

Secretly TBB 291

Chapter 291: Confession

Grey stared at the plane until it was out of sight. It felt like a pair of him had disappeared and as if he wouldn't see it again. Well, Grey had always battled with love and the relationship with Caramel was his first best one. It felt bad that he was losing it because of who he was. And no way could change. There was no way he would run from his responsibilities, from his existence.

His phone rang suddenly, jerking him out of his thoughts.

"Hello, Alfred."

"Hi, Grey. Leo wants to speak with you and all the elders. I think we should meet at my house as fast as possible," he suggested.

Grey squeezed his forehead in concentration. "Why? What does he want to say?"

Alfred sighed. "I think you should be there to hear him out. It's not something I should say but I think it has to do with something from the past," he hinted.

"Has he remembered anything?"

"Well, yes."

Grey groaned. "And why do I need to hear him out? It's all clear that he killed my father and also shot me. He tried to kill me, what other explanation does he want to make? He would just make me want to kill him." He spoke through his clenched teeth.

"Grey, please. I want you to just listen to him. Let's see what he's on with. Please, Hercules," he beseeched softly.

Grey thought about it quickly. "Alright, I will be there soon."

Leo had sweaty hands before the elders would arrive. He could stop thinking if his decision was the best. He knew what the result would be but he doesn't care anymore.

He would die nonetheless. What if Hercules discovers he was a spy? He would definitely kill him.

The door opened and Alfred walked inside. "Are you ok, Leo?"

Leo looked up at him and nodded briefly. "Yes, I'm fine. I just need to get this out of my head as soon as possible because danger looms ahead," he hinted.

Alfred nodded briefly and pulled off his suit jacket. The door opened again and there of the elders walked inside; Jayden, Luciano, and Gregory.

'What's this all about?" Gregory demanded.

"Well," Alfred nodded once. "Let's wait for Hercules."

Leo couldn't say a word, instead, he had his head bent in fierce concentration as if he was praying for redemption or fortifying himself for what was about to come.

The door opened again and Aphrodite stepped inside. She hesitated before he moved to sit. "Is this supposed to be a scary meeting? No greetings? No smiling?"

"It's very urgent and dangerous, Aphrodite," Luciano hinted.

Aphrodite sighed and crossed her long legs. "Ok, guess I only have to be patient."

"I'm impatient," Gregory groaned.

"Come on, Gregory!" Alfred called suddenly.

Gregory shrugged slightly. "What? I have works to do."

'We all have but this is equally important," Alfred informed him.

The door opened suddenly and Grey stepped inside, followed quickly by Charles. He hesitated as he looked at the elders before he moved to sit.

"I hope this is worth it," Grey muttered.

'What the fuck is going on here? What are you going to say, father? Remind us about the fact that you were the one that killed Grey's father?" Charles yelled in annoyance.

"Calm down, Charles. Let's hear him out," Aphrodite voiced out.

Charles glared at Leo before he moved to sit. "Fine!"

Alfred sighed and looked at Leo. "We are all set now. You can start talking," he gave him the initiative.

Leo didn't respond for some minutes, his head still bent. Then he slowly looked up.

"To begin with, I didn't forget anything. In fact, I didn't suffer from memory loss, to begin with."

Grey huffed.

"So, you were pretending?"

Leo nodded briefly. "Yes because I didn't want to explain but I think it's the right time I do."

Grey scoffed. "Ok, we are all ears."

Leo regarded Grey for a moment. "Charles was at gunpoint," he shook his head slowly. "Giovanni had him at gunpoint."

Charles sat up. "What? When?"

'Ten years ago. I was at home when I had a phone call. It was from Giovanni and he told me he had Charles at gunpoint. I was supposed to do what he wants or Charles would die instantly."

At this point, no one could say a word. They all were getting so interested in what he was saying. They all were curious as to what Leo was going to say.

"I-," Leo hesitated. "The deal was simple. I was supposed to kill Rio and Grey to save Charles."

"What!" It was Luciano that yelled while some were even too shocked to say a word.

"And you did it?" It was a rhetorical question from Charles. "I mean you were willing to offer two lives for my sake?"

Leo held Charles's gaze. "I couldn't let you die. Also, Giovanni was going to have someone else kill Grey and Charles if I don't kill Rio and Grey. And I saw it as an opportunity to save Grey," he looked over at Grey whose expression was blank.

'Wait, you saved me?" Grey couldn't believe it. No, he couldn't believe the fact that the man that killed his father was the one that rescued him.

Leo nodded briefly. "I shot you and took you to the orphanage," he revealed.

Grey stood immediately. His head was reeling. "Wait, I'm still not getting this. You mean it was Giovanni that made you kill my father?"

"This is a mess!" Aphrodite muttered. "Giovanni has been the enemy all these while?"

"But you shouldn't have!" Charles yelled, he was crying. "You shouldn't have done that!"

Alfred looked at Leo for a moment. 'Why didn't you tell me anything? Why didn't you tell Rio? If you had, we would have sorted it out.'

The tears streamed down Leo's face in regret. "I had just a few hours.

There was no time to talk."

"But that didn't justify anything!" Charles yelled.

"I know," Leo sucked in a breath. 'There's more,' he said suddenly and everyone turned their attention to him again. "Giovanni knows who the real Hercules is."

Chapter 292: Revenge

"What!" They all uttered at once excluding Grey and Charles. Grey's gaze was firm on Leo as if he could eat him alive. If looks could kill, Leo would be dead already.

Charles on the other hand was bitter with regrets as if it was his fault that Grey's father was killed. Maybe it was because Leo was only trying to protect him.

"Wait, I don't get something," Grey said suddenly, cutting off what Alfred was about to ask Leo. "Are you trying to say you killed my father to save me and Charles?"

Leo closed his eyes. "I did what I had to do."

"Fuck you!" Grey yelled in anger. "You killed your best friend! And you had to pretend all these times that you lost your fucking memories?" He yelled. His muscles contracted and his fists clenched beside him.

"Grey, wait, please. I need to ask him questions," Alfred threw at Grey.

Grey looked at Alfred. "Does it look like I want to figure out what he's going to say? Do you think I want to know what a liar and a murderer would say?" He barked.

He was fuming and his head was red like a burning furnace.

"Calm down, Grey." Alfred continued.

