

## **Secretly TBB 501**

### Chapter 501: Heartbroken

Actually, Aurora was happy that she saw Charles again.

Even though, there was a feeling of pain that she was having, even at that moment. She was worried.

Truly, she felt a spark.

Something told her that Charles could have something for her but maybe it wasn't deep.

Or maybe he changed his mind because she had been used by Maximo already.

But she was overjoyed when she saw him walk inside the restaurant. She stared at him for a moment, while contemplating on moving closer to him or not. She watched her talk to the waiter before she made the decision to eventually approach him.

And dinner was what she had always wanted.

Maybe, just maybe Charles would change his mind.

Or maybe, she would be able to convince him. She really loved Charles.

Actually, she had never loved anyone like she loved Charles.

And she desperately wanted it to work out between them. She got herself dressed in a short sleeveless blue gown. She added little makeup and packed her hair in a ponytail. She regarded herself in the mirror for the last time and satisfied by what she was looking at, smiled and stepped out of the house.

There was no one in the family house except for her. So, there was no one she could leave the house for.

If she had told Charles where she lived, maybe he would have picked her up but Aurora was still angry.

Or maybe, she was only trying to pretend she was.

Anyways, she could tell Charles where she lived after the success of that dinner that night.

The dinner would determine how things would progress between them. She flagged down a taxi and got inside. She got to the restaurant ten minutes before the stipulated time.

Charles was around, already waiting for her. He stood and smiled at her.

Aurora felt anxious for a moment. She feared she might do something that Charles didn't like, yet she wanted someone that would want her as she was. She didn't want to pretend for anyone.

"Welcome, Aurora," Charles muttered and pulled out the chair for her.

Aurora smiled softly and sat.

"I hope you aren't angry that I came late?"

"Angry?" Charles laughed and sat.

"I wouldn't be if you are thirty minutes late." Aurora laughed.

"So, did you just arrive in Jacksonville?" Charles nodded once, as the waiter walked to them and extended a menu each to them.

"Did you come to Jacksonville directly?" Charles asked as he went through the menu.

"Yes. Actually, I planned on stopping by Orange Park or another city for sightseeing but it would be boring if it was only me. So, I gave it up," she explained and looked up, just at the same time that Charles did.

They both stretched out their menu to the waiter at the same time and laughed at the action. The waiter took it and walked away.

"Well, I could take you now if you don't mind. I love to sightsee too. We could be together," he proposed.

Aurora laughed.

"I thought you would be too busy or you wouldn't want to have something like that with me." Charles sighed.

"It's not what you think, Aurora. I didn't come out that morning earlier. I was reminiscing everything that happened between us the day before. I'm so sorry. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) I went to the location you conveyed but you had already left. I was so heartbroken, sincerely," he explained.

Aurora regarded him for a moment and something in her wanted her to believe him.

"Alright."

"Am I forgiven?" Aurora nodded once.

"Yes, you are." Charles grinned.

"Thank you! So, tell me. How happy were your parents when you got home? Were they overjoyed?"

Aurora looked away at this. A lump was suddenly caught in her throat.

The waiter returned at this moment, rescuing her for a moment. She used the opportunity to regain her composure.

"Tell me, Aurora."

"It's not like that," Aurora said softly.

"It's not like you think at all."

Charles regarded her facial expression for a moment.

"Aurora, what happened? Did something happen at home?"

Aurora closed her eyes against the tears that had threatened to sleep from under her long lashes but she failed and the tears streamed down her face.

"I'm sorry."

"You have nothing to be sorry for, Aurora. Tell me what the problem was. Did something happen?" She nodded once.

"My mom died of a heart attack after my disappearance," she was crying now.

"A\_and," she swallowed harder.

"My father's heart couldn't handle losing her wife and died several months later," she revealed.

Charles opened his mouth in dread. He stood up and pulled his chair closer to her. He took her hands in his.

"I'm so sorry, Aurora.I really am."

"I can't stop blaming myself.It was my fault anyways.If I hadn't left, my mother wouldn't have died," she sobbed the more.

Charles pulled her into a hug and patted her back slowly.

"It's not your fault, Aurora.Don't be so hard on yourself.Please, don't cry.It hurt me so much to see you this heartbroken."

Aurora felt moved to tears at what Charles had said.Though, the pain she felt concerning her parent were much for her and it felt like she would die soon.

Life felt totally useless for her.

That was before Charles showed up.

At that moment, she was already having a second thought.

Charles stiffened suddenly and his eyes went wide with shock when some men entered the restaurant.He recognized them as Alex's men.

One of them looked towards him but he hugged Aurora tightly, thereby almost sinking into her.He knew that he had to leave the restaurant as fast as possible.

They wouldn't be able to identify him anyways because he wasn't wearing any mask and he was in a different attire but he still had to be very careful.If Alex was around, he might find it weird that Charles was in Jacksonville.

Chapter 502: Skeptical

Charles pulled back slowly and wiped off the tears on Aurora's face.

"It's going to be alright," he assured with a smile.

Aurora nodded once.

"Thank you." Charles nodded once.

"Can we hurry up and finish up? There's actually a business I need to attend to. But I will make it up to you later," he promised.

Aurora nodded once.

"Alright, should we go now?" Charles shook his head briefly.

"Let's have a few minutes of dinner. I'm still taking you sightseeing, remember? We can go anywhere you want." Aurora smiled.

"Alright, I won't forget."

Within a few minutes, Charles and Aurora stepped out after Charles has settled the bill.

Charles made a joke and Aurora found herself laughing so hard, forgetting there was any problem in the world.

"Can I drop you off?" Charles asked suddenly.

Aurora released a sigh.

"We were actually not able to sit very well for tonight. So, I would like us to take a walk instead. That is if you don't mind because you would have to leave your car here." Charles smiled.

"That's no problem actually. Let's do that. It's good anyways. We would be able to appreciate nature very much." Aurora grinned.

"You've been talking so much about nature. What would you have gone for if you weren't\_," she hesitated and made a nod of her head.

Charles understood what she meant and laughed.

"Well, I've always been trained in the mafia ways since I was very young. I was taught to be strong and well, discrete and all others but," he stopped briefly and smiled.

"If I was allowed, I would have been in space by now, you know studying anything nature." Aurora nodded once.

