#### The Secret 371

## **Chapter 371 Taking Sides**

Half an hour later, Frida arrived and arrogantly entered the house, but changed her attitude when she realized that Alfredo was sitting on the sofa.

"You're here, grandfather," she greeted him remorsefully.

Alfredo gave him a disgusted look and snorted. Frida absently rubbed her nose and sat down on the sofa.

- -Stop there! Jonathan exclaimed. Frida stopped dead without meaning to. Since Alfredo was there, she returned to her place and stayed there in silence. He asked her, "Do you know why I asked you to come?"
- -Don't know. Frida pursed her lips and feigned ignorance. I was shopping when you asked me to come back. Why are you so upset?
- —Did you ask René not to provide the medicinal plants to Dr. Jerez's research institute?

Frida nodded nonchalantly. Seeing her answer, Alfredo and Jonatan had the same confused look. Since Frida met Roxana, she always had conflicts with her; Her rancor almost cost Grupo Quevedo her reputation, but she didn't think she was wrong.

- -Because you did? Jonathan frowned.
- —Jonatan, don't you know that the Fariña Group warned all suppliers of medicinal plants not to supply Roxana with anything? said Frida, who pretended to be surprised. If we continue to supply them, we would be announcing that we are against the Fariña Group!

A flash of surprise appeared on Jonatan's face: «No wonder Roxana, when she came this morning, she said that the other suppliers of medicinal plants did not deliver them to the research institute. Still, she didn't say why; It seems that the Fariña Group was behind this.

Jonatan remembered that Luciano and Roxana seemed to be on good terms before; in fact, Luciano defended her on more than one occasion; therefore, he couldn't understand why Roxana was the target. While he was frowning in confusion, Frida added:

—Señora Fariña didn't tell us anything, since we're close to them. Still, since we work closely with them, shouldn't we side with her? We would be against Mrs. Fariña if we insisted on providing Roxana with medicinal plants, as we promised. If Mrs. Fariña gets angry, we could get in trouble!

"Are you saying that Mrs. Fariña gave the order?" Jonathan frowned further. Why do that?

"So you don't know." Frida looked at him with a smug smile. Roxana's ex-husband is Luciano; Mrs. Fariña doesn't like her. Besides, it turns out...

"It turns out that I hate her too, and therefore I took the opportunity to teach her a lesson," Jonathan guessed her intention before he could finish speaking. Suddenly, he got up from the sofa. Frida's voice broke in surprise.

-Be quiet! You are part of the Quevedo family. How can you say that? If word gets out, we'll be everyone's laughing stock. The Quevedo Group worked hard for years to have its reputation; It is not necessary to take sides to show our position!

## Chapter 372 Don't Mess

Without realizing it, Frida took two steps back to defend herself:

- —Did I do something wrong? If the Quevedo Group gets into trouble for going against the Fariña Group, we will enter into a huge crisis!
- —Do you know why the Quevedo Group has been able to stay on its feet for more than a century? Jonathan admonished with clenched chin; he felt his temples throbbing.

Frida lowered her head and didn't answer anything else.

"It's because we keep what we promise!" Her," she added, shooting him a disappointed look. If we renounce our principle for personal reasons, Grupo Quevedo will lose credibility to do business in the medical industry!

Frida flinched and looked at Alfredo cautiously.

"Jonatan, I'm doing this for the good of the Quevedo Group," she said humbly. No company in Horneros dares to go against the Fariña Group! Mrs. Fariña warned every supplier of medicinal plants in Horneros to stay away from Roxana. If we don't do the same, what will she think of us? Our relationship with Grupo Fariña will be affected; it's not worth the risk.

She then looked at Jonatan to see her reaction; he gave her a cold look and waited for her to come up with more excuses to justify her foolish actions.

"Don't you know what Roxana tried to do to the Fariña family six years ago?" Frida continued adding fuel to the fire. She deserves to be punished for her irresponsible actions.

Right after, Jonathan snorted coldly. Frida had a lump in her throat and gave him a puzzled look.

—Do you remember what Dr. Jerez did to the Fariña family, so I think you remember how she cured grandfather a long time ago.

The more Frida talked, the more ridiculous she seemed to Jonatan. It didn't take long for him to unmask Frida's lousy excuse. Surprised, she turned to look at Alfredo. From what Jonatan said, it was clear that Alfredo was determined.