"Heck, don't say that! Leo deserves everything we throw at him!" Gregory said quickly. He was angry too. "How could he betray us? How could he work with Giovanni? How were you even able to face Rio and killed him?"

Leo looked away. "I told him everything," he cupped his face in his hands." He permitted me to go ahead. He told me the orphanage I was to take Grey to, including the woman in charge." He looked up at Grey. "I'm sorry, Grey. I'm really sorry!" The tears streamed down his face the more.

"Oh no! Sorry, that can't bring back my father! Your apology can't bring back the ten years of my life that you wasted!" He screamed.

"I know but," Leo went on his knees. "I still have to say it."

Charles looked at his father. It was at that moment that he finally realized His father's behavior before he set the house on fire. What if his father has not accepted to kill Rio, won't that mean he won't be alive at that moment?

Yet, everything was driving him insane. Especially the fact that he tried to kill his father when his father was actually protecting him.

"Grey, we need to hear him out. He's not done. If you keep acting this way, we won't get out of here!" Alfred scolded.

Grey swallowed harder and hit his fist against the wall with a loud yelp. "Fine! I'm listening!"

"Please, seat down," Jayden beseeched Grey.

Grey turned around to look at the elders with eyes almost turned ruby. "I'm not going to sit down with this murderer. If you guys try to change my mind, I'm going to leave!" He let out in a deep voice.

Alfred let out an exasperated sigh before he turned to Leo. "Why did you say that Giovanni knows who the real Hercules is?"

"Yes," Jayden jumped in. "I mean we've passed those sides. Giovanni only thinks of Grey as a mere messenger of Hercules."

Leo nodded briefly. "That's right but-," he hesitated. "I told him."

And that was it!

Grey couldn't see anything again. The only thing he saw was revenge. His blood was boiling, his mind was in a disturbance.

Well, he knew what he had to do.

When he turned around again, a pistol was suddenly in his hand. "So, you didn't only betray my father, but you betrayed me as well?"

"What the fuck! Grey!" Jayden exclaimed.

Charles stared in horror.

"Please, don't shoot!" Grey beseeched softly.

"Don't fucking tell me what to do!" He muttered. "I'm your boss! I'm Hercules!"

Alfred shook his head briefly but he couldn't talk. Well, Hercules was truly his boss, and going against him means huge punishment.

Grey was about to pull the trigger when he turned to look at Charles. Charles was looking at Leo with such a gaze that showed how much affection he had for his father under the facade of pretending otherwise.

His eyes slowly moved to Leo whose head was bowed and he faltered. He couldn't shoot- again!

"Michael!" A tiny voice yelled suddenly, jerking him out of his thoughts. Michael? He hadn't heard anyone call him that for so long.

"Pull that trigger, Michael and Leo won't be the only ones to die. I'm dying with him," Aphrodite dared as she stood in front of Leo.

Grey clenched his teeth. "Move Novia, move!"

Aphrodite refused. "Leo did something unforgivable but you won't shoot him. He would be punished accordingly. He would be punished according to the rules that were laid on the ground by your father," she explained.

Grey shook his head briefly. "Move Novia!" He yelled.

Aphrodite moved closer slowly while making sure that the gun was still pointing at her.

"And besides, Leo hasn't said all. He would need to stand in front of the panel."

Grey pulled the gun down.

"Why?" He started slowly, he turned towards Alfred.

"Just why? I need to know why. Why are you protecting this murderer? He killed my father and tried to have me killed!" He yelled.

"Is this because he's my father?" Charles said suddenly, standing up. They all turned to look at him.

"Are you going to spare him because of me?"

"What the fuck are you saying, Charles," Alfred started. "I just-," he was forced to a stop when Charles brought out a gun and pointed it in Leo's direction.

Shock spread across their faces.

Grey didn't know what to say. In fact, the shock kept him motionless and speechless for a while.

"Don't worry, Grey," Charles smiled even though it was faked. "I understand your anger and I'm going to take revenge on you."

Gregory sighed. "Now, this is getting messier. What the fuck is this?"

"You need to put the gun down!" Alfred yelled at Charles.

Leo looked up at Charles slowly, and there was a smile on his face, even though there were tears on his cheeks as well. He could believe his son would try to kill him again but it was all the end. And he deserved it.

Charles squeezed his forehead in frustration, the tears were blinding her eyes.

"Don't kill your father!" Aphrodite yelled.

Charles shook his head briefly. "I won't!" And he turned the gun at himself, to his chest.

"No Charles!" Grey rushed forward before he could stop himself. Charles pulled the trigger very fast against himself.

Chapter 293: Final whistle

Grey jumped on Charles very fast at the same time that he pulled the trigger. His thought was to take the gun from him before he would pull the trigger but it was too late.

When Grey looked down, he saw blood and his eyes went wide with shock.

He felt a sharp pain coursing through his body. "No. Charles! Why did you do this?" He yelled and adjusted so that Charles' head He felt a sharp pain coursing through his body. "No, Charles! Why did you do this?" He yelled and adjusted so that Charles' head would be on his lap.

Blood was gushing out of Charles's chest and his face had suddenly turned pale.

"Ambulance!" One of the elders yelled.

"I'm sorry, Grey," Charles muttered. Tears were slipping out of his eyes.

Grey held him closer to himself like a baby and images from their childhood flooded in. They were close, very close then but suddenly, they've drifted apart. But deep down, Grey loved Charles like a brother would do.

"Fuck you, Charles!" Grey yelled at him. "You shouldn't have done this!"

Charles shook his head briefly. "I just avenged you," he swallowed harder and winced in pain. "I'm just sorry it's not enough to bring back everything you have lost! I know you hate my father so much and you will so much wish for his death but-", he hesitated and his facial expression changed as pain stabbed into him. "Please, forgive him. He did it for me."

"Fuck!" Grey cursed angrily. "I wasn't going to shoot him! Why did you have to shoot yourself?"

Charles smiled slightly. "I know. I know you were pulling back because of me. That's why I decided to sacrifice myself, even though-", he groaned out loud. "Even though," he hesitated and the tears slipped out of his eyes. "I don't want to die. I promised to serve you till your death. I," he almost choked on tears. "I really don't want to die. But I don't regret my actions. I'm just going to miss you," he tried to smile again but it failed this time.