"That's actually a very nice profession. You would have been exceptional in it." Charles smiled.

"What made you think so?"

He watched Aurora for a moment and noticed how she was rubbing her shoulder slightly.

The breeze could have been getting too much for her.

Charles pulled off his jacket and covered Aurora in it.

Aurora smiled with gratitude and relaxed.

"Would you still be able to have your dream job if I offer to help you financially?" Aurora smiled.

"Maybe, maybe not. I've lost purpose on earth. Maybe I would have committed suicide if I hadn't seen you this morning."

Charles' heart made a sudden thud in his chest at this. He felt a slight pain and wondered how it would have felt if he discovered that Aurora was actually dead. He knew he had to get Aurora before anything else.

Yet, he wanted it to come naturally. He wanted to convince Aurora and even convince himself.

"Can you do me a favour, Aurora?"

Charles stopped her suddenly. She looked at him.

"And what can that be?"

"Can I install something on your phone? Something that can show me your location? I mean whenever you feel like it. You just have to switch on your location if you want me to. Even if you are feeling down, just on your location and I will be there."

Aurora regarded him for a moment and saw the seriousness on his face. She liked the fact that Charles was showing her how much he cares.

"Alright," she smiled softly.

"I can do that," she decided and extended the food to him.

Charles took it and started working on it.

"What! The grill bar is open!" Aurora said suddenly and jubilated.



Charles finished what he was doing on the phone and followed the path of her gaze toward a roadside shop.

"That grill has been there before I left Jacksonville. But I know the owner would have closed. Maybe he has because he's not the one currently attending to customers now. If you taste his grilled

meat, [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) you will always want to buy them. It's always delicious." Charles smiled.

"Should we buy some, then?" Aurora nodded briefly.

"Yes!" Charles held her hand and walked her to the stand. The aroma actually made Charles salivate.

"This is looking nice," he muttered.

The seller smiled.

"You are going to like it. I'm sure. Taste it."

Charles complied and chewed slightly.

When he was done, he had this big smile on his face.

"This is actually delicious!" Aurora laughed.

"I told you! Can we have three?" Charles shook his head briefly.

"Six!"

"Nice, no problem. Here," he gestured towards the prepared meats.

"I will go get something to drink," Aurora offered suddenly and started walking away before Charles would talk.

"This is so delicious.I think I'm going to buy more."

The man's smile widened, with pleasure and satisfaction.

Suddenly, Charles stopped and slapped himself mentally for letting Aurora go.He was supposed to be the one to go and get something for them to drink and not the otherwise.He was just too occupied with the grilled meat which wasn't supposed to be.But he couldn't even find Aurora anyways.

"Are you looking for your girlfriend? She seemed to have gone that way," the seller explained.

Charles bowed slightly and followed the path of instructions.

The street he found himself in was quite calm unlike where he was coming from and Aurora wasn't in sight.He stopped suddenly and picked up Aurora's right shoe.

What the fuck had happened? And why did Aurora have one of her shoes in the middle of the road? He only had one meaning to it.

Aurora had been kidnapped.It was the only meaningful reason why her shoe was in the middle of the road.She must have been struggling with her attackers and had mistakenly pulled off her shoe.

Just then, a car drove past him at an alarming speed.

Grey regarded the car for a moment and knew that his instinct was confirmed.

Aurora had truly been kidnapped.He brought out his phone and realized that the location was on already.That was the second proof that Charles needed.Truly, Aurora's phone was moving which means that the phone was still with her after she was kidnapped.

All he had to do was follow the address to be able to get Aurora back.

#### Chapter 503: Kidnapped

The blood drained off Charles' face at the realisation.

The first thing that came to his mind was tracking the phone before they discovered there was a tracking device on it.

Charles had to pick a race back to the restaurant.

When he finally got to the car, he checked the location and realised that the phone was on another street.

What was so surprising was the fact that it wasn't going towards Giovanni's house.

And Charles had to wonder what was really wrong.

Or could the kidnappers have been Alex? Maybe he already caught him and thought of a way to make him pay.

But Charles planned to treat his fuck up if truly that was what happened. He wouldn't let any of them go scot-free if they harm even a hair on Aurora. He pressed on the accelerator, driving as fast as he could.

Fuck! The next day was the announcement day already.

And Charles wondered what Alex and Giovanni were planning. His head banged at the thought of it and he couldn't stop blaming himself. He regretted letting Aurora out of his sight. He followed the path on the map for a moment and noticed that the phone stopped moving for a moment, only for it to move again. Then, stop again.

Charles pulled off a few miles away from a yellow painted huge mansion.

There was actually another nice building almost opposite the house and Charles had no idea where Aurora was.

A car drove out of the house and the location of Aurora's phone changed again.

Charles got the idea immediately.

Aurora was definitely in the car. So, he drove after them.

They drove for some minutes, with Charles turning anytime they did.

In fact, he made it known that he was really tailing them.

Charles didn't care.

One thing he had on his mind was getting Aurora back and he would do so that night.

Maybe the men were trying to lure him or they thought he would leave eventually, they made a turn into a deserted road.

The day was late but the moonlight reflected and guarded the way.

The car pulled to a stop in front of Charles and dared him to get down.

He got down, with his fist clenched beside him and fuming in rage.

At the rate that he was, he could take down two men at the same time.

Three men got down from the car when they saw that Charles was coming towards them.

If they knew that Charles had always trained with Grey, they wouldn't dare him.

"Who are you? And why were you tailing us?"

Charles didn't reply.

Instead, he continued to move forward. He punched one that was closer, hitting him so hard that he was forced to withdraw immediately and tender to himself.

The other two men regarded the wounded one for a moment before they turned to look at Charles again, with fire in their eyes.

They attacked him at once but he dealt with them each.

When they were down, he hurried towards the car.

But unfortunately, there was no one in the car.

Anger flashed across Charles' eyes at this.

Charles rushed toward one of the men.

"Where is she? Where did you take her?" The man groaned.

"To the yellow eyes."

"Who sent you to do so?"

The man didn't reply and instead, spat out blood.

Charles squeezed his neck with fury.

"Who sent you?"

"I don't know. We have never seen his face. We just deliver to the people at the yellow house and we get paid for it," novellebook.com he explained.

