of what had happened. So, I figure you must still be very hungry at what I did."

Grey nodded once as a smile spread across his face. "Are you mad at me?"

Beatrice shook her head once. "No, I'm not. You must always have a reason for anything you do. You aren't a kid anymore anyways."

Grey looked at her.

"You might see Hattie before I complete my plan. Don't let it bother you. Just trust me."

Beatrice smiled.

"I trust you already."

Grey regarded the phone for a moment before he placed a call to Caramel.

Caramel was in the bedroom when one of the maids came to tell her that Alex wanted to see her.

Caramel debated quickly in her head if she should see him or not. She definitely didn't want to talk to him anymore but she wondered why he was there that night.

Just as she stepped out of the bedroom, her phone rang.

She stepped out into the living room and regarded Alex for a moment before she moved closer. Alex had his back on her as he continued to look at the frame.

"It's so late in the night. Why are you here?"

Alex turned around to look at Caramel.

"Hi," he smiled.

Caramel sighed. "Hi, what do you want to tell me so badly that you can't wait till tomorrow?"

"You could have offered me something, Caramel. You didn't even tell me to sit. Where are your manners?"

Caramel sighed.

"I'm sorry about that. Can you sit? Do you want something? But you clearly saw how late it was. I really want to go back to bed. There's a load of work for me tomorrow."

"I heard you work at Protos Pubblicità?" He sat, ignoring his remark.

Caramel hummed a reply.

'You seem to know everything since you are Giovanni's son.'

Alex smiled softly.

"Why don't you come over to my place? If you desperately wanted a job, I could give you any position you want."

"Well, if you had told me this earlier and not lied to me about who your parents were. Perhaps, we wouldn't be in this situation?"

Alex cleared his throat. "Are we going back to that?"

Caramel grunted and looked away.

"Anyways, we should bury the hatchet already. I'm ready to give you a position in my father's company."

Caramel raised her brows at him.

"Is that why you are here?"

Alex regarded her for a moment before he relaxed.

"No, that's not why. I'm here to tell you about Grey. Grey isn't who you thought."

Chapter 270: Triggers

"What?" Caramel saw his hesitation but was already curious as to what he was going to say. She didn't know if it had anything to do with the strand of hair that she sent to him instead of the real one.

Or could the one she sent match with whoever Alex was trying to compare it with? That would seriously mean trouble for Grey and she couldn't wait to alert him.

"Grey has been lying to you a lot, to me."

Caramel huffed.

"You lied to him too, remember? At least you didn't tell him you were Giovanni's son."

"Well," he hesitated for a moment.

"Do you know it was Grey that actually exposed my identity?"

Caramel stared at him for a moment as the words sank in. "What do you mean?"

"Grey tricked me and made me expose everything to him for the sake of a friend. I thought he was my friend but instead, he exposed me to the world."

Caramel sat well.

"I sincerely don't understand all you are trying to say. What's your point about Grey exactly? Because I trust him more than I trust you. Do I even trust you? I doubt that."

Alex felt hurt for a moment and his face showed a display of emotion but it soon disappeared and Caramel had to wonder if she really saw anything.

"Grey has been the one impersonating Hercules," Alex dropped the bombshell that left Caramel dumbstruck for some minutes

When she finally regained her voice, she couldn't help but burst into laughter.

"Are you kidding? Is this a form of prank? If this is a trick, stop it. I'm not in the mood," she protested in a hatred-filled voice. She was starting to get irritated. Alex lied to her before and she knew he would do it again.

"You don't believe me?"

Caramel snapped. "Thank goodness you asked. I'm sure you don't think I'm dumb to that extent. There was no fucking way I would believe you."

"Have you seen Grey with Don? The guy that patrols Megaphone Attitude club?"

And her head did a little flash as images appeared in her head. She remembered vividly when she had issues in Megaphone

Attitude Club. Grey had to deal with Don and his men. Though Grey denied anything and told her that he gave them his salary.

Caramel still felt it was a lie as she overheard tiny pieces of their conversation and it looked as though Don feared Grey. Caramel knew he had a form of power but she couldn't figure it out and she had to stop searching or probing.

But Wait! Alex said he was impersonating him which means Grey wasn't Hercules.

"How do you know all these? I mean it's not positive. Why will Grey impersonate Hercules? Grey doesn't even have any money. He's a lonely and poor man. Are you jealous of him?"

Alex regarded Caramel for a moment. He got pissed at her words but he pretended otherwise. Well, some things could be very difficult to believe. And besides, it would Favour Alex so greatly if Caramel hates Grey. It would give him the chance to move back with her.

"No, Caramel. Listen to me. You might have seen something but you just didn't reason it very well. Charles is closer to Grey."

"Can't he be? Charles is a senior to Grey at Protos Publicita," she defended.

Alex shook his head briefly. 'The reason why I asked you for Grey's strand of hair was so that I could run a test on it and see if it matches Hercules' DNA. Well, it didn't but he told me the truth."

Caramel's heart made a sudden thud. She suddenly didn't know what to believe.

"Jane confirmed it. Grey was just to make the world thinks Hercules still lives when he clearly died ten years ago."

Caramel was still skeptical. 'That's not possible!' She argued the more.

'The man that danced with you at the billionaire party was Grey. That was why he was able to fish you out from the rest of the audience. You didn't wonder how you caught his fancy?"

Caramel couldn't give a direct answer as she kept thinking in her head. She found it strange that day too.

The way Hercules held her felt like Grey but she didn't want to think abt it because it wasn't possible. Grey was poor but

Hercules was a whole different person.

"Why would Grey impersonate Hercules?"

"I just told you that, Caramel. Hercules is dead. He has every reason to. Charles and Alfred must have approached him for this. It could be the reason why he's currently doing well financially. Imagine his company growing so fast."

'That!" Caramel said quickly.

"Has nothing to do with Hercules!"

"But it won't change the fact!" Alex imputed.

"Grey impersonated Hercules for his good and he lied to you!" His voice raised above normal as if to make her believe it by force. Caramel shook her head slowly. Why would Grey be doing something like that and she wouldn't know? He couldn't even tell her anything.

Caramel stood.

"No! You are lying!"

"No Caramel. I might have kept things from you but I never lied. I just tried to keep you from finding the truth but I didn't lie to you. So, why would I start doing so now?"

Caramel couldn't believe it all.

"I'm going to interrogate Grey! I'm really going to speak with him."

"Really?" Alex laughed and stood.

"You still have an ounce of trust in Grey but not in me? You can still wait to speak to Grey but you can't do so with me? We've been together for years, but Grey just came."

"Don't!" Caramel said quickly, almost choking on her tears.

"Don't compare you two because you are totally different! And I don't want to continue talking to you!" Caramel finished and hurried inside her room leaving Alex staring dumbfounded.

She didn't know what to do. Was she supposed to go to Grey's house? Was she supposed to call him?

"Caramel! You should hear me out. I'm not done taking," Alex banged on the door softly and when she didn't open up, he did.

"Don't try to speak with Grey, Caramel because you won't see him. He's dead."

Caramel almost stopped breathing. The shock kept her motionless and speechless for a very long time.