Grey felt the tears slip out of his eyes as he touched Charles's face. "Brother," his voice vibrated with the word.

Charles smiled slightly and suddenly went still.

"Charles!" Leo yelled and broke down in tears.

"Why did you have to shoot yourself? Get up and shoot me!" He yelled with sadness and regret.

Some men rushed inside and pulled Charles apart from Grey. They rushed him into the ambulance.

Grey regarded them for a moment, as he felt the gun in his pocket. He had kept it earlier when the nurses rushed inside.

Aphrodite went with the ambulance while the rest stood behind.

While the elders were watching the car, Grey left.

Alfred released an exasperated sigh.

"What are we going to do now?"

Gregory shivered slightly. "This is just too much. If we continued to do this, Giovanni might actually win."

"Yea, especially with the fact that Giovanni now knows who Grey is. We need to dispatch the men," Luciano suggested.

"Yes, I support the motion but let's talk to Hercules about it," Jayden was saying as he turned towards where Grey initially was.

"Where's Hercules?"

They all turned towards the location and realised that Grey was gone.

Grey's head was reeling as he ran through the street. He intentionally didn't take the car because he didn't want the elders to stop him. He was determined.

It was almost seven at night which was the best time for what he was going to do. He flagged down a taxi. The taxi stopped and he got inside.

"Where are you off to?"

"Just go ahead, I will tell you when to stop," he assured.

It was a closing hour so he was sure that Hattie would be at home.

He didn't believe that Hattie killed his mother while Giovanni murdered his father and also made him lose ten years of his life. He had been viewing things differently and he was going to change it.

He was going to draw a battle between himself and Giovanni. A fierce battle that either ends with Grey or Giovanni. And guess what, Grey was going to start with Hattie.

He stopped the car and paid before he moved to Hattie estate. She only had a security guard

The DNA result was out and Giovanni had been staring at it for over thirty minutes. He couldn't quite wrap it around his head.

The result matched. How could it be? How could he have missed it? He could have killed Hercules himself a long time ago.

The door opened suddenly and a man strode inside.

"Boss, you have a call from the small master," he stretched out the phone to him.

Giovanni took it.

"Hello."

"Hello father, you need to come here now. There's something you have to see."

Giovanni raised skeptical brows. "What is it? Where are you?"

'I'm at Hattie's place and you won't believe what I just saw. You need to come here immediately."

"Alright, I will be there soon," he hung up, dropped the result, and hurried out of the house.

He soon arrived at Hattie's house. There were a lot of his men around and in fact, he still came with more to keep himself protected.

Alex walked out to him.

"Dad, come," he invited and led him inside the house. They walked inside the living room and into the kitchen.

Giovanni hesitated as he stared at Hattie in blood. "What the fuck happened here?"

Alex sighed.

"I found her like this, with a bullet to her heart. But I found something else."

Giovanni was still looking at Hattie's corpse when Alex maneuvered around the counter and withdrew something he could see at first until he got closer.

He regarded it for a moment. It was a toy car with blood all over it. There was a big alphabet 'H' on it. Alex took it and dropped the toy car on the floor. He stretched it out to Giovanni.

"Here."

Giovanni took it and studied it for a moment before realization dawned on him. "H is for Hercules," he muttered and opened the cardboard.

He read;

"Let's play a game, Giovanni. I love chess.'

Chapter 294: Where's Hercules

"What does it mean?" Alex probed in. He doesn't even understand anything as he didn't check anything because he was waiting for Giovanni to arrive. The only thing he was sure of was that Hattie was murdered.

Giovanni looked up at him, while his hand crushed the cardboard. "It's Hercules and guess what? The result is out."

"Seriously? Is Grey who we have been looking for?"

Giovanni nodded briefly. "And I think he's trying to wage war or something. Maybe he's finally ready for direct opposition."

Alex went into shock for some minutes which looked like an hour. "What! Grey is Hercules?"

Giovanni nodded briefly. "He has been playing with us all these while."

Yes, he has, like a chess game.

Alex couldn't speak for a moment. It felt like he had the world dropped on him. How could Grey be Hercules? It doesn't even make any sense. It doesn't at first but somehow, it was starting to make sense.

"Grey was Hercules and he lied that he was dead? But what about the hair? I clearly did a test on it," he mumbled.

Giovanni sighed. "He probably planned it with Caramel. I'm sure Caramel knows who he really is."

Alex felt a stab of annoyance. Caramel knew but she pretended otherwise. She was ok with Grey but she wasn't ok with him. In fact, Caramel betrayed him. A lot of emotions cuddled up in him in a sort of crazy confusion.

"What are we going to do now? Announce him? We should let everyone know who he really is."

Giovanni thought for a moment. "It would look silly if we do it without evidence. We have been uploading a lot of things about

Hercules that most people wouldn't believe anything concerning it again. I have the evidence at home. We will upload the evidence with it." He announced.

Alex nodded briefly. "What about Leo?"

"I don't know if he still works for me. I will try to contact him," he explained before he walked away.

Alex still couldn't believe that Grey was Hercules. He had Hercules beside him all these while but he didn't even know.

Well, there was a red flag. Grey founded Victoria Skincare and Hattie said his recipe was exactly the one Victoria uses. The only conclusion they could come to terms with was that Beatrice or Hercules sold the recipe to him.

But it turned out that he was just heading his mother's dream company.

"I'm worried," Aphrodite muttered worriedly as she got down from the car.

"Don't be," Jayden assured. "I'm sure Grey would be in the estate If he's not in his house in Jacksonville. There's nowhere he could go."

Aphrodite nodded briefly. "You are right. He must have come here out of anger and sadness," she noted

Grey had been nowhere to be found ten hours earlier. At first, they decided to let him be but the news of Hattie's death caught their attention.

They needed no one to tell them who could have killed Hattie. It was definitely Grey. Though, they marvelled at how fast and easier that came for him.

Hattie had entourages but Grey bypassed them. He was indeed a Hercules blood.

Well, what that told them was that Grey was angry and who knows what might happen next. Grey has been going easy on the opposition these days but it was great.

Acting things without proper planning might lead to a failed plan.

Aphrodite and the elders spent some hours at the hospital because of Charles. The doctor was Alfred's closest friend or they might have worried them about the bullet they found on Charles.