Charles regarded him for a moment as he contemplated killing him or letting go. He finally released him with a sigh and walked back to his car.

There was something else ongoing.

Ok, it turned out that the kidnappers didn't even know who sent them.

Alex or Giovanni must have communicated with them through one of their personal men.

Charles drove back to the yellow building and regarded it for a moment.

It looked like a type that Giovanni would stay in.

This brought him to the fact that Alex might have been the one that took Aurora.

Perhaps, he saw him with her and decided to lure him by using her. He didn't know however if he should storm the building that instance. He didn't want to risk anything, even though he was boiling with rage.

What would happen if Alex had many men already waiting for him in the building? It would be no use and his effort would be wasted.

Aurora might even be killed. He needed to handle it carefully and that means he had to inform Grey about it.

There was no other way.

Besides, Grey needed to know the look of things and the present situation.

Aurora opened her eyes slowly and closed them back immediately. Her eyes ached so much. She opened them again, and eventually, she was able to focus on the ceiling as she was laying down. She

was a bit surprised and maybe skeptical as she searched her brain briefly about where she was.

"Sush, don't cry," someone whispered behind her.

Aurora didn't move for a moment as she tried to remember what had happened to her and why she was in an unfamiliar room at that time.

Then, it came at her suddenly. She remembered walking with Charles and stopping at the roadside.

And when she decided to get some drinking water, two strange-looking men moved closer to her.

And that was all she could remember because someone pushed something to her nose and she found it difficult to breathe for a moment before sleep took its course.

Aurora sat up and looked around quickly.

There were two girls in the corner of the room.

One of them seemed to be crying and the other one was consoling her.

Aurora walked to them.

"Where are we? How did I get here?"

"Don't you know? That you have been kidnapped," the lady dropped a bombshell.

Chapter 504: Rescue mission

"What did you say just happened? I don't understand," Giovanni muttered. He wasn't at home the day before and only got home a few hours ago.

Alex felt the matter was more important than for him to discuss with him on the phone. So, he waited for him.

And he hasn't heard anything from his men, which means that they haven't found the man that looked like Grey. And he was bothered. So, he had to inform Giovanni in case there was something he could do about it.

The announcement day was fast approaching already and there was no way they could cancel it. It wasn't even possible as Giovanni wasn't part of the special members.

"Yes, that's what I was told. And when I got to the airport, I saw him. He had a mask on. A mask that Grey used," Alex explained.

Giovanni regarded Alex for a moment.

"Are you saying there's a possibility that Grey is alive?" Alex shivered at this.



"This is definitely not possible. I mean you really confirmed the bomb. In fact, his car exploded and two corpses were found. The elders had the burial as well. But I just think he could be someone that would mess without plans." Giovanni looked away as he thought about it.

He was very convinced that Grey was dead. There was no way it was him that Alex saw. But he supported Alex. The person might really want to disturb the announcement day.

"I know just what to do," Giovanni looked at Alex.

"You should return to Italy. We don't know who is watching and what they are planning just yet. So, you have to stay low and wait for my call," he ordered.

Alex nodded once.

"Alright, Dad. I will leave tomorrow."

"Alright, then," Giovanni stood up at once.

"Goodnight then, we will discuss this later."

Charles arrived at where Grey was staying for the night. He hurried up, into the elevator and eventually in front of his door.

Charles wasn't only annoyed, he was scared. He didn't want anything to happen with Aurora. He wouldn't ever forgive himself. But he was sure that Aurora would make it if Grey intervened. He glanced at one of the men standing in front of the room.

"Is Grey in?"

The man nodded briefly.

Charles opened the door and got inside.

Grey looked up, with raised brows. He was drowning his vodka and maybe thinking of the announcement day. He regarded Charles for a moment.

"Did something happen? I thought we discussed having a separate hotel. We don't want Giovanni and Alex finding out about us," he scolded softly.

"I know but I couldn't help this," he moved closer to him.

"I need you to help me," he said softly.

Grey sat up.

"What happened?"

"You do remember Aurora, right?"

Grey nodded once.

"Did something happen to her? I thought she left Italy the other time. Do you know her whereabouts?" He bombarded Charles. Charles nodded once.

"She has been kidnapped," he released a sigh.

"I met with her today for dinner but she was kidnapped right in front of my eyes. Though I was able to track her and get where she was at that moment, I don't want to go alone."

"What? You mean Alex took her?"

"I'm not sure but something definitely tells me he's involved somehow. I mean there's no way why Aurora would be kidnapped without a hidden motive. Besides, some of his men walked into the restaurant where I and Aurora were. I think they were still looking for me," he explained.

Grey nodded once.

"Do you know where they took Aurora to? Charles nodded once.

"I do. I had a tracking device on Aurora's phone. So, I was able to track where they took her to."

"Fine then," Grey placed this cup of vodka on the table.

"Let's storm in when they least expect it." Charles nodded once.

"Are you coming?"

"Sure," Grey stood up immediately.

"I was getting bored anyways. The announcement day is in two days. It's still a long way. Also, when we rescue Aurora, I will advise that you have her closer to you, at least till after the announcement. It's going to be a bloody war between us and Giovanni," he suggested.

Charles stood up.

"I understand. I will assemble the men," he bowed slightly and walked out.

It didn't take five minutes when Aphrodite walked out, in all black and with a wide smile on her face.

Grey regarded her for a moment.

"What are you doing?"

"I overheard your conversation with Charles. You definitely didn't think you would leave me behind again?" Grey laughed.

"What the fuck? So what?"

Aphrodite had a sly smile on her face.

"I'm coming with you. I'm getting bored as well. Besides, I could keep her safe before the announcement. We could be together. Anything that belongs to Charles is our safety, [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) remember?" Grey laughed again.

"Of course, I do. Alright, I've heard that. Give me a few minutes to dress up. I will meet you guys at the parking space."

"What is this place? And why did they bring us here?"

Aurora questioned the lady that seemed very mature.

The other lady had stopped crying now and her eyes were currently closed.

Though, it was difficult to determine if she was Currently asleep or not.

"It's an experiment lab. You just got unlucky. I'm Tiana and you?"

Aurora blinked once, then twice.

"I mean it's ok to know each other's name since we are going to die," she said with sarcasm.

