

Chapter 33

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After breakfast, Zinnia approached Lisa and asked, "How are you going to prepare the presentation in 3 hours?"

"Hm, my dear cousin-sister, does that bother you?" Lisa asked in a sarcastic manner, making Zinnia roll her eyes as she hung her bag on her shoulder.

"I'm the least bothered one, you know. Now, tell me how you're going to go about preparing a top-notch presentation within just 3 hours?"

"It's none of your business. I know you want me to tell you so you can get some great ideas to come up with your own presentation. Come to think of it, is this what you and Marcus do?"

"Excuse me...?"

"I mean, you all are just irresponsible. You don't want to do anything with your brains but you want to take unmerited credits."

"I beg your pardon, don't you dare say that about me or I will-"

"You'll do nothing because you're capable of nothing and that's why you used your body to get what you want instead of your brain, or wasn't that why you started an extramarital affair with Peterson Rogers?"

"Don't you dare insult me because everyone knows that I don't acknowledge Duncan as my husband."

"No, no. It's only we, the family, that knows. The public doesn't and that's why you're keeping it a secret because it could tarnish your reputation when people get to know you cheated on your husband."



"Whatever. Don't stick your nose into my business."

"I've got better things to do with my precious time than to do that. I hope you get your own presentation ready in the next twenty-four hours. You should hurry off to the company now and start using your brains because I really can't wait to see what you end up preparing."

"Really?" Zinnia shook her head as she let out a bitter laugh. Lisa took a step forward to head to her room but stopped when Zinnia said, "What do you think of yourself? I'm sure you won't be able to do anything. You've never come up with any better presentation since the past 12 months plus while you've been working in the company."

"Oh, I see." Lisa turned back to face Zinnia with a stiffened jaw. "What do you think of me, Zinnia?"

"Me? I think you're a..."

"No, just keep quiet," Lisa cut in, rudely as she waved her hand, irking Zinnia. "You're the last person on this planet, earth, that I would like to know what you think of me because you're not worthy of defining my worth or capabilities. Let me tell you this, I'm going to come up with the best presentation ever and grandmother would end up choosing me to deliver the presentation on behalf of our company."

"Really?"

"Hm mm." Lisa nodded, smiling.

"Great. Stop dreaming high, you will only end up feeling disappointed and depressed when you don't meet your desires."

"Leave that to me to bother about, my dear."

"Sure, I will. Look, Lisa, you should be grateful that you've got one of the top executive positions in the company though you didn't work for it. Just be satisfied with being the Chief Knowledge Officer (CKO) of the company."

"I am not destined to be the CKO. I'm destined to be at the top of the mountain."

Understanding what Lisa meant, Zinnia nodded. "I see, you also have your eyes on the position of CEO, but keep dreaming."

"Let's watch and see. Time shall tell." Lisa started walking and then something struck Zinnia, making her go after Lisa and grab her arm.

"What is it?"

"Tell me, did you swap the flash drive in my office?"

"Excuse me? Don't blame me for your irresponsibility and careless nature. Look for someone else," Lisa scoffed. She yanked her hand off Zinnia's grasp and left.

"I need to investigate this properly and if Lisa had a hand in that, I will make her pay," Zinnia swore and left the house.

Lisa went to her room to grab her jacket and her bag and when she walked in, she saw her mother and brother there.

"Mom -"

Before she could finish her sentence, Bella rushed to the door, locked it behind, and pulled her to her bed where Aaron was seated.

"What's wrong with you, Lisa?" Bella asked, frantically.



"What do you mean, Mother?"

"Oh, I really admire your guts, sister. Lisa, you said you would get a presentation ready in 3 hours, are you for real?"

"Yes, I am."

Aaron chuckled, mockingly. "How would you go about it?"

"You shouldn't have said what you won't be able to do."

"No, mother, I can do that. In fact, I've got my presentation partly ready."

"What do you mean?" Bella and Aaron asked at the same time, both staring at her, eyes widened.

With a sly smile surfacing on her face, Lisa took out a flash drive from her bag and held it up for them to see. "This is my trump card."

"A flash drive?"

"Yes, it is, Aaron."

"How's that a trump card, Lisa? Are you really -" Realizing something, Bella stopped talking as her lips parted. "Lisa, is this the flashdrive...?"

"Yes, mother."

"Oh, you stole the flash drive from Zinnia's office?"

"Exactly."

Bella gasped and giggled as she gave Lisa and high-five. "Wow, you're really something, my dear."



"I took after you, mother. I stole it and no one has an idea about it and you know Peterson is a smart person, I'm sure his presentation would have gotten the contract. Now, I will make some little changes and use his presentation."

"Woah, that is brilliant," Aaron commended, pointing an index finger at Lisa.

"I Know and I'm going to beat Zinnia in this. "

"I trust you, dear."

"You've really got a devil's brain, Lisa."

"Whatever. I hope you'll become wise like me soon, so we can run the business and make Marcus and Zinnia dance to our tunes."

"Nah, business isn't my thing." Aaron shrugged and Lisa hissed.

"I'm sure Zinnia never saw it coming. And she's going to be awestruck to see your presentation."

"I am sure she will be."

"But, don't you think that Zinnia would notice that the presentation is Peterson's? I mean, she must have gone through it." 1

"Oh, Aaron, she won't. You see, Zinnia is negligent. The minute she left her office that day with Peterson, I snuck in and swapped the flash drive."

"Wait, you're sure she hasn't gone through it?"

"Are you dumb, Aaron? Do you think if she had checked the wrong flash drive then she would have allowed Peterson to take it?"

"You're right. She was really shocked last night when Peterson barged in and accused her. You just got lucky, but you shouldn't try something like that again. It's risky."

"I'll keep taking risks, Aaron."

"Suit yourself." Aaron shrugged and leaned back with his elbows on the bed.

"My dear, are you sure no one saw you and Zinnia is not going to find out what you did?"

"She won't. No one saw me__" Lisa abruptly paused as she remembered seeing Duncan in Zinnia's office when she came in.

"Lisa?"

"Mother, Duncan was there," she uttered, causing her mother's jaw to drop and Aaron arose.