And for Charles, there was good news and bad news. The good news, the bullet missed slightly. So, he was going to live. The bad news was that he slipped into comatose immediately and no one could say when he would wake up.

Grey wasn't even available. So, there was no way they could tell him the news.

They walked inside. There were men everywhere, guarding the estate. Also, Jane and Tina were currently being held hostage. So, there had to be men to guard the place.

Grey was supposed to decide their fate after the proclamation if Leo had spilled the milk at that moment.

"And you sincerely think that Grey is here?" Aphrodite let out her doubts.

Jayden nodded briefly. "He should. I'm positive," he assured.

As they stepped inside the spacious living room, the men took a bow.

"If he's in, the men would definitely know," Jayden announced and moved closer to the men.

Aphrodite hesitated and stared behind him. She pulled out her phone and dialled Grey's number again, for the umpteenth time that day.

It was unavailable, as usual. Aphrodite was really worried.

If Giovanni knows about Grey already, doesn't that mean trouble? Giovanni could be out looking for him.

The worst was that he could have seen and captured him.

A lot of thoughts were going through Aphrodite's head.

Jayden walked back to Aphrodite with a sigh. "Grey isn't here. No one has been here, except the last time Don came here with Tiana and the two ladies. But who are those ladies?"

Aphrodite sighed and looked away. "It was an order from Hercules. There should be somewhere else. There should be a place where Grey could be. But where can that be?"

Jayden regarded Aphrodite for a moment. "You are right. There should be and I think Alfred should be able to guess," he pulled out his phone and placed a call to Alfred.

Alfred picked it up immediately. "Have you guys seen Grey?"

"No, but we are guessing you should have an idea of where he is. There should be a place you've gone with him or perhaps he had mentioned.

There should be a clue as to where he can be," he expressed.

Alfred hesitated as he thought about it. "Maybe there is. Have you checked out his parent cemetery? His parents were buried separately. You could check those places. But since we are talking about his father, he could probably be there. Or maybe he went to both. So, I suggest you split."

Chapter 295: War

Aphrodite decided to check Grey's father's tombstone while Jayden went toward Victoria's.

Aphrodite kept trying Grey's line on the way but it was never available. It was as if he switched it off intentionally because he didn't want anyone to disturb him.

Aphrodite was really worried and she was starting to feel uneasy. Yes, the truth was too much to bear. Nothing was worse than having someone you trust betray you. That aside, Grey would be worried about Charles.

If Charles had died, he would have blamed himself forever. But how could they even control the situation? They succeeded in preventing Grey from shooting Leo but that was only the beginning. What would happen in a long way?

That aside, what should they do with the fact that Giovanni now knows the secret they've kept for so long?

Aphrodite's head hurt so much because of the whole thing but she knew she had to find Grey. Then, the rest would follow.

She arrived at the location and hesitated before she got down. She barely took several steps along the cemetery before she observed a man at the exact location where the previous Hercules was buried.

She moved nearer slowly and discovered it truly was Grey.

She placed a call to Jayden and he picked it up immediately.

"Have you seen Grey because I can't find him here," Jayden announced.

"I have. He's here, in front of his father's tombstone. I will stay watch over him but I think you should get here. You should tell the elders too. I don't know how long Grey is going to stay here or how long he has been here.

One thing I'm sure of is that he's still in the same clothes. So, we will have to think of a way to take him out of here," she suggested.

"Alright. Stay there and don't let him off your sight."

"I will do that," Aphrodite said and the line went off.

She stared up at Grey again. It was getting very late in the night already and there was barely anyone around except for the caretaker.

Giovanni walked inside the library with Alex. It was where he kept the file on Grey.

"Are we supposed to wait?" Alex questioned.

Giovanni let out a sigh. "I can't wait anymore. If Leo doesn't try to meet up or respond to me, it could only mean one thing," he hesitated and looked at Alex. "He doesn't work for me anymore."

"Fuck!" Alex cursed under his breath. "I thought we could trust him. I mean you said he had betrayed Hercules once and could do it again," he raised a skeptical brow and waited.

"Well, something must have happened. I will find out but we don't have the time. Grey has declared war, we must do the same," he explained.

Alex nodded once. "So, what is the plan?"

Giovanni didn't answer. Instead, he stood and moved to his desk. He retrieved a key from behind one of the books in the library and inserted it into its hole. His eyes went wide with shock as he stared at

nothingness.

Alex observed the change in his attitude. "Dad, is something wrong?"

Giovanni didn't answer for a moment as his mind filled with the thought of how the DNA result wasn't in the safety of the desk. He remembered placing it there the night before. Alex had called him suddenly but he still had the time to do the necessary before he left home.

Where was the result? Who could have taken it?

"Dad, is everything alright?" Alex demanded again.

Giovanni finally looked up at him. His face was a mask of horror. "The result is gone."

Alex didn't understand at first. "What result? What do you mean by gone?"

Even Giovanni was confused. It looked as though someone was playing tricks on him. Where could the test result have gone?

"The DNA result I placed here isn't here anymore," Giovanni explained and moved toward the second desk. He rummaged through it and everything that was on the table. Yet, he couldn't find the result.

Alex, finally sensing that something was really off somewhere, started to unturn everything in the library.

They searched for some minutes before Giovanni stopped and rushed to the telecom. "Pete, get inside right now!" His voice was deep and filled with hatred and anger.

Anger coursed through his body and he shivered with it.

"Fuck! How could the result have disappeared? Are you sure you kept it here?" Alex demanded.

"I fucking did!" Giovanni yelled.

Alex hesitated and regarded his father for a moment. "Could Grey have been here?"

Giovanni slowly looked up at him. "What?"

Alex opened his mouth to say something else but the door opened and Pete walked inside.

He bowed slightly. "You called for me, Boss."

Giovanni looked at Pete. "Who the fuck entered this room? Who did?"

Pete went silent for a moment as he thought about the question. "No one did. I didn't see anyone enter."

"Shut up," Giovanni snapped. "Check the fucking camera!" He yelled. "If I don't find out the truth, I will kill you!"

Pete bowed again and rushed out of the room.

"Come to think of it, dad. If Leo isn't working with us, then he's probably with Grey and that means Grey already knows we are aware of his identity. If that is the case, he could have sent anyone to get the result," he explained.