She started laughing but it soon ended up being strained. So, she gave up.

"I'm not going to die," Aurora said defiantly.

Tiana sighed.

"Well, there's no escape here. No one has ever escaped. And a lot of people have been killed because of the experiment."

Aurora regarded Tiana for a moment.

"How did you know that and what kind of experiment are you talking about?"

Tiana rolled up her sleeve and revealed several injection marks on her body.

"I have been here for a few days now. The reason why I am still alive was because I got lucky once. Though, I don't think I would be again. A substance was tested on me. Fortunately, I was the only one alive. The others died immediately."

Tiana stopped slightly when the lady in her arms jerked up. She patted her slightly and looked at Aurora again.

"The doctor was so happy that he was making progress with me. So, I guess he's planning on using me for the last test. And, several people have been killed these last few days. Sometimes, I would be forced to stay with corpses before I would be returned here."

Aurora held a shiver in place.

"This is rubbish and it will all end soon. Charles will save me."

Tiana regarded Aurora for a moment.

"Who's Charles? Your boyfriend?" Aurora smiled.

"He's a mafia lord.He's going to save us," she repeated.

Well, she remembered that Charles had her phone tracked already.What would have happened to her if she hadn't agreed to it?

Chapter 505: Not this

Richard turned to grab his injection.

"Please, have mercy on me.Please, don't test anything on me," a man that was trapped at the lab table pleaded as Richard injected him.

He regarded the man for a moment.He smiled softly.

"Looks like I'm on it." The man suddenly started shuddering and gasping for air.

Richard sighed, disappointed.

"A failure again.Get me another test object," he muttered.

"Boss, a male or female?"

One of the men asked, with confusion.

"I don't care! Just get me one test object!" He yelled and the man rushed out.

Richard was fuming with rage at the failure of his test again.He wondered when he was eventually going to succeed.novelebook.comHe has prolonged things too much that got Giovanni angry at him.But he

thought the recipe was going to make things easy for him. But that wasn't the case. He has been failing, except for the first two steps that seemed to have succeeded on one of the test subjects.

Gunshots were heard from outside suddenly.

Richard stepped back, alarmed.

The three men inside the room moved towards the door to see what was wrong.

"What's going on outside? Is that Giovanni? Would Giovanni attack his place?"

"No, it's not the boss. They are intruders. They must be thieves."

"What are you still waiting for? Get them. They will make very nice test subjects,"

Richard muttered and walked back to what he was doing.

Grey hesitated and looked at Aphrodite.

"You and Charles should look for Aurora, I will cover you guys." Aphrodite and Charles nodded once.

"Be very careful," Charles muttered before he and Aphrodite went towards space by their left.

Grey started shooting at anyone that wanted to shoot Aphrodite and Charles until they were out of sight.

Three men rushed out of the house and joined the other five men outside already.

They were also shooting.

Two bullets hit two of Grey's men.

Before they would be able to fire another shot, Grey shot the two men down. The fire continued for a while until the opponent's men were all dead.

Three men died from Grey's side.

"Some of you should come with me, the others should stay out here and watch out," he ordered and walked inside.

Five men went after him.

They entered a big room that looked like a lab. There were laboratory chairs everywhere.

"Are you done? Have you dealt with them?" a deep voice asked.

Grey continued to walk towards the path where the voice came from, and his men followed him.

"Why can't you guys answer? Is this supposed to be a joke-," he stopped suddenly as he turned to look at Grey and the men.

He blinked once, then twice as if he couldn't quite believe it.

Grey smiled softly.

"Shock?" he regarded him for a moment, at the blood that had stained his white coat.

The syringe fell from Richard's hand.



"Who the fuck are you? What do you think you are doing here?" Grey looked over at the dead man on one of the lab chairs close to Richard. His brows squeezed with concentration.

"What are you doing with them?"

"None of your business, get out now before you die!" he threatened.

"Do you know who I work for? You will be dead if you don't leave immediately," he threatened.

Grey chuckled.

"Seriously?"

"Just name your price and leave in peace. If it's money you want, name it. Name the amount and you will get it. But if you want to be stubborn, it would be very bad for you," he warned.

Grey released a sigh.

"Game over, take him. I need to speak with him later," he muttered and turned towards the empty syringe on the table.

The men already moved forward to grab Richard.

"Wait," Grey called suddenly and it pulled the men to a sudden stop.

Grey picked an old tablet from the table and regarded the recipe for a moment.

"Drop that! Don't take it!" Richard yelled suddenly and lurched forward as if to collect it from Grey.

The men pulled him back.

Grey regarded the tablet for a moment.

"What is this for?" Richard clenched his teeth in anger.

"I'm not going to say a word," he said stubbornly.

"You obviously don't know who you are dealing with."

"Take him away. I don't have his time at this moment,"

Grey muttered.

"And take this as well. It looks like there is something very important to it. In fact, take things that might be of importance. We will sort the rest out later."

"Give me a few minutes," Richard said suddenly, just as the men were about to take him away.

"Just give me a few minutes and you won't regret it. I just need to call someone, and your life will change for the better," he promised.

Grey looked at Richard for a moment.

"And who do you want to call, if I must ask?" Richard hesitated as he contemplated on talking or not. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) He released a sigh and decided to proceed.

If he could let them know who he works for, they would definitely let him go.

Giovanni was now the number one mafia lord in Jacksonville since the death of Hercules. So, it would be easy.

"Who?" Grey inquired again.

"Giovanni," Richard said eventually.

"I work for Giovanni.If you let me go, he would award you beyond measure."

Grey regarded him for a moment and burst out laughing really hard.

"This is one of the funniest jokes I've ever heard since I entered Jacksonville."

"You don't believe me? You don't? Just give me a phone and I will prove it to you. Giovanni will reward you beyond your imagination," he assured.

Grey turned away.

"Get him out of its sight.We will revisit this matter," he muttered.

"What! What are you going to do with me? You don't believe me?"

"Shut up, why do you think Hercules would need Giovanni? Does that even make any sense?" Aphrodite laughed.

Richard's eyes went wide as he concentrated them on Grey.

"Hercules is alive?"

Chapter 506: New weapon

Aurora hugged Charles so tight.She was so happy that he came for her.Well, she knew that he would.

Charles pulled back after a while and looked at her.

