

# The Rise Of The Unknown Zillionaire Heir by Gem Lynne

## Chapter 17

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Karla's eyebrows creased as she stared into his eyes, trying to figure out what he meant but she

couldn't.

Seeing how confused she had appeared to be, Duncan chuckled. "It's you, right?"

"Huh?"

"The biker woman."

Karla's eyes widened. She gulped before shaking her head vehemently and went on to deny it. "I

wasn't the one. I

Duncan pulled her into a hug before she could finish talking. She was astonished

"Thank you," he whispered to her. Her evolving tension declined and she smiled, restraining herself from wrapping her arm around him

Duncan inhaled as he broke the hug and straightened up. For the first time, she saw a smile on his face. He was unknowingly holding her hand until the door was pushed open, Abigail walked

in, causing him to let go.

"Um, I'm sorry for just walking in like that," Abigail apologized. Karla's jaw stiffened and she tilted her head and cast a bombastic side-eye at her. "The door was open and..."

"It's okay" Duncan waved.

Abigail smiled. "I heard you were checking out today."

"Yeah."

"Okay." Abigail walked away from the door as Xia walked in Duncan stared at her. "Um, Duncan, she's Xia. My bodyguard."

Duncan gave an acknowledging nod and Xia gave a neck-bow to him.

"Do you have to leave today?"

"Yes. I'm heading out soon."

"I know you don't know me much but, I won't mind if we get to meet some other time and have a good talk."

"It would be my pleasure, Abigail. Anyway, I consider you a friend, so no trust issues."

I'm glad to know. Don't hesitate to let me know if you need my help in any way."

"It's only been a day since he knew you," Karla said, turning to face Abigail.

"So?"

"You can't be trusted."

"Stop it, Karla," Duncan said. Karla exhaled and walked past him to the bed.

"Abigail, thanks so much for your hospitality."

"It's my pleasure. Let's meet soon."

"Sure."

"Take care." Abigail glanced at Karla before waving at Duncan and made her way out of the room,

Xia following behind.

Duncan turned and walked up behind Karla.

“Do you know Abigail?”

“No,” she answered without turning around. A grimace on her face.

“You always want to bark at her when you see her, why?”

“I don’t want to do that. I just feel she’s mannerless for walking in and intruding.”

“Excuse me, you walked into my room without seeking my permission earlier, forgotten?”

“Whatever.” Abigail sighed, pulling herself together. She erased the angry look on her face and

spun. “You’re returning to your in-laws house today, then when will I see you again?”

“Hmm, maybe never.” His lips contorted into a smirk and he left. Karla felt devastated.

“Why do I feel like I’m back to my boring world again?” She thought aloud. She let out a ‘humph’,

and left the room

She saw Duncan hugging Abigail in front of the elevator and it felt like her heart was pricked. She didn’t know what made her frown and hiss when he saw her. She eyed him, making him puzzled

as she turned and went to take the other elevator at the other end of the hallway.

“What’s wrong with me?” She asked herself as she pressed the button for the ground floor and the elevator began to descend smoothly.

At the Lennart mansion, Zinnia is in the living room with Peterson, having a discussion with the other members of the family, including her grandmother, Ma’am Luna, and

except for Marcus. When they saw Duncan walking with his head hung, they all burst into laughter.

“Duncan, you’re here?” Zinnia’s mother, Laila asked in contempt.

Duncan nodded. “I’ve returned.”

“Didn’t I tell you guys that he’ll return?” Laila asked, arising. “He can barely survive without Zinnia’s assistance. He’s totally worthless to himself.”

“Duncan, you are really worthless. I can’t believe you couldn’t even stay away for a week,” Zinnia

scoffed.

“He probably couldn’t continue eating from the garbage bins by restaurants so he swallowed his pride and returned,” Lena said.

“I actually saw this tool the following night after he left. He was lucky to have gotten a job as a driver for a sassy chick, but I guess she couldn’t stand having a stinky and homeless driver so she fired him before twenty-four hours,” George said.

Duncan restricted himself from blowing him right in the nose. He remembered how he was

harassing Karla that night in front of the hospital.

“What if I ask you to leave now?” Zinnia asked.

“I have nowhere to go. I’m still your husband.”

“What the heck? Go and rot in the hospital with your sick Mother. I don’t give a damn about you. You’re just a sore loser to me, you’ll be nothing else than that.”

“You’re right, dear,” Bella supported.

“You dare leave without my consent, Duncan?” Ma’am Luna asked. “What do you want people to say? That we are treating you badly?”

“It was not my intention, Grandmother. Zinnia cheated on me...”

“And so what? She didn’t cheat on you with a worthless fool like you, so there’s nothing wrong. Her words stung Duncan but he did not comment. “You should be grateful that my late husband gave you a good place to live in. Don’t be ungrateful by trying to ruin this family’s image in any way.”

“He’s not capable of doing anything right, mother-in-law,” Bella uttered.

“You’re right, Mom,” Lisa supported.

“I know he was destined to be a loser,” George added.

As they continued pouring insults at him, Duncan felt a surge of anger welling up inside him, threatening to burst forth like an uncontrollable storm. His fists clenched tightly, his muscles tensed, and his teeth ground together in frustration. Their sharp words stung his pride, igniting a fire within that begged to be set free.

But then, amidst the chaos of his emotions, he remembered his mission, his purpose, which extended far beyond this trivial altercation. He knew that succumbing to his anger and resorting to violence would only derail him from his higher objectives.

“Now you’ve learned your lesson, Duncan,” Peterson said and Zinnia leaned forward and kissed

him.

With great effort, Duncan summoned every ounce of self-control he possessed. He took a deep breath, seeking solace in the tranquility that lay deep within his core. He reminded himself of the consequences that would follow if he allowed his anger to consume him. He didn’t want to react in any way. He had a plan, to cause unbelievable pain to his wife and her family and ruin them in a way that will leave them traumatized

His eyes locked onto Zinnia who glared at him, a fierce determination burning behind them. He realized that true strength didn't lie in the ability to overpower others physically, but rather in the ability to control oneself, to rise above provocation, and act with dignity.

"Now, go and wash the plates in the kitchen. You'll do the work you've not done the past three days. Get lost!" Zinnia ordered.

Duncan turned away with a final silent act of defiance. He walked away, his head held high, his steps steady. At that moment, he had triumphed over his own anger, proving that he was the master of his emotions and the captain of his actions.

"So, Peterson, you're the COO of Vast Group company- VGC?"

Hearing the question of Ma'am Luna, Duncan stopped right before the hallway that led to the kitchen.

"Yes."

"Grandma, it's one of the under-companies of Walton Group of Companies," Zinnia added and shock sprawled on Duncan's face, causing his jaw to stiffen

Peterson worked in one of the under-companies of the Walton Group of Companies which he now

controls

"Also, he's going to be promoted soon to be the CEO of the company," Zinnia revealed, making Duncan spin

"Cheers to your promotion, Peterson," Laila said, motioning them to raise their glasses.

A sly smile parted Duncan's lips as he stared at them making a toast.

"Let's see how you get promoted now, Peterson Rogers."

