

# The Rise Of The Unknown Zillionaire Heir by Gem Lynne

## Chapter 8

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“Young Master, this Lady Zelda,” Luke introduced, forcing Duncan to blink uncontrollably in awe.

He couldn't believe he was standing in front of the reputable Lady Zelda. He had heard some things about her but he never believed he would see her in person. Actually, it was the first time he was seeing Lady Zelda and the most shocking thing was that she addressed him as her son.

How could that be possible? Duncan thought, but upon taking a close look at her, he looked away as her face became familiar.

“Duncan. Son...”

“Er, sorry, ma'am, but I think there's a mistake here. I'm Duncan South and I am not your son. In fact, I don't even know your son. I guess I've been caught up in something untrue. Pardon me, I had just followed Luke here, thinking he was fooling me. I will take my leave now.”

“No, Duncan.” Lady Zelda grabbed his arm, stopping him from leaving. Her eyes welled with tears. My son, there's no misunderstanding. I am your mother. You've been away from me for about two decades now. I know you can't remember my face but son, I'm your mother.”

“No. My Mom is In the hospital. I don't know you

“Son, please, I recognize you. You're my son..”/

“Sorry, ma'am, but...” Duncan paused, not knowing what to say.

“Master Duncan, please hear her out.”

Duncan furrowed his brows and nodded.

“If you weren’t my son, then how do you have the customized phone which Luke was able to reach out to you?” She asked

Her question took him back to the day he had visited his Mother at the hospital and told her that Zinnia had seized his phone because Marcus held him responsible for the recent failure of their

company

“My mother gave it to me.”

“Then you can ask her if she’s truly your mother…”

“I beg your pardon.”

Luke intervened. “She’s right. Ask her, young Master, if you don’t believe Lady Zelda’s words.”

Duncan let out a bitter chuckle, trying to understand what was going on.

“Okay, if you are my mother then where have you been all these years?” Duncan was eager to know everything regarding the truth about his life which wasn’t yet certain for him.

“I know it’s been over two decades and you must have considered whoever harbored you as your real family. But I’m your mother, Duncan. I recognize you even if it’s been over twenty years. I’m sure you don’t recognize me for some reason.”

“If you are my mother then why did you abandon me?”

“I didn’t. You were only seven then. You left us. Actually, your grandfather pushed you to leave us. He held you responsible for your father’s death. I’ve been looking for you for so long. I had got that customized phone for you then. You left home with it. I tried reaching you through it for years but to no avail. Luke tried last night and you picked. I

thought it wasn't you but seeing you now, I know you're my son, Duncan. I'm sorry it took a long while for us to meet. Please forgive me.

Duncan gnashed his teeth, not knowing whether to believe everything Lady Zelda had told him.

Though, he could clearly see through her eyes that she was being honest but he couldn't accept what she was saying.

How can I be living a fake life all this while? He thought to himself. T

"Duncan. I'm your mother..."

"Enough!" He held up a hand, stopping her from uttering more words. "I don't want to have anything to do with you

With that, Duncan angrily left the house. He decided to go to the person that could give him the clarifications he really wanted.

His mother.

When he arrived at the hospital, he went to his mother's room. On the bed of room 105, there lay a

middle-aged woman, Susan, on the bed asleep.

Duncan gently shifted the stool by the bed so as to make no noise that would wake her up and placed a light kiss on her forehead.

Duncan couldn't stare at his mother for long because he couldn't stand seeing her looking weak in the ugly hospital gown.

Susan was once a high-spirited woman who he found solace in just by having a glimpse of her even from afar. She had an illness and has been in the hospital for two years

'Don't worry, Mom. You'll receive the necessary treatment,' he assured his mother in his mind.

He thought of leaving and returning when she probably would be awake and then he saw a string draped off from his mother's bag at the foot of the cabinet.

He wondered what that was. He bent down and took it. When he opened the lock, he was surprised to see the photo of a woman embracing a boy.

He glanced at his mother and on a second look at the photo, he realized that the woman looked like Lady Zelda and the boy was him when he was young.

His lips parted and his brows creased, just then, Susan woke up.

"Duncan?"

He turned to face her and stretched the locket to her. "Mother, who's this woman?"

Susan gently sat up and sighed, taking the locket from him.

"Mother, that's me, but who's the woman?"

Susan shook her head. "I personally don't know her but I suppose she's your biological mother."

"My b...biological M... Mother?" Duncan stuttered.

"Yes, I'm sorry, but I'm not your biological mother, Duncan. I saw you unconscious by the side of an eatery where I once worked. You had eaten some leftovers in the garbage can and that upset your stomach and caused you to go unconscious. When you awoke, you only remembered your name-Duncan. I decided to take you in as my son and gave you my first name- South. That locket was what was on your neck when I found you."

Duncan exhaled and took out his phone from his pocket. He recalled a week ago when Zinnia had taken the phone she bought him and visiting Susan the next day, she had given him a phone to use in the meantime.

"This phone, did you buy it...?"

“No. That phone doesn’t look like the regular phones, does it? Actually, I had seen it in your pocket that day too. And if you look at the top of the screen, you’d see the letter- D and W inscribed there. I’m sorry, I kept the phone hidden all this while because I was scared someone would reach out for you to claim you, then I’ll be all alone. My son, Duncan, even though I’m not your real mother, I cherish you like my real son. Please don’t hate me for what I did.” 2

Duncan shook his head and took her hand. “I’ll never hate you, Mother. You’ll still be my mother Thank you for telling me the truth.” Duncan embraced her and kissed her hand. “I promise you, you’ll receive the fruits of your labor onwards.”

“How’re things going at the Lennart manor? Are things fine between you and Zinnia?”

Seeing the worries on her face, Duncan dismissed the thought of telling her what had happened. He left the hospital and headed back to the Emporium Hotel.

Back at the Walton domicile, Lady Zelda was drinking in the usual corner of her room. Luke

walked in and stood her from taking another glass of drink

“Don’t stop me, Luke. Let me drink till stupor. I’m really unfortunate. My son detests me and he

has left me again. I don’t know what to do now. I’m hopeless”

“No, ma’am. Master Duncan is still at the Emporium Hotel. We can go over to see him and get things resolved.”

Giving his suggestion a thought, Zelda dropped her glass. As if being evolved with new confidence and hope, she arose and tied up her hair in a ponytail.

“Thank you, Luke. I didn’t know what came over me. I have found my son after a long time. I won’t give up on reconciling with him. No. Let’s go over to the hotel. Get the car ready. I’ll be out in five

minutes.”

Luke nodded and left the room.