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As they dropped their glass after making the toast, Zinnia caught Duncan staring and barked.

"Get lost, witless. Go and do the dishes!"

Duncan nodded and they roared In laughter as he continued walking

Duncan got halfway down the hallway and stopped. He took out his phone and called Babbette.

"Hello, sir?"

"Babbette, I want to know something."

"Alright, what is it, sir?"

"Is Vast Group Company associated with Walton Group of Companies?"

"Yes, Sir. The company is one of our under-companies.

"Do you know Peterson Rogers?"

"Yes, I do. He's for now the COO of VGC, but he'll be promoted by tomorrow to be the CEO"

"He shouldn't get promoted."

"Excuse me, sir?"

"I need you to fire him."

Babbette was shocked by Duncan's pronouncement "Sir, is there..."

Duncan heard footsteps approaching and he interrupted "Let's talk later." He hung up.

"Duncan," a familiar voice called him in a light tone and he turned to meet Lisa.

"Hey, brother-in-law, I hope you don't feel bad because of the usual disgrace you faced earlier." She chuckled. "I know Zinnia was too much. She's your wife, anyway."

"What do you want?" He asked with an angry tone.

"Nothing. I just want to console you." She seductively placed her hand on his chest.

"You know, if I was Zinnia, I wouldn't have been so mean to you."

"You would have been the worst, Lisa."

"Ouch, that hurts. Anyway, I can be less mean when pleased, you know. Just give me what I want and I'll make your life better than Zinnia would ever think of me making it to be. Just one night and

"Get your hand off me." Duncan grabbed her hand and aggressively threw it aside, causing her to

gasp.

Lisa had not only been insulting him with the others since he became the son-in-law of the family but she had been sexually advancing him. She wanted him to sleep with her and Duncan wasn't ready to stoop so low to see to her sexual gratification.

"What's wrong with you? You've been ignoring my approaches all this while. I'm giving you a chance to have a better life, you know."

"I don't need a better life with a slut."

Lisa gasped, surprised by his brazenness.

"You are a nonentity. You'll never get anywhere for disregarding me, Duncan. You'll pay for insulting me, mark my words. I know the manager of the restaurant you work for as a

delivery man. He's a friend of my Dad. I'll get him to teach you a good lesson. You'll come back and fall on my feet."

"Do as you please, I don't care."

Lena's eyes grew bigger as she watched him leave.

The following day, I got a call from John.

"Man, what's wrong? It's been over three days and you didn't show up at work. You know the manager is angry at you."

"Don't worry. I'll be there today."

"Don't worry, I'll accompany you to plead to him."

Thanks, pal, but it won't be necessary."

"Really? Okay." John shrugged, surprised by Duncan's unwavering tone.

Duncan hung up. He took breakfast and went to serve the family.

"Um, Duncan," Isabella called, taking a bite of her toast. "I hope you've not forgotten that you have not paid your mother's hospital bills yet"

Duncan gently dropped the kettle of tea and his mind wandered to his adopted mother. He felt bad. that he hadn't gone to her since the day she revealed to him the hidden truth about his life.

"I guess the woman is probably being tossed out of the hospital," Laila mentioned, showing no

sign of empathy.

Then Marcus showed up. "So, Duncan, you returned, hm?" He slapped Duncan's arm, laughing as

he sat down

"If you had returned home yesterday, a bit earlier, you could have seen him begging Zinnia to accept him," George said and Marcus roared in laughter.

"He was literally on his knees pleading to be accepted," Zinnia exaggerated, intending to hurt Duncan's ego the more.

"Oh, Duncan, what did you tell me earlier yesterday, hm?"

Zinnia was surprised. "Did you meet him yesterday?"

"Yes, in the morning. He was at the Walton Group of Companies estate. He came to find a job, but I guess the manager took my great advice and offered him no job." Marcus sneered at Duncan. "This fool threatened me. Anyway, look where you are now and what you're doing, Duncan. You can't do a thing to me. But, I never go back on my words. Do you remember the countdown, Duncan? I already worked on it. I've ordered the hospital to throw your poor Mother away."

Duncan's eyes lit and Marcus burst into laughter. He took off the apron and tossed it aside as he

ran out of the house.

He didn't want to call Jack to come take him to the hospital so he would not draw anyone's suspicion so he took a taxi.

When he arrived at the hospital, not confirming anything, he yelled at the nurses in the reception for throwing his mother away.

But when they checked their patient's record on the system and informed him that his mother was in her room, he was confused. He didn't believe them.

He ran like a madman to the room, swearing to himself to punish them so dearly if he didn't find

her in the room

When he got into the room, he was surprised to see his mother lying on the bed with a smile. A nurse was beside her, hanging an IV bag on one of the hooks at the top of an IV pole.

Her smile broadened when she saw him at the door. "Duncan

"M mother." He closed the door and rushed up to her. "Are you okay, mother?"

"Yes, son." Susan grinned as Duncan hugged her.

"I'm glad you are okay." He heaved a sigh of relief and straightened up. He looked at the nurse who smiled

"Duncan, your mother's hospital bills were overdue, you know. It was ten thousand dollars. She was asked to be thrown out of the hospital, but someone intervened at the right time and cleared her bills, and even paid for her aftercare for the next six months plus the hospital bills," the nurse

revealed

"Son." Susan held his hand. "It was a sum of a hundred thousand bucks. A kind soul helped out."

Duncan's lips parted. He wondered who the person was. The nurse left and he asked.

"Who's this person?"

"I don't know her. She's a nice woman. She just went out to get something. I thought you would

have met her."

Duncan shook his head. When he was getting lost in his thoughts, the door opened and a woman

walked in.

"Hello, ma'am?"

Duncan tilted his head to see who it was and he was shocked to see the person standing before the footboard panel of the bed.