

Chapter 18 Next Time

Rogue's POV

I'm on my way to meet Levi Thompson, Brianna's assistant, to talk about the current state of their company. I'm worried. Last night after misunderstanding Brianna's intention at the bridge, I got so scared and hurt. After she left, I immediately told my secretary to schedule a private meeting with Brianna's assistant to know what's happening.


Actually, I don't wanna interfere in her life. She's a strong woman and I know she can get through this but after seeing her like that, even without the intention of jumping off the bridge, I decided to silently find a way to help her with her problems.

I was about to enter the VIP room when the door in the next room swung open. A familiar sweet scent filled my nose and even without looking, I immediately recognized the woman who opened the door. To confirm my hunch, I bore my eyes at her and my lips parted in shock because of her state.

Her lips were so wet and bright red. Her hair was a little mess. Her cheeks are flushed although her eyes scream anger.

I was taken aback as I stared down at her and she looked up at me with the same shock expression. Is she drunk?

"Brianna..." I couldn't help but whisper her name in worry.

I was about to support her waist and guide her when a man showed up behind her. He looked like a devil in a suit. His eyes were sharp as I fought his stares. 

I clenched my jaws as I realized what must've happened inside this fucking room. Did he force Brianna? Damn this motherfcker!

"What are you doing here?" He asked in a cold tone.

I shot an eyebrow up as I shifted my weight and lifted my chin. "I don't owe you an explanation."

He gritted his teeth and looked at Brianna. "Is this the man you want to replace me with? I would bet all my riches he's not even half of my capabilities. Is this an escort, Brianna? Are you insulting me?"

I want to laugh. An escort? He looks down on his own wife? I can't believe this!

I pressed my lips together and clenched my jaws when I saw Brianna angrily faced Cain Hamilton. Her eyes were bloodshot. And probably because of the alcohol she drank, she doesn't have control over her words and emotions.

"He is not an escort. He's a decent man, unlike you!"

I chewed my bottom lip and brought my gaze to the wonderful and expensive woman in front of me. God! She's becoming even more beautiful. I'd die praising her this lifetime. And damn! Look at her defending me. What she just did made my heart race. I feel like I'd die smiling even if I get hit by a ten wheeler truck later.

"You're telling me you like him, huh? You've been really cheating on me?" Cain growled, bringing my annoyance back.

"It was you who had been cheating until now, Cain. Why are you putting the blame on me when you started all of these?"

I balled my fists. I've been itching to punch Cain Hamilton's face but I don't wanna scare Brianna. She might think of me as a gangster or what. I don't want that. I am currently building my good image. And I honestly want to get in between but I know Brianna handles him and I don't want her to think that I'm taking advantage of her trust and kindness.

Brianna angrily pointed a finger at him. "You don't have the right to accuse or even question me, Cain. You are just like this because of your pride. You see me as your possession as soon as you realized I was trying to drift away, you were alarmed."

"You will lose everything, Brianna. I'm telling you. This poor lover of yours can never help you when it comes to the financial aspect. He can't even afford a car."

Woah! Stop right there, man! You're indirectly insulting my legendary pick up.

Brianna faced him with indifference. Her expression shocked me. She must've been hurt so bad. She's turning into someone she wouldn't want to become. **1**

"I will find a way to save my own company and myself, Cain. I won't be needing your help anymore. I will find a way and even if I fall, you don't have the right to even mock me because obviously, you are the reason behind it and you can't fight fair. Coward!"

"Rogue..." I was taken aback when Brianna faced me and held my hand.

Her soft and warm palm gently brushed with mine. Her fingers were so soft and small compared to mine. I gasped and held my breath as our eyes locked. Slowly, she gave me the sweetest smile she could ever give. What she did made my heart race wildly.

"Let's go," she whispered and squeezed my hand.

I immediately understood what she wanted to happen. I looked down at our clasped hands and slowly, I slipped my fingers between hers, intertwining them.

I smiled when I looked her in the eyes again. "Yeah. Let's go."

"BRIANNA!" Cain Hamilton shouted angrily.

Pressing my lips together, I glanced at Brianna as we walked out of the

high end restaurant, still holding each other's hand. Her face was still flushed and her eyes were drunk.

I swallowed hard and continued walking side by side with her, waiting for her to give me another instruction because damn, I'd be a willing slave or even a loyal dog to her. She can completely rule me and I will definitely give in to whatever she wants me to do. She's the queen and she's the rule herself. I would be a slave to her indefinitely. Fck! I sounded like a lovesick bastard just now, didn't I?

"Thank you." Her soft voice brought me back to my senses.

When I realized we're already outside the restaurant, I loosened my grip and gently let go of her hand. I smiled at her. "You can trust me, Brianna."

She smiled again. "You can just call me Bree, Rogue Adams."

I laughed and nodded. "But you have to call me just Rogue before I do that."

She chewed her bottom lip while smiling and nodded. "Thank you again, Rogue. I'm sorry too for dragging you into my mess."

"It's nothing," I whispered. "...compared to the joy you gave me."

"What?" She looked at me confused. She looked so cute and gorgeous at the same time.

I shook my head and chuckled. Glad she didn't hear me. "I'm always here if you need help."

She scratched her cheek and looked at the valet who went to her and gave her her car keys. She accepted it and looked at me.

"Uh... I better go. Did you bring your car or you want me to..." She trailed off.

I smiled gently. Oh, babe! I brought my car. Instead of answering, I

walked towards her car and opened the passenger seat for her.