Giovanni thought for a moment. Alex was sounding right. Why didn't he think of it earlier? Though, he wondered how Grey discovered the result.

"Dad, we need a second plan. We need to think of something very quickly," he muttered.

Giovanni closed his eyes for a moment. "We need the result. We need evidence to broadcast the news."

There was a sudden knock on the door. Before they would talk, the door opened and Alex's closest guard walked inside.

"There's a problem, boss," he pointed out.

Alex looked at him. "What's the matter?"

"A forensic examiner is dead and it turned out to be the one we know," he revealed.

Chapter 296: Always a spy!

"What! What happened?" Alex yelled.

"He was shot in the head," the man explained.

Giovanni's teeth clenched in anger. "This is definitely Grey! He's acting really faster than we expect. Gosh, why didn't I see this coming?" He mumbled.

Alex hit his head in anger. "I told you it was Grey. He was probably the one that took the result," he looked at his father. "What should we do?"

Giovanni went quiet for a moment as he thought about it. "I need to call in Pablo Gotti," he announced.

Grey didn't move from his position for over an hour. In fact, it first looked as though he had zoomed out of the world.

It was over two hours before Alfred and the rest of the elders arrived at the cemetery. And in fact, there was no one at the cemetery again except for Grey and the caretaker.

Aphrodite didn't move closer until Alfred and the others had arrived.

"What! He has been there since you came here?" Alfred was surprised.

"He has. He hasn't turned or stood. I wonder what is really happening with him," Aphrodite responded.

And they all walked closer to him.

They hesitated behind him for a moment. Grey's eyes were closed but he was shedding tears.

"Why are you here?" Grey said suddenly before Alfred would start something.

"We are here to get you, Grey. You have to leave here," he announced.

Grey sighed. "I'm not ready to leave. I will when I'm done."

"We need to talk about some matters, Hercules," Gregory initiated.

Grey sighed again. "I want to be with my father for now."

"How long have you been here?" Jayden demanded.

"I think this is the only thing I can do considering the fact that the murderer is somewhere enjoying his life," there was sarcasm in his voice.

Alfred cleared his throat. "We need to leave here to be able to talk and we have a lot of things to talk about. Please, Hercules."

Grey hesitated for a moment before he got up. He turned to look at the elders one after the other. "Let's go," he announced and started towards the car. The elders followed after him.

Grey entered the car and released a sigh. He felt so exhausted. In fact, he had been unstable since morning. He went to his mother's tombstone before he went to his father's cemetery. He just felt so angry and sad at the same time.

Alfred entered the car that Grey entered. He didn't want to go to his house because of Leo. So, they drove to Grey's house. The door opened suddenly, jerking Grey out of his thought.

"What do you guys want to discuss with me? Is Charles dead and you are hesitating to inform me about it?" He demanded as he stepped out of the car and entered the living room.

The elders followed after.

"Hattie is dead," Gregory announced, expecting Grey to be surprised. Grey merely looked away. "I'm aware of that because I killed her!" He revealed.

The elders went into a moment of shock.

"You did?" Alfred inquired.

Grey nodded briefly and sat. "I have more plans for the future. Giovanni and I are finally going to start playing chess," he revealed.

"But I don't think this is nice," Aphrodite expressed.

Grey looked at Aphrodite. "I'm going to avenge my father! And my mother!" He stated strongly.

"Did you kill the scientist too?" Jayden asked suddenly.

The question seemed to startle Grey for a moment. 'What scientist?'

"A scientist was killed this morning, a bullet to its head. It's all over the news. I bet you didn't even go to the internet," Alfred expressed.

"I'm thinking this is something we should sit down for and discuss," Luciano voiced out suddenly.

"There's nothing to discuss," Grey said stubbornly and looked away. "Giovanni is going to pay dearly for all he has done to me. I'm going to make sure he does and everyone is going to have its share in this!" He stated solidly. "And you are going to decide what to do and who to follow. Am I still your boss? Then you will follow all my plans. Everyone that has planned to have me killed will not go scot-free. Everyone will account for what he or she has done."

Aphrodite released a sigh. "Ok, but is anyone going to tell him sooner that Charles is alive?"

Grey looked back at her, with hope in his eyes. "He is?"

"Yes," she nodded briefly. "He just slipped into a coma. I'm sure he will wake up soon." She said with a bit of hope.

Alfred's phone rang suddenly. He picked it up. 'Yes, hello. What is it?'

"Leo just left the house now. What are we supposed to do? Follow him or not?" The voice demanded.

Alfred hesitated as he looked at Grey. "Follow him and share the location, I will be there soon." He hung up and looked at Grey.

"Alright, I have to leave now. It's late already, we should call it a night."

"Sure but I will have some guards come over to your place. Since Giovanni knows who you really are now, we can't risk any chances," Gregory muttered.

Grey nodded once. "Fine."

"Are you still going to work as Grey or as Hercules? I mean to Protos Pubblicita?" Aphrodite questioned.

Grey went quiet for a moment. "Let's see."

The elders walked out one after the other except Aphrodite who hesitated for some minutes. "Are you going to kill Leo too? Are you angry at me for stopping you from killing him?"

Grey went still for a moment. "I'm not angry at you and I was finding it difficult to shoot anyways. Guess why?" He looked at Aphrodite and she saw a tear escape his eyes. "He's the fucking father of my best friend!"

"What! Why would he leave the house if he's not the spy? I mean he did explain what Giovanni made him do. He promised to be his spy," Gregory explained.

Alfred hesitated. "Are you saying Leo is going to betray us again?"

Gregory nodded briefly. "I think that's what is about to happen. Leo is probably off to tell Giovanni that we know that he knows."

Alfred released an exasperated sigh. "Then we have to stop him before Grey actually kills him this time."

Chapter 297: Business

Alfred and Gregory entered Alfred's car and they barely drove for a few minutes when Alfred's phone rang suddenly.

It was one of Alfred's men. Alfred picked it up immediately.

"Yes, any update as to where Leo is going?"

"Well, he tried to commit suicide," he revealed.

Shock kept Alfred motionless for a moment. "What!" He exclaimed. He was shocked by the word.

"He tried to jump off the bridge but we stopped him. And we are on our way back home, you can just come home directly," he suggested.