—Grandpa... —Frida spoke softly when she, already late, realized that she had to play shy with Alfredo.

Hearing her excuses, he was stunned and exhausted. Over the years, he had treated his grandchildren equally and taught them personally; however, Frida became an ungrateful young woman with extreme behavior. Doesn't she respect me at all? she thought.

"Don't talk to me," said Alfredo, whose heart filled with disappointment as he looked down at Frida. Dr. Jerez saved her life and I made it clear during her banquet that we would treat her as part of her family. How could you do that to him?

"Grandpa, you're wrong," Frida tried to justify herself immediately. I...

"Are you going to admit your mistake?" Alfredo interrupted her with a severe voice while he fixed his gaze on her.

Frida remained silent, but the fear on her face turned to outrage. Of course she had reasons to do it, but she also did it for the good of the Quevedo Group. She thought: How dare they question me? They will realize how wrong they are when Grupo Fariña causes them problems in the future!"

"From now on, you're not allowed to get involved in Grupo Quevedo's business," Alfredo said, shaking his head, since she didn't regret her actions. Jonatan will take full charge.

Frida raised her head, surprised by her grandfather's words. Before she could protest, Alfredo gestured for Jonatan to take him upstairs. He didn't want to stay and listen to his granddaughter's nonsense.

## Chapter 373 We'll Find Out Later

Upstairs, Alfredo sighed.

"Keep an eye on Frida," he told Jonatan. I'm afraid she'll do something foolish because of her recklessness.

"Don't worry," he agreed to his hasty request.

—Besides, don't take Frida's words to heart. We will supply Dr. Jerez with the medicinal plants that she needs; For my part, I will assume responsibility if the Fariña Group causes us problems," he added. Alfredo reminded him: "The Quevedo Group keeps its promise, so we can't break our principle.

"I'll call Dr. Jerez right now to explain the situation," Jonatan said, nodding in response.

- You can retire. Alfredo gave him a sharp nod. I'm tired.

After learning what Frida did, Alfredo had been frozen with fury; the weariness came to him after dealing with the matter. After helping Alfredo to get into bed, Jonatan left the bedroom; then he called Roxana, who felt heavy in his heart. It was getting late, but the Quevedo Group had not attended her again.

She began to suspect that Conrado was right about how the Grupo Quevedo's promise to investigate the matter was nothing more than an excuse: "If he is right, I will have to figure out how to contact suppliers of medicinal plants in a nearby city. Delivery will take time, but it's the only option for now. I wonder if the Fariña Group warned those people."

With this in mind, Roxana took out her phone to answer the senior she met at that academic conference. She had barely taken the cell from her when it began to vibrate and ring. Stunned, she frowned at the screen and her eyes lit up at the caller ID.

"Mr. Quevedo," she greeted.

"Dr. Jerez, I've already investigated the matter and everything seems to be a misunderstanding," Jonatan told her by way of apology. I've already taken care of it, so we'll deliver the medicinal plants you need to the research institute tomorrow at dawn.

Hearing this, Roxana exhaled in relief; Finally, she was able to relax at the good news and asked,

"May I know what happened?" For a moment, she didn't get an answer when he fell silent.

—Well, it's an internal problem within the Quevedo Group, so I can't tell you anything; however, it will not happen again. Don't worry," he assured her.

"Thank you," Roxana agreed and didn't ask any more questions.

"It's nothing," Jonathan laughed. If you urgently need medicinal plants, please consider Grupo Quevedo first. I promise you that we will deliver these to you as stipulated in the contract.

Roxana thanked him very much; after the brief call, they hung up. At the same time, someone knocked on Roxana's door; Conrad entered the office. Since he was waiting all day and did not receive any update from Grupo Quevedo, he got worried and came with Roxana to talk about it.

—Have you received a report on the situation, Dr. Jerez? He asked him and he realized that Roxana was smiling.

"They just called me and they promised to give me medicinal plants first thing in the morning," she answered cheerfully. After seeing her expression, he already knew what her response would be.

"I knew that the Quevedo Group wouldn't go back on their word," said Conrado, smiling. His smile

faded, however, as he added, "Still, that's the only company willing to work with us." Is not sufficient.

As the research institute was expanding rapidly, Grupo Quevedo could not supply the medicinal plants they needed fast enough.