"Are you ok? I hope they didn't touch you?" Aurora smiled and nodded quickly. She looked back briefly, at the new friends she just made.

The men with Charles were going into the rooms and releasing all the people in them.

Tiana and her friend walked out to Aurora.

"See? I told you that someone was going to come up for me, " Aurora jubilated.

Tiana nodded once and looked at the other girl.

"You can leave now, you are saved," she assured with a smile.

"What about you?" Tiana shrugged briefly.

"I don't know. Maybe I'm going to stay and wait for one of them to come back for me." Aurora was alarmed.

"What do you mean? Why can't you come with us? Where are your families? Your parents? Or siblings?" Tiana shook her head briefly.

"I have none. Besides, the doctor has already tried two of his drugs on me. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) Would I really be the same if I leave?"

"So, you are going to wait for them to continue using you as a test subject?" Aurora was shocked.

Tiana shrugged slightly.

"There's nothing more for me in the world anyways."

"I will stay with you then. I have nowhere to go anyways," Tiana's friend said.

Charles pulled at Aurora, "Let's go," he informed her.

Aurora was hesitant. She didn't want to leave Tiana behind.

"Is something happening here?" Grey asked suddenly, breaking through the silence that was about to ensue.

Aurora looked at Grey, a smile coming up on her face.

"I didn't know I got the whole squad up because of me," she joked.

Grey smiled softly and looked at Tiana.

"Everyone left already. What are you still waiting for?"

"She's staying," Aurora said quickly.

"She wants to stay because the doctor had already experimented on her," she sighed.

"She's determined." Grey took a step closer to Tiana, with raised brows.

"What experiment can that be?" Tiana shook her head briefly.

"I have no idea but the others have died. I'm the only one who has survived two shots," she explained.

Grey was confused. He had no idea what was really happening. He wondered what Giovanni was up to and what kind of thing he was experimenting with.

Because it was Giovanni, Grey got even more interested. He was going to find out what was really happening.

"Why don't you come with us?" Giovanni said suddenly.

"I will have someone test you and see what they have injected you with. If it's something detrimental to your health, we will find a way to cure you," Grey assured.

"Yes, come with us," Aurora chimed in.

Tiana nodded once.

"Alright."

"Can I come with you?" Tiana's friend asked.

Tiana smiled softly.

"I don't know, Mercy. Unless the people can accommodate us."

"Of course, I can. She's free to stay."

Mercy hugged Tiana with a huge smile on her face.

Grey turned to look at Charles.

"Let's talk later then and be very careful." Charles nodded once. Grey walked out of the room and met with Aphrodite.

"Is everything alright? You look bothered." Grey nodded once.

"Just thinking about the people that Giovanni had locked here. Why did he do that? One of the ladies said some of them died. What experiment could involve people's lives?" "Maybe it's something we can use against Giovanni? Maybe we could get the police to arrest him? We would just release all the things we've taken so that another scientist can continue the experiment. Well, since Richard already recognized you," she explained.

"Maybe but it's risky. Giovanni knows a lot of people. Who knows, we might be working into his plan. We have to be very careful. Besides, we can't afford to let anyone get killed again."

"Well, we could get him apprehended before he could. We could make sure it happens tomorrow."

Grey reasoned it for a moment and released a sigh.

"I need to know what all this is all about at first. Tell the men to take Richard to my mansion. I will speak with him after the announcement day." Aphrodite nodded once.

Grey walked away and Aphrodite focused on Charles and Aurora that were hugging again.

Aphrodite smiled softly and moved closer to them.

"Would you keep her at Grey's mansion? They will be safe there." Charles looked at her and smiled.

"Yes, thank you so very much."

"Any news?" Giovanni inquired.

Alex shook his head briefly.

"I don't think he's really still in Jacksonville.Maybe he left already.Or maybe he planned on coming out on the announcement day," he explained.

Giovanni regarded him for a moment.

"Make sure all our men are securing the doors to the hall on the announcement day.Nobody suspicious must enter," he ordered.

"Should I be at the announcement day?" Giovanni nodded once.

"Why not? Everything will end that day.I will be the new king of the world.That aside, I would be a special member a few days later.So, you don't need to bother about anything."

Alex nodded in agreement, a silly smile on his face.

"I like the sound of that.I would eventually be free to roam the streets of Jacksonville without having to worry about the public."

The door opened suddenly and one of Giovanni's men walked inside.

"Boss," he called suddenly.

Giovanni looked up at him.

"Is something wrong?"

"Yes, boss.It looks like Richard was attacked," the man announced.



Giovanni stood up unconsciously.

"What did you just say?"

"One of his men came back, injured. We couldn't ask more from him because he had already collapsed. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) He's being attended to at this moment," he explained.

"Get the men! We are going to Richard's place at this moment," he muttered.

"I must see what has happened myself and who the fuck had the effrontery to do this." Alex looked at Giovanni, with skeptical brows.

"What's happening? Who is Richard?" Giovanni released a sigh.

"He's making my new weapon."

#### Chapter 507: The meeting

Giovanni, Alex, and his men got to Richard's house. He saw the corpses laying around and he went red with anger.

"Who the fuck did this?" He yelled.

"I will check around for anyone," one of the men told Giovanni and hurried inside with some of the men.

"Where's Richard? Find him!" Giovanni muttered.

Several men rushed inside again.

Giovanni entered the main lab room. His gaze searched around quickly before he rushed toward the table where several syringes were. He searched for the tablet but didn't see it. His mind made a sudden thud at the fact staring right at him.

Could the attacker have taken both Richard and the tablet? "What are you looking for, father?"

"The recipe. I mean no one would go for the recipe unless they know its usefulness. Besides, who would do something like that?"

"And are you sure it wasn't Richard? He could be trying to play smart with you. You did tell me he had been struggling with the steps. What if he had figured it out and had to stage this because he didn't want to submit the weapon to you?"

Giovanni looked at Alex for a moment as his explanation sank in.

What if Alex was right? He felt pained about it. He had initially made available a man to spy on Richard but had to withdraw again because he decided to trust him.

"You should look for him, father. Block all the entrances out of the country. He might try to flee or he might have decided to stay in Jacksonville till he's able to avoid you and your men."

Giovanni nodded once, his fist clenched beside him.