Alfred nodded once. "Alright, later then," he hung up and looked at Gregory. "Leo wasn't going to be the spy, apparently. The man just informed me that he wanted to jump off the bridge," he announced.

Gregory sighed. "Thank goodness you didn't inform Grey the other time or it would be very difficult to change his mind. He would want to believe Leo is a spy forever."

Alfred nodded once. "Do you want me to drop you at home?"

"So, what are you going to do?" Aphrodite demanded.

Grey looked away and didn't reply. "Go home, Aphrodite. I will let you know when I need you, which won't be soon. I have a lot of business to handle alone. Oh, with my men actually," there was a silly smile on his face.

Aphrodite has to admit that Grey had changed after Leo's confession. He seemed more determined and more callous. Aphrodite feared what he might do next.

"Grey, you do know that you can always speak with me. We used to be friends when we were still young."

Grey looked at her and nodded briefly. "I will, don't worry," he assured her.

Aphrodite nodded briefly and moved closer to sit beside him. "I heard that your girlfriend left already."

Grey regarded her for a moment before he nodded. "Who is your informant? You are always good at getting information. How do you do it?"

Aphrodite smiled softly. "I merely took after my mother. Remember those days when I used to spy on people for you?"

Grey laughed. "I remember it very well, including the last one you did, and decided not to do it anymore."

Aphrodite laughed. "You tricked me, Grey! You know that!" she sighed. "Anyways, I'm glad you laughed."

Grey winked at her. "Thank you. You can leave now, I will be fine. Text me the address of the hospital where Charles was admitted to. I might check him there tomorrow."

Aphrodite nodded and stood. "I will do that. Sleep tight," she took a short bow before she walked out of the house.

Grey pulled out his phone and made a call to Don. He just remembered Jane and Tina and he needed to decide their fate as well as the rest of those people that had messed with him. Lawrence is also going to get his share of it.

Don picked it up immediately as if he was waiting for his call already.

"Hello, boss."

"Get set. You will be accompanying me to my estate in less than an hour," he announced and hesitated. "We might be there till tomorrow morning. So, you know," he added quickly.

"Alright boss. I will do that immediately."

And the line went off immediately.

Grey stared up into space for a moment before he got up and went out of the house. There were a lot of men standing guard. He regarded them for a moment before he stepped out. "Everyone will be going out with me and we are moving now."

"Yes, boss!" They chorused and took a bow.

Within minutes, they were on the plane and moving towards Hercules's estate.

Since the plane was spacious, it contained everyone, including Don and Richard.

"Boss, are you alright?" Don asked on their way.

Grey nodded once, not in the mood to talk. Meanwhile, his hand was slowly moving around the gun on his lap.

After some hours, which meant midnight, they arrived at the estate. There were lots of men guarding the whole place too.

The moment Grey walked inside the living room, four men stood back while the other walked inside with him

Grey felt a new stab of annoyance. Maybe Alfred was right and he should take it slowly. But he couldn't stop thinking of everything. And the more he thought about it, the angrier he felt. He felt deep resentment inside.

He wanted nothing more than to kill them, to kill everyone responsible for his parent's death.

Hattie was just a preamble, an opening speech. Giovanni was going to regret everything.

Grey hesitated in front of one of the men. "Where are the prisoners?"

"I will lead you, boss," he bowed, turned around, and moved towards the hallway. Where he was going to look exactly like where they kept Tiana days back.

Grey followed.

He finally stopped before the door, opened it, and bowed.

Grey hesitated before he walked inside and several men followed him.

Jane and Tina were really inside. They sat while there were chains bound around them. And there were gags around their mouth. When Grey and the men walked inside, Jane and Tina jerked up from their sleep. The room was in semi-darkness and so, Jane and Tina couldn't really see who had walked inside.

"Pull down the gag," Grey ordered and two of the men rushed forward to carry out the order.

"Who are you?" Jane yelled out.

Grey ignored her question. "Are you scared? Scared of death?"

Tina shivered. "I'm sure you got me by mistake. You only wanted to get Jane. Please, just let me go!" She begged.

Jane got angry at her words. Her head turned towards her direction quickly. "What was that? What did you just say? We are in this together! Why would they let you go alone? It should be the both of us!" She yelled.

Grey huffed at their batters. "Do you want to know who I am?"

Jane and Tina's heads snapped back at Grey's words.

"Yes!" Tina admitted.

"No!" Jane yelled all of a sudden. "We don't want to know you because you might retain us after seeing your face. Just please let us go."

Grey laughed. Nice quote Jane. For someone that doesn't think twice before planning to kill people, you sure are scared of death but" he hesitated.

"I will show you who I am anyways. Someone should turn on the light."

Chapter 298: Pieces together

The light went on suddenly and it illuminated the room. Grey looked at Jane and realized she had her eyes closed. She was scared, Grey sensed.

Only Tina was looking at him, her eyes gone gobsmacked.

"W_what!" She couldn't bring the words out easily.

"You look shocked, Jane. But I don't really get what you are shocked about. Is it because I'm still alive or because you didn't expect to meet me here?"

"Fuck! I saw the car enter the water!" Tina mumbled.

It was at this moment that Jane opened her eyes as well. Curiosity got the best of her and the moment her eyes went open, she couldn't stop the shock from knocking her over.

"What! Grey?"

Grey laughed. "Good, I like the look of surprise on your face but that is just the tip of the iceberg. There's more to get you shocked today," he announced.

"Where are we?" Jane questioned. "Where have you brought us to?" She yelled, angrily.

Grey watched her for a moment. "Where does your loyalty lie? Giovanni or Hercules?"

"What the fuck are you asking me? Where have you brought us to? Why are we here?" Jane yelled, ignoring his question.

Grey pulled out his gun and pointed it at Jane. "Shut the fuck up! I'm the one asking questions and not the other way around. And you had better reply to me before I get annoyed!" He threatened.

Jane's breath got caught in her throat at the sight of the gun. "I will answer any questions you ask. Please, just don't shoot. I'm begging you."

Grey huffed and pulled back the gun. "I'm not here for the fun of it. You had better seat tight or you won't be making it out of here alive." He warned sternly.

Jane sucked in a breath and nodded severally.

"You wanted Jane and you got her. Please let me go. I was only doing what she wanted," Tina cried.