"Whatever happens, this batch of medicinal plants can solve our problem for now," Roxana said, her smile fading. Then we'll find out when we get to it!

## Chapter 374 Isn't It Too Much?

On the other hand, Frida was furious assuming that her brother and grandfather did not appreciate her efforts; therefore, she was even prohibited from interfering with Grupo Quevedo's business. After Alfredo and Jonatan went up, Frida threw herself into the chair, furious, and remained thoughtful for a long time. From time to time, she would take out her frustration on her servants. In the end, since she couldn't calm down, she called April.

"Where are you, April?"

"I'm at the hospital," she answered, lowering the volume on her phone after hearing Frida's voice; she had Sonia next to her -. What's happening?

"Haven't you been discharged yet?" Frida asked, worried. She knew that she was admitted to the hospital after injuring herself trying to save Sonia. Although Frida visited her often, she had not realized that her condition was serious.

"Since I feel better now, I wanted to discharge myself from the hospital, but Mrs. Fariña is worried about me," she said presumptuously.

Upon hearing it, Sonia gave her a reproachful look; April smiled shyly when their eyes met.

—It is normal for Mrs. Fariña to worry about you, since you hurt yourself trying to save her. Also, since you are her future daughter-in-law, who else should she show affection to if not you? Frida answered gladly. Remembering what happened, she put on a somber expression. I'll come visit you later. Wait for me!

April agreed; when she hung up the call, Sonia offered her an orange segment, which she took and said:

—Señora Fariña, I've recovered; You don't have to take care of me. She's making me feel a bit uncomfortable.

Sonia gave him a disapproving look and said:

—You're hurt, so you have to recover for a while in the hospital. Why does it bother you that I take care of you? Because you hurt yourself for me, I'll feel bad if I don't! April smiled as she obediently ate the

orange. Sonia was pleased with how obedient she seemed. After she nodded, she added, "After you marry into the Fariña family, we will have plenty of time to take care of ourselves.

"Señora Fariña, Luciano hasn't made up his mind yet," said Abril, who blushed and looked at Sonia shyly. Don't say that anymore.

—Luciano will listen to me. Roxana will be kicked out of Homeros, so who else can he marry besides you? Sonia answered seriously.

"Why would you say that?" April feigned ignorance right away.

- —I warned all the suppliers of medicinal plants in Homeros to stop supplying them to Roxana. If you know her place, you'd know she's not welcome in Horneros! She responded coldly. Since Grupo Pedrosa was one of the largest suppliers of medicinal plants in Horneros, Abril knew that Sonia was serious.
- —Señora Fariña, isn't that too much? she protested, despite feeling cheerful inside. If the research institute finds out that Roxana is the reason for her...
- —You don't have to feel sorry for her, because she deserves it from her. How dare she come to Homer after what she did to us? —Sonia patted the other on the shoulder to comfort her; April pursed her lips and smiled. Sonia asked him—: Who called you?

It was Frida. She told me that she would come to see me later.

"You have visitors, so I won't bother you." —Sonia put aside the things she had in her hand and stood up. Call me if you need anything. Then she turned and left the room.

### Chapter 375 Let Roxana Get Her Way

Shortly after Sonia left, there was a knock on the door; then, Frida entered with a bitter face.

-What's going on? Did they harass you? —Abril was confused by the expression of the other. Frida sat next to her bed and began to peel an apple, distracted.

"My brother and my grandfather!" She," she complained. Since Frida wasn't concentrating on peeling the apple, Abril took it from her along with her knife.

"What did they do to you?" April asked patiently.

—They discovered that I was the one who told René not to provide Roxana with medicinal plants! Frida gave a sad look.

Actually, since they both disliked Roxana, it was April who gave her the idea to take advantage of that opportunity. If Abril hadn't mentioned it, Frida wouldn't find out that Sonia had Roxana on the blacklist. In addition to letting off steam, they could improve the relationship between the Quevedo and

Fariña groups.

Frida didn't think much about it. Assuming that April was helping her, she did as she was told. After being scolded, she came to April to tell her about her sorrows. A look of disgust appeared in Abril's eyes: "I can't believe Frida couldn't do something so simple!" Despite thinking this, she had to pretend to be a caring and understanding friend.

-So what happened? They scolded you? she asked softly.