"I'm going to find him no matter what."

Avery placed a call to Grey again for the umpteenth time that day but it didn't go through. She thought that she was going to see him yesterday but he didn't show up.

Though, he promised her that he was going to see her soon.

Avery had waited for him.

Sometimes, she would stay at the bar in front of the suites but Grey never showed up.

Though, she understood that he was trying to hide since almost everyone thought he was dead.

Yet, she knew there could have been a way he could avoid these and still see her. It was late in the night again and Avery had lost hope that she was going to see Grey before the announcement day.

The announcement day was the next day.

In fact, she wasn't even sure she was going to see him on the announcement day.

Grey was Hercules.

Definitely, if he was showing up as Hercules, he wouldn't want people to see him.

Well, Avery didn't know his plan.

Clad in a pair of blue jean trousers and a pink hoodie, Avery walked out of her room. She decided to go to a bar or perhaps a club to drink and maybe think more about her life. She stopped suddenly when she felt someone behind her.

It felt as though she was being followed. She turned around to check but all she saw were people moving in and out of the suites, nothing suspicious. She walked inside the garage.

It was empty and eerily silent.

Because she once had a suspicious move behind her, everything now looked suspicious. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) She shrugged it off and moved to her car as fast as she could. She opened the door and got inside.

"Hi," a thick voice said behind her suddenly.

Avery jerked back in fright. She looked back and saw it was Grey. She released a sigh.

"What! David!" She yelled.

Grey laughed.

"Were you scared?" Avery laughed too.

"You scared me! What kind of guy does that at night? You scared the wit out of me."

"Sorry about that. Actually, you made me come here. You said you wanted to see me. So, here I am."

Avery released a sigh.

"Thank you. Where should we go?" She asked excitedly.

"I have a place to be in less than two hours but we could go anywhere."

Avery smiled, started the ignition, and drove out of the garage.

"I thought I was never going to see you before the announcement day," Avery muttered.

"And why do you badly want to see me before then?"

Avery had the urge to say she missed him but she bit it back immediately.

"Well, I was going to discuss something important with you concerning my business," she said instead.

"What about it?"

"Why are you in such a hurry? You have an hour with me, don't you? Let's go to the club, drink something and then talk." Grey watched her for a moment.

"Why do you want to go to a club with me? And not a restaurant?"

"It's late, isn't it? Clubs are fun places when it's late especially when it's Megaphone," she muttered and looked over at the front mirror to catch a glimpse of his expression.

It wasn't easy actually to see him as it was semi-dark but Avery was being patient.

There were going to be a lot of opportunities in the future.

Avery pulled to a stop in front of Megaphone Attitude and looked back at Grey.

"This is going to be the best time actually." Grey smiled and got down.

"Sure, it will," he moved to open the door for Avery.

"Get down, Avery. You seem to be in a nice mood."

"Of course," Avery laughed and got out.

They both walked inside and took a seat.

Grey beckoned the barman closer while Avery watched some of the people in the club.

The place wasn't crowded and the song playing in the background was low. So, it was easy for one person to hear another if they speak a little high.

"It looks like Giovanni is going to be this year's king of the world.It's a pity that Hercules is gone," a voice muttered.

Avery looked at Grey and watched his expression as he spoke to the barman.

Alex showed up from the front of the door, just as Grey dismissed the barman and looked at her.

Avery knew, that Alex and Grey were enemies.

Who doesn't? Especially after Alex's identity has been made known.Alex was the son of Giovanni while Grey was Hercules.

Chapter 508: Distraction

Avery knew that she had to do something and it had to be very fast.

Alex wasn't supposed to see Grey at that moment.She looked at Grey.

"Can we leave now?"

Though, she knew that wasn't going to be easy.

Leaving would mean Alex seeing Grey and that was what she wanted to avoid.Grey raised confused brows.

"But we just got here.Why do you want us to leave? I've already ordered something for us to drink and chew on.Is there something else wrong?" He was skeptical.

Avery bent suddenly, "I think I'm having pains in my tummy," she lied and feigned pain.

"I think we need to leave this instance," she looked ahead of him, at Alex who was currently speaking to an unknown man in the club.

Grey saw this and followed the path of her gaze. He was quick to look away just as Alex looked over to their side.

Grey's heart made a sudden thud at this.

What the fuck was Alex doing in his club? Actually, he thought Megaphone Attitude would be the safest for him.

Why would Alex come to his club? And Avery seemed to be scared of him as well, with the way she looked at him.

Well, she was supposed to recognize him now as Giovanni's son. It was even Grey that exposed the whole truth.

But could Alex have done something wrong to Avery? Was that why she was currently scared? Avery focused back on Grey and noticed the change in his countenance.

"I really think I have to leave, perhaps go to the hospital. I feel so weird!"

"Sure," Grey nodded once.

"You should go ahead, I will see the barman and inform him not to make any preparations."

"Well, take your time because I have someone else I need to speak to," she muttered, took her bag, and walked away before Grey would say anything else.

Avery knew that Grey wouldn't be able to leave that instance because he was indeed going to hide from Alex.

Alex was going to see him if he decided to leave at that moment.

What Avery planned to do was distract Alex so that Grey could leave.

Though, that was the most dangerous thing to do.

Well, for Hercules, she could do more. She walked swiftly to Alex, a smile on her face.

"Hi Alex," she called suddenly.

Alex hesitated and looked at Avery. He regarded her for a moment as if trying to remember who she really was.

"You are\_," his voice trailed off.

"Avery Robinson," Avery muttered and extended her hand.

Alex regarded her for another moment and suddenly smiled.

"Avery, Grey's ex-wife."

Avery felt a stab of whatever at his word. She didn't know if it was pain or regret. But she wondered how much Alex knew her.

Well, since Grey was Hercules, it was normal for him to know who his wife was.

"You remember me?"

"I remember you very much now. We met in Italy. But how come you are here now? Did you follow me here?"



He accused her, with a hard and frightening expression.

Avery swallowed harder.

Alex was definitely not like Grey. She couldn't believe that she lost a man like Grey. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) She swallowed harder and tried to calm down so it wouldn't look like she was scared.

"No, why would I do that? I just have something to discuss with you."

"Ok, what can that be?"

He raised a brow and waited.