Grey looked at her. "Seriously?" He laughed. "The last time I saw you, you collaborated with Jane and Giovanni to have me killed. Obviously, you work for Giovanni. And whoever works for Giovanni is my enemy," he revealed.

"What do you want from us? Are you going to kill us? Well, you might kill us but that won't stop Giovanni from coming for you."

Grey sat in front of Jane, his gun on his lap. "If I wanted you to die, you would have been dead a long time ago."

Tina sobbed softly, already regretting her past actions.

"When have you been working for Giovanni?"

Jane thought for a moment. "Two years," she revealed.

"Seriously and you still seem fit to work in Protos Pubblicita? You must be a spy then."

"I've always done everything for Giovanni. He's my lover after all. He used to love me so much. Who are you to Hercules?"

"I thought I said no questions!" He snapped and Jane jerked up in fear. "But I will answer your question because I was initially going to tell you about it. " He hesitated." Do you know what you did when I first showed up at S U world?"

Jane hesitated. "You didn't want to leave and you threatened me," she responded.

Grey smacked his lips and shook his head briefly. "No, I'm talking about the other me. The one you called to report about me."

His words confused Jane. "What? Are you twin?"

Grey laughed and looked at Don. "Can you see that? She's not only wicked, but she's funny as well."

"Maybe she needs something to jolt her memory," Don teased.

"I bet a tattoo of her name will do that," Richard said quickly.

"Maybe but it's not yet the time. I don't really enjoy torturing ladies," Grey muttered, crossed his legs, and looked directly at Jane.

"Why don't we get this done with?"

Jane raised confused brows. "I don't know what you are talking about Grey. I remembered you warned me not to do what I had in mind. I don't know what you meant by the other you," she yelled the last part in frustration.

"You complained to me about Grey. Remember what I told you?" He hesitated as he sat well. "I told you not to touch Grey if you value your position in Protos Publicita. Guess what? You kept coming after Grey and remember what happened to you? I demoted you! I took you to SU world," he hinted.

He wanted to give Jane the opportunity to discover who he really was. He loves the riddles now. He loves how his head is currently working.

Jane looked up at Grey, still startled. "Wait for a moment. You picked up my call?" She was still confused.

"No, no," Grey shook his head briefly. "You didn't call me, I called you."

Jane's eyes went wide with shock. "I called you after Charles called me that you are around. He told me your name_," her voice trailed off.

Grey nodded. "Yeah," he laughed. "Good girl. And I remember you called me. I told you I was Grey Fox, I was Hercules. I am your boss!" He announced with such air of authority that Jane and Tina shivered briefly.

Jane's head started to figure it out even though it still looked weird to her. "You were the one I called? Wait, were you the one with the phone or what?"

Grey shook his head briefly. "I wasn't with the phone, Jane. I own the phone.

Jane's eyes went gobsmacked. "What!"

"What's happening?" Tina asked Jane, confused.

Jane looked away, skeptical and shocked.

"I_" she stammered.

"Figure it out?" Grey raised a brow and waited.

"I mean," Jane looked back at him. "Why did you tell Giovanni that Hercules was dead?"

"A game, Jane. And you played it so well, especially you two."

"What the fuck are you talking about?" Tina inquired, still confused.

Jane looked at Tina. "Grey is the man we have been looking for. He's Hercules."

Shook took Tina over.

Chapter 299: Deceive the boss

*But_but that's not possible! That can't be! How will you be Hercules?" Jane trembled, her voice sounding unlike her own.

Tina looked at Grey, then back at Jane. "Is that even possible? How could they be the same?"

The door opened suddenly and Tiana walked inside. "How dare you speak like that to Hercules!" she snapped and slapped Tina across the face.

"He's really Hercules!" Tina gasped with horror. "Please, don't kill me."

"If you are Hercules, then you have heard everything I have done. You've been watching me all these while?"

Grey smiled. "I have. I know everything. Now, what I want from you is simple."

Jane clenched her teeth in concentration. "What do you want?"

Grey regarded the two women for a moment. "You are going to do to Giovanni what you did to me."

Jane raised skeptical brows. "And what can that be?"

Grey stood up and moved closer to her. He stood at her eye level. "Don't play games with me Jane or you will get hurt, more."

Jane swallowed even harder. "You want me to be Giovanni's spy?"

"I will do it!" Tina yelled all of a sudden. "I will do anything you want me to do. Just don't kill me," she beseeched softly.

Grey looked at Tina for a moment, then at Jane, "what did you say?"

"I can't do that," the words were forced out of her mouth.

Grey huffed and turned away for a moment. When he turned back to Jane, he hit her across the face very quickly.

His hand was so hard on her face that she winced and fought to massage it with her hand but she couldn't as they were already tied to the chair.

"Don't play games with me, Jane like I've said before. This is for debate and I'm not asking you for your opinion. I could kill you if I want to and well, I'm still going to if you mess me up," he warned in a thick voice.

Jane looked away. "Giovanni will kill me."

"Fine, because I will be killing you too if you don't agree to this. Not only you but everyone you love will suffer for all you have done all these years!" He threatened.

Jane looked up, with tears streaming out from her face. "Please, just kill me but don't put my family into this."

"You sure didn't think about it when you planned with Giovanni to have me killed. Don't you think I had a family too?"

"You were an orphan!" She blurted out. "I mean, you still are."

Grey pulled out his gun, cocked it, and pointed it at Jane. "I'm not going to kill your family alone, I'm going to give you a painful death, Jane. That, I promise you."

Jane released an exasperated sigh as she thought about it for a moment. She closed her eyes for a moment. "Alright, I will. We will," she voiced out.

Grey nodded briefly and kept his gun. "Nice choice." He turned towards Don.

"We will continue this conversation tomorrow morning but for now, untie them."

"Alright boss," Do responded and proceeded to do what Grey had ordered while Grey walked out with the rest of the men.

Even if Jane didn't want to believe Grey, she couldn't continue especially with the way Don responded to Grey. She has spent a lot of time among the mafia that she recognized as Don.

But the news was still shocking to her. How could Grey be Hercules? She would have displayed the thought of it normally. That aside, Alex had a DNA test done on Grey to find out if he was of the same blood as the past Hercules but how come it showed negative?

Different thoughts were going through Jane's head, almost knocking her off.