"They said that she was trying to destroy the reputation of the Quevedo family," Frida agreed furiously. They don't even let me get involved in Grupo Quevedo's business anymore! Frida took Abril's other arm and gave her a pleading look. April, you know I didn't do anything wrong. Help me give an explanation to Jonatan and my grandfather!

«Although I did nothing wrong, I lost my voice in the Quevedo Group. It's not worth it at all."

-Peaceful. Abril grew impatient as she discreetly removed Frida's hand. It is normal for the great Mr. Quevedo and Jonatan to react like this because Roxana cured your grandfather. Jonatan has always been on Roxana's side, so it's logical that he defends her.

"Are we going to let Roxana get away with it this time?" Frida's expression changed a bit.

—Did the Quevedo Group resume the delivery of medicinal plants to Roxana's research institute? April made a face.

Frida nodded seriously. "Of course, Jonatan and grandfather want to continue supplying Roxana with medicinal plants," she thought. When she remembered how she failed to teach Roxana a lesson, she was hit by a wave of fury, as she ended up being scolded by her family.

On the other hand, April's blood boiled with rage, since Sonia's plan had failed. She did not want the Quevedo Group to intervene and she suggested to Frida that she take action against Roxana; Unfortunately, she didn't know that Frida was unreliable. April was silent; Frida, without realizing that things were going wrong, kept complaining:

—I wonder why Grandpa and Jonatan sided with Roxana; all she did was heal grandpa. They refused to believe me when I am one of them. I did it for the good of the Quevedo Group!

"They'll soon know you're right," April answered half-heartedly, as she was starting to get annoyed.

"I knew he was right!" Frida thought, pleased to hear that Abril recognized him; however, she could not help but continue lamenting:

"Ah, we let her get away with it so easily!"

-That's what you think! said the other with a cold look.

# Chapter 376 He Smiled And Said Nothing

Frida was confused: "Could it be that... April has an ace up her sleeve?" Frida was confused: "Could it be that... April has an ace up her sleeve?"

—Abril, do you have another way to teach Roxana a lesson? she asked cautiously.

"Oh, how annoying. Even if she had an ace up her sleeve, why would she tell him? She doesn't help at all!"

Still, Abril knew that she would need Frida one day, so she assured her,

"Don't worry, I won't let that bitch have control." She is the reason why the great Mr. Quevedo and Jonatan scolded you. I'll avenge you and make sure she gets what she deserves! —In short, April blamed Roxana. Frida nodded energetically.

—Since I met her, the grandfather and Jonatan did not stop looking for faults in me. I'm a Quevedo, but they insist on siding with her! We need to teach him a lesson.

"Don't forget that we're not the only ones who hate Roxana," Abril said, patting Frida on the shoulder and narrowing her eyes in satisfaction at achieving her goal.

Her words paralyzed Frida, since it took her a moment to realize what she meant: «Oh, I forgot that Sonia was the one who planned to complicate things for Roxana. There's no way she's getting away with it!"

It was clear that Sonia wanted to defeat Roxana in order to help Abril; after all, everyone could tell how much she adored April. There was no way he would allow Roxana, who suddenly returned, to take April's place.

Besides, Roxana left without saying goodbye to her six years ago and left nothing but a divorce agreement, which meant that she left him and not the other way around. Her commitment embarrassed the Fariña family. Sonia would never forgive Roxana! Frida got excited the more she thought about it, so her anger disappeared.

"Señora Fariña adores you, Abril," she flattered her, smiling. For sure, she took action against Roxana for you this time!

"That has nothing to do with me." April was cheerful inside, but she had to pretend otherwise, frowning. It was that bitch who has a death wish.

"Roxana returned to the country a long time ago, but Mrs. Fariña didn't get to work until you hurt

yourself," Frida replied, looking at Abril's injured arm. Do you still think that she has nothing to do with you? She only acted against Roxana because you hurt your arm twice.

April looked at her arm, smiled, and said nothing. Indeed, if she hadn't decided to be hard on herself, Sonia could still tolerate Roxana's existence; April's injury forced her to choose a side of it.

"Señora Fariña admires you," Frida said with a flattering smile. Roxana annoyed you, so she must educate Roxana. After all, you are her future daughter-in-law.

"We still have to wait for Luciano's decision," she twisted her lips.