Avery looked over at the man standing in front of Alex as if indirectly saying she didn't want to talk in front of her.

Alex understood and looked back at the man.

"I will see you later."

The man bowed slightly and walked away.

Avery faked a smile.

"Can you buy me a drink? While we talk? Alex regarded her for another moment as if trying to see through what she was thinking.

"Alright, I will," he muttered and moved to the bar.

Avery followed him. It looks like her plan had worked.

At this moment, Grey looked at Alex and saw that he was distracted already. He took the opportunity to move out of the club. He had initially been thinking of how to leave without being seen by Alex. It just wasn't yet time.

He didn't know what Avery had with him but he was glad that because of her, Alex and him wouldn't be meeting.

Though, he was still worried about Avery. He texted her immediately and waited in the car. He planned to call Charles if Avery doesn't come out within ten minutes.

Then, he wondered why Alex was in his club. He obviously thought that Grey could be alive.

If Grey was, he would definitely go to his club, since it would be safe to hide his identity like that.

Avery's phone beeped suddenly and a message from Grey appeared on her screen. She smiled at this and took the cup of vodka that Alex had gotten for her.

"So, why would you want to speak with me? I don't remember having any unfinished business with you."

"Well, you do not. I was just going to talk to you about investing in my business," she smiled softly.

"I planned on starting a business in Italy and I need investors and, well, a business partner. Which one can you be?"

Alex regarded her for a moment.

"Do you know who I am?"

"Who doesn't know the son of Giovanni? You are quite popular." Alex laughed.

"Seriously?"

"Yes, though, not now. I could speak with you some other time if you don't mind. According to your schedule. I can convince you to invest in my business," she explained.

Alex nodded once.

"Come to my house tomorrow by ten. I will be expecting you," he pulled out his business card and wrote something on it.

Then, he stretched it out to Avery.

"That's my house's address."

Avery trembled.

"Your house? Not an office?"

"My house. I will be expecting you," he muttered and walked away.

Avery suppressed another shiver before she walked out of the club.

Alex just acted weird.

Well, she had no plan on visiting him. So, there was no need to be worried. She was only glad that she was able to prevent a disaster.

Chapter 509: The perfect plan

"So, have you settled with the barman?" Avery asked as she got inside the car beside Grey.

Grey nodded once.

"What were you discussing with Alex?" Avery regarded him for a moment.

"You know who Alex is?" she feigned surprise.

"I thought I told you I was a mafia lord. Why won't I know the likes of Alex?" he grunted and started the ignition.

Avery laughed.

"Great, I'm glad you know a lot of people. It's really going to help my business."

Grey grunted and pulled the car out of the park and into the street.

"Which hospital would you like us to go to? And how do you feel now?"

"Well, let's check out another club because I currently feel very good."

Grey couldn't believe it.

"What?"

"Yes, I suddenly feel better. It's a miracle, isn't it? Let's find a nice club to go to. Maybe a club owned by Alfred."

Grey glanced at her.

"Oh, you knew clubs owned by Alfred. Apparently, you knew that Megaphone Attitude belonged to Hercules?"

"Yes," Avery smiled briefly.

"The dead Hercules."

Grey was a bit suspicious at first but he decided to push everything to the back of his head. He was just going to enjoy the night.

The next day was the announcement day.

The morning of the announcement.

Charles and Aphrodite were at Grey's estate.

In fact, that was where they all slept.

Tiana and Mercy were given a room and made to be comfortable until Grey's next order.

Charles opened his eyes suddenly. He slept with Aurora in the room that was given to her. He and Aphrodite actually planned to take a plane back to Jacksonville that morning.

Aurora turned and caged Charles again.

Charles smiled and pecked her forehead.

"Good morning," he said softly, hoping Aurora would wake up.

Aurora opened her eyes slowly.

"Is it morning already?"

"Definitely and I need to leave. My place is beside Grey."

Aurora nodded once and released him.

"Do you promise that you will come back?" Charles kissed her.

"I promise," he smiled.

"And you are safe here. You will be safe until I come for you again." Aurora nodded once.

"Alright. You need to hurry up."

Charles rushed inside the bathroom for his bath.

When he walked out of the room, clad in a blue suit, he met Aphrodite speaking with Aurora. He hesitated and watched them for a moment. His past and his presence.

A smile broke out of his face at this. He has almost forgotten that he once had a huge crush on Aphrodite.

The only thing he could think of at that moment was Aurora. He loved her so much now that he decided to never let her go.

"What are you two discussing?" Aurora laughed.

"Nothing you should know." Aphrodite smiled.

"Me and your girlfriend were just chit- chatting."

Aurora looked at Charles with surprise on her face.

"Your girlfriend?" Charles smiled.

"Are you not?" Aurora yelled and jumped at him.

Aphrodite laughed.

"I will be waiting at the car," she muttered and walked out.

She left Jacksonville with Aurora, Charles, and the other two ladies they rescued at Richard's house two nights ago after they attacked one of Giovanni's hideouts. She was happy with Charles.

Eventually, he found his love.

And she was also able to find peace with herself.

"I'm sorry for keeping you waiting, Aphrodite,"

Charles muttered and got inside the car beside her.

Aphrodite nodded once and looked at him.

"You look happy with her." Charles smiled and started the ignition.

"I do so very much. Isn't this a nice thing?" [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) Aphrodite laughed.

"Let's hurry up. So that we can meet up at the start of the program."

Grey stared at himself in the mirror. He was clad in dirty blue jeans and a black shirt.

"What is your plan to get rid of the security?" Grey asked.

"I'm going first, boss. I'm going to try to distract them. I will just need to get one of the men and make him lose consciousness so that you can change into his clothes. Then, you can walk inside as one of them. No one would suspect you," he explained.

Grey turned to look at him.

"That's your plan?" The man went on one knee.

"I'm sorry boss if it's not up to your standard." Grey smiled.

"What's your name?"

"Jimmy, boss."

Grey's expression changed briefly as he regarded him for a moment.

The name reminded him of Jimmy, his dead driver. He missed him so much. But he was suddenly feeling like he just got him back.

"I will think of something else if that won't work."

"No," Grey said quickly.



"It's fine.I do love the plan," he released a sigh and turned towards the mirror again.He continued to button up.

"Jimmy, get up." Jimmy complied.