Though she knew that she might not be able to escape it, she still wanted to inform Giovanni about the news. She wanted him to know what he was working against.

Tina on the other hand hated Grey the moment he walked inside SU world company. Even though Grey had just threatened them, she still wasn't bothered and planned to actually do the opposite.

She was never going to serve Grey. She would rather serve Giovanni or no one. So, she was going to plan. She was going to inform Giovanni about everything. If Jane tries to do his bidding, it would be on her head as might even rise in rank beside Giovanni.

Her ambition was simple. She simply wants to have power and getting on the good side with Alex was the best way. She could even end up as Alex's mistress. But since she already had enmity with Grey, it

won't be possible with him.

So, she had to stick with Giovanni. She planned to call Alex that night or the morning to inform him.

Greg hesitated in front of the door. "Tiana," he called softly. "You should stay watchful of the ladies, they might try something foolish. You should select one of the men to assist you," he ordered.

Tiana nodded briefly.

There was a soft knock on the door and Grey jerked out of his sleep quickly. Richard walks in.

"Sorry for disturbing, boss but I think you should see this."

Grey got out of bed and hurried after him. They walked through the hallway until they went out of the house through the back Door.

Tina was on a call.

"Please, pick up!" She beseeched suddenly as she redialed the number.

She cursed mentally whenever the phone stopped ringing.

Tiana moved closer to Grey. "She seduced one of our men and took his phone."

"She's really tricky."

Grey watched her for another moment before he walked closer to her.

"Please, pick up," Tina begged silently, and suddenly, a smile spread up on her face. "Hello, Alex!"

It looks like Alex had picked up.

"This is me, Tina. I need to tell you something." She started.

Grey looked at one of the men. "Shoot her," he ordered.

Chapter 300: Poison the second in command

Tina yelled out before she collapsed.

Jane hurried out almost immediately but stopped suddenly when she saw Tina's corpse on the floor. She gasped, totally scared now.

"What the fuck!" She exclaimed.

"That's what would become of you, Jane if you try to mess with me. There will be no mercy," He warned in deep tones that Jane jerked up again.

Jane looked really frightened now.

Grey smiled softly. He actually loved the look of fear on her face.

He moved closer to her. "You will continue to work in SU world and you will still meet with Giovanni and report everything to me. Is that understood?"

Jane nodded severally. "I will do everything you want." She voiced out, with a quaver to her voice.

Grey regarded her for a moment. "I will get across to you how it's going to be and what you are to tell Giovanni. But know that I will always be watching you," he threatened thickly.

Jane nodded briefly. "Alright."

He turned to look at Tiana. "Fly her out immediately," and he walked away.

Grey entered his room and got dressed. After some minutes, he walked out to the guys in the living room.

Don hurried to him. "Tiana and Jane are on the way to Jacksonville," he announced.

Grey nodded once. "We are done here. We are going to Jacksonville as well."

In less than two hours, Grey was in the house while the men stood guard around. Grey felt tired for a moment but he knew he had to visit Charles in the hospital.

But he didn't want to go with the entourage. He doesn't even want to move around with them. He placed a call to Gregory. He picked it up immediately. "Hello, boss. How are you doing?"

"Fine, I need you and Alfred to call off the men. I don't need men to protect me."

"Well, it's our duty to protect you, Hercules. And besides, we don't know what's coming our way. We all know how Giovanni can be," he expressed.

Grey sighed. "I'm sure Giovanni wouldn't want to hurt me in the daytime."

"I'm not going to trust him, Grey. And we are not going to risk your life, not now that you are hell-bent on avenging your parents' death."

"We've been going easy on them for a while now. It wouldn't be bad if we start on them now," Grey informed.

Gregory sighed.

"I know, Grey but you are going too fast. And that's why we the elders have decided to keep the men around you for now."

Grey released an exasperated sigh. "I'm going to work. I need to go to the hospital. Do you want the civilians to know that I'm Hercules?"

"Then, maybe you should stay at home for now. At least, until we've gotten control of the situation. Alfred is working on it. Or you should see Charles in the evening when you are comfortable to go with the escorts. But we can't allow you to go alone, it's very dangerous." He explained.

Grey sighed again, maybe for the umpteenth time that day. "Seriously? Gregory?"

"I'm sorry, boss but this is what I must do, even though I'm aware of the consequences. The elders are ready to take up the consequences," he expressed.

Grey released a sigh.

"I see that this is a lost cause already. Goodbye," he finished and the line went off.

Grey dropped the phone to the chair and released another exasperated sigh. He knew it was a lost cause already. Gregory and Alfred were all bent on protecting him. Though he understood them, he knew how much that could cost him.

But he knew he needed to leave at all costs. He needed to go to the hospital to see Charles. And he needed to do it at that moment.

Grey went upstairs to change his attire. He felt a bit exhausted because of the ride. He got changed into an overall black.

When he walked into the living room, the men weren't there. And a plan entered his mind. He knew what he was going to do and had to act upon it quickly.

A soft knock came on the door and the door was about to open.

Grey took the other door and entered the store. The door was too small. So, he waited for the men to leave the living room.

The men didn't see Grey in the living room and probably thought he was in his room. So, they went up the stairs.

Grey took it as his chance to sneak out of the room. He pulled to a sudden stop when he saw some of his men having a chat.

He stooped below and started to tiptoe over to the back of the door. He went off the fence and jumped on the other side.

He hesitated to see if anyone has followed him or if there was anyone around.

Having confirmed that no one was there, he got up and walked to the street. He flagged down a taxi and got it.

"Where?" The driver asked and Grey showed him the address that Aphrodite had sent to him.

It didn't take up to an hour when the car pulled to a sudden stop in front of the hospital.

Grey got down, paid the driver, and went inside the hospital. He saw a few of the men in the lobby and avoided them by taking the other way.

He had already demanded the hospital number from Aphrodite as well. So, he entered the elevator and went directly to the fourth floor, where Charles was because he was a VIP.

When he entered the floor, he was shocked as there were no men in front of the door.

He remembered Aphrodite telling him that he was being guarded. Though, he saw some men in the lobby. So, that was true. But why weren't there any men in front of the room?

Maybe they were inside.

He walked closer, and opened the door slowly but stopped when he saw a guy in a hoodie about to inject Charles with an unknown substance.