—You have Mrs. Fariña on your side. After she threw Roxana out of Homeros, you will be the only woman next to Luciano. Frida didn't seem to care. Who else can she marry? Just be patient and the day will come. In the near future, you will be his wife.

Mmm, she's right, April thought, causing her heart to swell with happiness.

## **Chapter 377 What Is That Question About?**

When Roxana returned home in the afternoon, Lisa had picked up Andrés and Bautista and made dinner for them. Seeing Roxana in the distance, the two children greeted her:

—You must be tired, mommy!

The two boys exchanged glances and thought, Looks like Mommy had a hard time at work. After a hard day at work, Roxana was tired, but she controlled herself when she saw that her children were worried.

"Thank you, my loves," she smiled, caressing their heads. Immediately, Andrés and Bautista ran to take her slippers and put them on her feet; in response, she smiled. When she took off her coat, both boys took it and hung it on the coat rack. Roxana laughed as she patiently waited for the children. Once they managed to hang up their coats, she led them into the dining room and sat them down.

"Good luck, mommy!" The little ones even served her mother's food, widening her smile. His weariness vanished when she saw how obedient Andrés and Bautista were.

"You must be tired, right, mommy?" Bautista leaned in to study her expression.

—Pere nede —respondió con une sonrise reconfortente—, sobre todo el ver sus cerites. —Los dos niños le mireron con sospeche. Elle les dio une porción de su comide tembién y eñedió—: Vemos, comen un poco.

Justo cuendo pensó que los niños por fin comeríen en pez, Beutiste de pronto preguntó de menere simpátice:

-Memi, ¿cuándo volveremos e viejer fuere del peís?

Andrés, sentedo el ledo, se le quedó mirendo e Roxene, quien se quedó perelizede por un momento y, luego, respondió:

- —Aún tengo trebejo por hecer en el instituto de investigeción. Podemos irnos de vieje cuendo termine con mis deberes.
- —¿Significe que no viejeremos pronto? —preguntó Beutiste de nuevo. Roxene respondió negendo con le cebeze—. ¿Cuánto debemos esperer? —Se rehusebe e rendirse, heciendo que Roxene frunze en ceño. Cuendo sus miredes se cruzeron, elle notó que sus ojos esteben llenos de enticipeción, lo que le hizo sentir culpeble.

A los niños les encentebe vivir en Chepe, pero teníen que muderse de un luger e otro por su medre. Sin embergo, el seber que teníe e Sonie e sus espeldes, Roxene no tuvo más remedio que ermerse de velor y eferrerse e le esperenze. Después de un reto, el noter que su medre no les respondíe, los pequeños le presioneron e responder:

"Not at all," he replied with a reassuring smile, "especially when he saw their little faces. The two children looked at her suspiciously. She gave them a portion of her food as well and added, "Come on, eat some."

Just when she thought the children would finally eat in peace, Bautista suddenly asked in a sympathetic way:

"Mommy, when are we going to travel out of the country again?"

Andrés, sitting next to him, stared at Roxana, who was paralyzed for a moment and then answered:

—I still have work to do at the research institute. We can go on a trip when I finish my homework.

"Does that mean we won't be traveling soon?" Bautista asked again. Roxana responded by shaking her head. How long should we wait? He—refused to give up, making Roxana frown. When their gazes met, she noticed that her eyes were filled with anticipation, which made her feel guilty.

The children loved living in Chepa, but they had to move from one place to another because of their mother. However, knowing that she had Sonia behind her back, Roxana had no choice but to pluck up her courage and cling to hope. After a while, noticing that her mother did not answer them, the little ones pressured her to answer:

## -Mommy!

"I still don't have an answer," Roxana answered once she came to her senses, smiling, "but what is the reason for that question?"

Andrés and Bautista turned to see each other again, disappointed by Roxana's response. Seeing them like this, she had no idea what they were thinking.

—We ran into Ela at school. She came to play with us, but she didn't seem happy," Bautista said in a sweet, relaxed voice. Looking at Roxana, he asked her: "Mommy, can we stay a little longer?"

Roxana felt a pain in her heart when she thought of Estela. After being silent for a moment, she shook her head.

"We have to get out of here when I finish my job. Don't you miss Professor Laborda?

"Yes, we miss him, but it's not easy to leave Ela," Andrés and Bernardo answered, head down and disappointed.