I tilted my head, urging her to go inside. "Don't worry about me and go."

She nodded and entered her car. She rolled down the window after I gently closed the door.

"I'm going now, Rogue."

I winked at her. "Sure. Drive safely. Let's see each other next time again, my beautiful female alpha. Bye!"



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Chapter 19 Old Friend

Brianna's POV

"I'm sorry, Miss Bree. I was incompetent."

I lifted my eyes from some documents to look at Levi's regretful face. When I confronted him about my meeting yesterday, he was also clueless about the identity of the prospect investor. Cain used another name to lure me into that meeting. I was mad at Levi for not doing a background check about the person I will meet but I am well aware that I have my share of faults.

I shook my head. "Forget it, Levi. What about the companies I asked you to make an appointment with? We have to find new investors or we'll have to file bankruptcy."

He looked down. "I apologize, Miss Bree. The companies I contacted aren't interested."

My forehead creased. "What do you mean? You contacted three companies today and yesterday, right?"

He nodded and fixed his specs. "Well, the company yesterday set a meeting for next week, but today, their secretary called and canceled it."

I blinked and sucked my breath. This is insane! I know for sure that Cain has something to do with this. I balled my fists as I saw Uncle Aiden walk past the hallway in front of my office. He was talking to someone over the phone but he still glanced at me through the glass wall. I've been very suspicious of him. He must be helping Cain to bring me down, but for what?

"I will contact more investors, Miss Bree."

I nodded at Levi. "Please do that. Update me if you find an interested company, Levi."

"Yes, Miss Bree. How about our collaboration proposal with the RYD Estate?"

I chewed my bottom lip. "Did you set an appointment with them?"

"I'm waiting for your go signal, Miss Bree."

I nodded. "Set an appointment with them. We need their help so we can raise the sales of our units. And also set an appointment with the Architectural Design team and Construction team. I need to review the mixed-use condominium and casino that my uncle started."

Casino? Really? The Quinn's Villa's mission is to provide low cost housing and affordable apartments and condo units, but Uncle Aiden pushed a high end condominium with a casino and he was able to convince the board? I can't believe it.

"I'll go now, Miss Bree."

I just nodded at Levi. I rested my back on the backrest of my swivel chair after he left. My eyes wandered around the spacious office and it's making me feel so sad. I can't accept the fact that I'm slowly losing the company my grandfather entrusted to me.

I sat properly and decided to open my social media account. A certain message caught my attention that I paused for a while to dig into my memory if I was acquainted with the person of the same name on the screen.

Blake Lucas: Hi. I hope you still remember me. It's been a long time.

I pressed my lips together and typed my reply. His message was sent three days ago and I was shocked when I saw him typing right after I sent my reply.

Blake Lucas: You don't remember me, do you?

00:01

I was about to reply when he sent another message, asking if he could call. My forehead creased as I stared at his call. Should I answer it?

I was hesitant for a while until I realized why his name sounds familiar. He was my high school classmate, my seatmate to be exact. A smile crept on my lips as I answered his call.

My lips parted in shock after the screen revealed a handsome man with blonde hair and blue eyes. Of course! Why did I even forget the transferee who caused chaos in our school because of his sexy blue eyes and killer smile. I would say he can pass as a male model just like Rogue Adams. They're both handsome although Blake has soft features and undeniable charm and Rogue Adams has this strong feature and aura that you'd feel his authority through his eyes and stares. He's too ruthless, a complete opposite of Blake who looked very approachable.

"Bree!"

I was brought back to reality because of Blake's joyful voice. Oh shit! Why am I comparing these two men who showed me care and support? I can't believe myself!

"God! You're even more beautiful now."

I laughed and thanked him for his compliment. "And you still have that flowery tongue, huh?"

His laughter broke as I examined the curtain wall behind him. He must be in a penthouse or an office?

The conversation with Blake started and goes on. Days passed and we're still communicating until one time, he mentioned what he heard about The Quinn's. He was worried so I told him the truth. He was shocked and I was also really shocked after he told me that Amber O'Connor was his ex-girlfriend who dumped him after finding a richer man.

Blake is currently the CEO of a big and well-known cosmetic company and he volunteered to invest in my company. I was so excited and thankful, but when I reached the restaurant where I'll meet him for a formal meeting, my courage melted.

I felt self-pity. I am so desperate to save my company that I'm willing to take advantage of a friend's kindness.

"What's wrong, Bree?"

I looked down and sighed. "I'm just...anxious. I mean, you're a good friend and here I am, taking advantage of you."

He sighed and shook his head. He dropped his utensils and stared into my eyes. "Bree, I'm not actually doing this out of kindness."

My forehead creased. "What do you mean?"

He rested on his chair and looked at me with a serious face. His blue eyes are like flames, it is intense and it burns. He clenched his jaws. For the first time, I saw anger in his eyes. I've never seen him angry even when we're in high school.

"When you told me that Amber is with Cain Hamilton, your ex-husband, my anger intensified. They cheated on you and threw me like trash. I want to hurt them too. I want to get my revenge, Bree. And I'm sorry that I saw this as an opportunity."

I stared into his eyes. "So you are proposing that we use each other to hurt them?"

He smiled and shook his head. "We're friends, Bree, so we're not gonna use each other. We will help each other."

My lips turned in a grim line as I stared back at him. He poured wine in my glass and lifted his own glass. "I have a birthday party to attend tomorrow night. Will you be my date? If you agree, then our plan will start tomorrow night. Although I'll still invest in your company as a

friend." 2



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