"I love your plan, Jimmy.You can continue," he ordered.

"Thank you, boss.So, when you are inside.I will find a way to come inside with your suit," he finished.

Grey nodded once.

"I actually love your plan.Charles and my other elders would be monitored.So, they wouldn't be able to be with my suit.So, yes, we are going with your plan but are you sure you can do this?"

"I will do this even if it will cost me my life." Grey turned to look at him again.

"No, do it without it taking your life.I will meet you at the hall."

Jimmy bowed slightly and walked out.Grey remembered Jimmy slightly and released a sigh.It was D- Day already.He must be prepared for the battle.His phone rang suddenly.It was Avery.He picked it up.

"Hello, Avery.Good morning.How was your night?"

"Great, David.It's the announcement day.When are you coming around?"

Grey released a sigh and feigned pain.

"I'm sorry Avery but I won't be able to come.But I will help you in any way that I can."

Avery went quiet for a moment.

Actually, Grey was initially planning on showing up as Grey but he couldn't risk exposing his identity to Avery.

"Why? Why can't you show up for a few minutes and return?" Avery said softly.

Grey didn't know if he should or not.

Chapter 510: Sorry

"Please," Avery said softly, her voice sounding as desperate as ever.

Grey had never heard her sound like that. He had to succumb.

"Alright, I will see what I can do about it," he assured.

There was a few minutes of silence.

"You promised?" Grey found himself smiling.

"Ok, I promise. I will."

"Alright, later then," she muttered and hung up.

Grey placed a call to Charles. He hadn't heard anything from him since morning and he was supposed to be in Jacksonville already.

Charles picked it up immediately.

"Hello, Grey. I and Aphrodite just arrived in Jacksonville. I will meet up with Alfred and Gregory so we can go on with our plan," he muttered.

Grey nodded once.

"Alright, tell Aphrodite to stay alarmed. When Jimmy tries his best to help me eliminate the security problem, he might need help with sending my suit inside. So, she could help him."

"Alright, I heard that," Aphrodite responded.

"But who is Jimmy? I thought Jimmy died already."

"Yes. This Jimmy is the man from Giovanni. He already told me what his plan would be. And I love it."

"Alright but be very careful. I still don't trust "Alright then," Grey released another sigh.

"Let's meet at the party then," he finished and the line went off.

Grey hesitated and reasoned quickly if there was something he had forgotten.

Having decided there was nothing, he walked out of his room.

Jimmy was waiting for him at the garage. He bowed slightly.

"I'm taking a cab, you could follow me behind so that you can get inside before they suspect anything."  
Grey nodded once.

"Alright," he responded and watched Jimmy leave before he got inside the car.

Avery spent a lot of time doing her hair and makeup that morning.

Actually, aside from the fact that Grey had promised to show up at the party as ordinary Grey, she knew that he would want to show up as Hercules too.

The announcement day seemed like it was going to be a big day.

Something huge was obviously going to happen which was why Grey convinced her to come along.

Though, she had no idea if he wanted her to do something for him.

There were a lot of things going on in her head and the answers eluded her. She didn't want to push anything at that moment and let Grey find out that she knows who he really was. [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) So, she was going to take her time.

Clad in white attire, a white long shirt that stopped right on her upper thigh, with black pleatings, and a trouser ripped to the thigh in front with the same black pleatings.

Avery looked perfect! Just as she eventually took her bag, the small card that Alex had given her the night before, dropped to the floor.

Avery picked it up and disposed of it before walking out of her room.

When she pulled the car to a park, the first thing she noticed was the men in suits standing at intervals as if watching out for Spiderman.

Avery had that strange thought that they were looking for Grey.

That again, confirms the thought that Grey was going to show up as Hercules. But with the heavily guarded entrance, Avery wasn't sure if Grey was going to enter but she was going to help him.

Though, she had no idea how she was going to do that.

Yet, she was going to wait and see. So, she pulled the seat back and relaxed so it would look like she wasn't in the car.

That was when a man walked inside the garage and moved closer to one of the men clad in a blue suit.

Jimmy moved closer to one of the faces that he recognized.

The man recognized him instantly.

"Jimmy? What are you doing here? How did you come back to Jacksonville?" Jimmy tried to smile.

"I came here this morning, with the money I could gather from good Samaritans."

"Damn, the boss has been looking for you. Where are the others?" Jimmy released a sigh.

"I really need to speak with you in private. Is there a place where we could talk very well without anyone hearing us?"

The man regarded Jimmy for a moment, then looked at the other men.

"Giovanni wouldn't like it if I leave my post."

Jimmy shrugged slightly.

"I'm just going to talk to you quickly. Maybe five minutes because I need your help with the boss. I mean I didn't say the security should be called off. The other men can stay. I only need you alone," he explained.

The man released a sigh.

"Alright, let's go then. Five minutes and we will come back here to follow Boss' order. Then we can talk more after the announcement day."

Jimmy nodded once.

"I understand." The man turned away and started to walk.

Jimmy followed quickly until they were in a secured location free from the hearing of others but still within the garage.

"So, what is all this about?"

"We were actually deceived, Mark. When we got to Italy. There were no billionaire clubs there but Maximo and the rest of the mafia lords were angry at [novelebook.com](http://novelebook.com) Giovanni for sending us.

"But how did he know that?"

"Don't you think we have a spy among us? Perhaps, among those men standing with you to carry out Boss' order? You need to inform Boss."

"Maybe after the announcement\_," Mark started to protest.

"No. You could actually send someone to him but I don't think he would like it if his plan fails. You need to inform him immediately," he suggested.

Mark nodded eventually.

"Alright, I will send someone. You should stay as well." Jimmy nodded once.

"Alright, I will."

Just as Mark turned to leave, Jimmy hit him on the back of his neck and he slumped immediately.

"I'm sorry, Mark," he muttered and pulled him to one side. He sent a message to Grey and walked out again. He moved to one of the men standing guard.

"Hey, you need to come. Mark said I should call you over." The man nodded once and didn't suspect anything because Mark showed signs that he knew him a few minutes ago. So, he followed Jimmy.

Just as he got to the same place, Jimmy attacked the man.

Grey showed up from behind one of the cars. He moved closer to Jimmy and they both pulled the suit off the man's body.