### Chapter 378 Feeling Insecure

Roxana was speechless to see them so discouraged. Fortunately, Andrés and Bautista knew that her mother couldn't bear to leave Estela either. Although they were sad, they soon calmed down and continued eating, trying not to say another word.

By the time Roxana finished eating, she ran out of energy. The children went upstairs to rest, since they no longer wanted to play. While she watched them sleep, Roxana caressed her cheeks and whispered:

—I'm sorry, my love.

At a young age, Andrés and Bautista had to travel from one place to another because of her. By right, they deserved a better life. If she had told Luciano the truth, surely the Fariña family would accept them back and they could enjoy all the privileges. Nevertheless, she stayed with them. Although she had worked hard for years to make it up to the boys, it seemed her efforts weren't enough.

After seeing them sleep for a while, Roxana approached to give them a kiss on the forehead. Then she got up, turned off the lights, and left the room. When they heard the door close, Andrés and Bautista slowly opened their eyes and looked at each other. Since they were awake all this time, they heard Roxana's apology: «Why did she apologize to us? Did he do something bad to us?"

Returning to her room, Roxana packed her things before going to bed. As she had a very tiring day at work, she believed that she would fall asleep in no time; even so, when she closed her eyes, endless images passed through her mind. She remembered when Sonia confronted her in the cafeteria; when Estela cried, asking him to stay; when he saw the disappointed faces of Andrés and Bautista.

My life is a joke, Roxana thought, feeling helpless. After working for so many years, she thought that she would finally have the courage to face the Fariña family, but that was not the case; to them, she was insignificant. Once again, she had to leave town because of the Farinas.

After a long time, Roxana finally fell asleep. When the alarm went off the next day, she woke up with a headache; However, she remembered that the Quevedo Group would deliver the plants to her today, so she forced herself to get out of bed. Even when she was washing herself in the bathroom, she still felt sleepy.

By the time she went downstairs, Andrés and Bautista were having breakfast in the dining room. When the two saw her mother get off her, they remembered that she apologized to them last night. Still, they believed that she did it while they were asleep because she didn't want them to find out about her, so they didn't press her.

"Didn't you sleep well, mommy?" the children asked him with concern when they saw his face. This took Roxana by surprise. You have dark circles," Andrés added with a serious look. Roxana knew instantly what they were trying to say.

"I couldn't sleep because I drank too much coffee yesterday at work," she replied, a smile on her face. Thanks for worrying, my loves.

The two exchanged glances with each other, incredulous at her response. After asking a few more questions, they finally settled down. After breakfast, Roxana asked Lisa to take them to school; then she went upstairs to put on a little makeup and drove her car to the research institute.

During the trip, she couldn't help but feel a little nervous. Jonathan had made her a promise; yet she, for some reason, still had a feeling of insecurity because she hadn't seen the plant. Based on her experience with other partners, her problems always occurred during delivery; if she hadn't called them to check on her progress, they wouldn't have bothered to tell her the truth.

## Chapter 379 A Big Misunderstanding

Roxana arrived at the entrance to the research institute, where she saw Conrado checking the plants. Beside her was a stocky man in a suit. She had no idea what they were talking about, but she could see that Conrad was upset with the man trying to please him. Roxana had rarely seen Conrado like this, since he was a patient gentleman. She approached them quickening her steps.

—I didn't do it on purpose, Dr. Galarza. I was in a meeting when he called me yesterday and I thought...

"This is Dr. Roxana Jerez, the person in charge of the research institute," Conrado interrupted the man with indifference when he saw Roxana approaching her and introduced her to her. Please tell him what you just told me.

The man froze and immediately turned to look at Roxana, greeting her with respect:

—Dr. Jerez, I am René Tanco, the manager in charge of the Quevedo Group plants. Just tell me René.

Roxana was perplexed: «Is this man from the Quevedo Group? What's going on?".

Words didn't come out to René, since he didn't know how to explain the situation to Roxana; to tell the truth, he was a victim of the incident. He only pouted at Conrado because Frida told him that it had been Jonatan's idea. Now, he could do nothing but take the consequences.

When Jonatan ordered him to apologize to the people at the research institute, he thought it was better to apologize in person than to do it over the phone, so he came with his entourage. He tried to flatter Conrad, but Conrad ignored him. "But I can't confess and say that Mrs. Quevedo gave me the instruction, right?" he thought.

When he found out that Roxana was in charge of her, he humbled himself more before her because he knew that she was the one who cured Alfredo. After exchanging glances with Conrado for a moment, Roxana looked at René and, in response, nodded.

"What brings you here, Mr. Tanco?"

Roxana believed that the man in front of her was the same one she did not bother to answer Conrado on the phone: "No wonder Conrado is being rude to him today."

"Dr. Jerez, Dr. Galarza called me yesterday, but I was busy in a meeting," he answered by way of apology after sighing and listening to Roxana's tone of voice. When he was about to return the call, Mr. Quevedo called me at his office. I got busy with work and, in the end, forgot to contact Dr. Galarza. Thus began the misunderstanding.

"In other words, are you blaming us for being impatient?" Roxana smiled coldly. Are you saying that we should have waited for your call, Mr. Tanco?

René broke out in a cold sweat on his forehead. He thought that talking to Roxana would be easier than with Conrado, since she was a woman; to his surprise, she twisted his words and intimidated him.

"I didn't mean that...

Although petite, the woman herself gave off a domineering aura. René was still nervous, unable to justify himself. Roxana watched him for a few seconds and extended her hand, calming her personality.

—As you are the manager in charge of the Grupo Quevedo plants and we will continue to work closely in the future, I hope you will treat us with respect and make sure that yesterday's incident is not repeated.

## Chapter 380 Will This Be Enough?

After all, the man was part of the Quevedo Group; Since Jonathan left the matter in the man's hands, it meant that he too was one of his men. Therefore, Roxana was not going to put him in trouble; rather, what she said earlier was nothing more than a reminder for her not to mess with the research institute and for her to put more effort into the matter in the future.

-Clear! Of course! said René after recovering his senses, sighing with relief; he shook hands with Roxana,

nodding vigorously.

"Then I'm delighted to work with you," Roxana replied with a courteous smile.

On the other hand, Conrado finished counting the plants and asked the employees to put them in; then he approached the other two. It was clear that René had done similar work before, as he quickly handed the document to Conrado when he saw him approaching them.

Conrado looked at Roxana, since she was the one who had to sign it herself; however, she is she nodded to him. After hesitating for a moment, Conrado signed it. However, after doing so, René didn't take it back, absorbed in his thoughts.

"Mr. Tanca?" Conrad insisted while he twisted his lips.

Hearing this, René reacted and awkwardly took the document; then he apologized again. In the end, Roxana used her work as an excuse for her to withdraw. When they saw the people from the Quevedo Group leaving, the two turned around and went back to the research institute.

"Will this batch of plants be enough?" Roxana asked seriously; she had Conrad behind her.

"Maybe Grupo Quevedo is trying to make up for the way René turned us down yesterday, since they brought us a little more than we asked for," he agreed. It will suffice for now. In fact, we have more than enough.

"Why are you telling me until now?" Roxanne frowned.

"I wanted to, but I saw that the same calculated amount appeared on the list, so I didn't think it was necessary to say it," she answered with a raised eyebrow. If she mentioned it around René, he would take the opportunity to forget her rejection the day before; there was no way Conrado was going to let him.

Roxana, knowing what he was thinking, smiled; still, she knew it was Jonathan's doing. She could avoid mentioning it around Rene, but she had Jonatan to thank. As soon as she got back to her office, she called him; in fact, she answered the call immediately and spoke before Roxana.

—Have you received the plants from the Quevedo Group, Dr. Jerez?

"Yeah, I got them," he laughed. The people in your company came before me. Also, I noticed that they sent us more than what we ordered. Was that your intention, Mr. Quevedo?

"What happened yesterday must have caused problems for the research institute. After he left, my grandfather scolded me. Indeed, we must take responsibility, but I didn't know how to make it up to him. Jonathan didn't object. So, I hope you will accept these plants, Dr. Jerez.

Having asked René to deliver the plants to the research institute was nothing more than Jonatan's selfish wish, since he hoped he could save the reputation of the Quevedo Group among Roxana and the others.

"Well, I appreciate it," Roxana answered, without rejecting Jonatan, since she knew that the additional plants were an insignificant amount for the Quevedo Group. It is true that this batch of plants helped me solve the current crisis. Another day I will thank you in person.

"Sounds like a good idea to me," Jonatan laughed. My grandfather has been asking me when he will see her.

After a brief chat, they hung up the call.