

Flames Of Sizzling Desires Novel

Chapter 20

The next morning, Cara stretched her arms on the bed and slightly groaned in pain. She sat on the bed and Milo jumped on the bed next to her. "Good morning, Milo!" She kissed his forehead and left the bed, sprinting to the bathroom. She took a shower, quickly changed into some comfortable clothes, and walked out of the room, only to find Keith dressed in a civil uniform. Though he was wearing a police uniform, but to Cara, he looked no less than a prince.

"Good morning!" Keith smiled at her, breaking her train of thought, and Cara quickly composed

herself. "How are you feeling?" He asked.

"I'm much better now. Thank you!" She said and took a seat next to him. Keith finished his coffee and forwarded a gift box in her direction.

"New phone for you!" He said and Cara parted her lips in surprise.

Keith seemed to notice the excitement dancing in her eyes, but something was stopping her. "Take it! It's for you!"

"I can't take this from you! I don't have money to pay for this right now." She said.

"It's a gift, Cara! I brought it for you." He said and Cara was fumbling with her fingers, not sure if she should take a gift from him.

Keith rose from the couch. "Anyway, I'm getting late! My number is on your new phone. Call me if you need something. Breakfast is ready and Janet will join you in the evening. Take your medicines on time and I'll see you later." He said, taking his car keys and walking to the door.

"Keith!" Cara called him and he turned to her.

"Thank you so much!" She smiled, and this time it was reaching her beautiful hazel eyes.

Keith smiled. "Enjoy!"

"What about the proposal you sent to Aries Grayson?" Cynthia asked Alfred.

"No response! And no response means he isn't interested." Alfred sighed. "I offered fifty-two per cent shares to him, yet he refused my bid." He said and took a sip of his tea while Isla pressed her lips in a straight line.

Cynthia appeared to be in deep thought. "Do you think he would refuse Glazier Group?" She asked Isla's eyes quickly lightening up with hope as she

saw this as an opportunity that could bridge the gap between her and Aries.

“Mom, this is a perfect idea!” She exclaimed, but Cynthia silenced her with her hand and focused on Alfred.

“What do you think? Glazier Group is leading at the top position for years now. Do you think he would refuse such a tempting proposal to associate with us?” She asked.

“Aries Grayson.... I’m not finding the right word for this guy.” Alfred cleared his throat. “Unpredictable! Versatile! Arrogant! We can’t envisage what he would do next or what’s going on in his mind.”

Cynthia nodded when she heard him saying. "But there is no harm in trying! We might actually crack a great deal with him. What do you have in your mind?"

"Cara has to be restricted from all the sides. That's all I have in my mind right now." Cynthia said.

"Mom, If Aries comes to our side, Cara would be dead meat! Aries alone can wipe her name off from this city and we don't have to move a finger. This man has connections." Isla stated, and Cynthia smirked evilly.

"And did you talk to the chairman of the Ascent Group? Does he know his dear son is dating a

waitress?" Cynthia sneered. "We have to show this girl her place!" She said, and Alfred agreed.

It had been more than weeks now since Cara and Keith were living together. They were slowly bonding well and most of the time, Milo and Janet played cupid to bring these two close to each other.

As soon as Cara healed from her injuries, she took over the kitchen and Keith was enjoying three-time delicious meals a day. Sometimes, he secretly came back home to have lunch with Cara and Milo, ditching his job, and it was something he had

never done before for anyone.

He scolded himself for this irresponsible behaviour but later convinced himself that now Janet has joined the duty back, Cara must be feeling alone and hostage at his apartment, as she wasn't allowed to step out alone until the trial.

It was afternoon when the doorbell rang. Cara quickly set the small glass dining table and opened the messy bun. Her hair cascaded down as she quickly brushed them with her fingers, looking at her appearance in the mirror before moving to open the door. "Hey!" She smiled, excited to see him.

"Hey!" He smiled walking inside and instantly a delicious aroma hit his nostrils. "Cara, I was wondering, are you from a traditional American family?" He asked, and Cara's face instantly dropped.

"Why?" She asked.

"We generally have two meals a day! But since you've come, I'm eating a lot these days!" He laughed, making her smile again. "Who can say no to a good food!?" He said, taking the first bite in his mouth and moaning. "Come, join me!" He said and Cara took the seat opposite him.

They were in the middle of eating when Keith's

senior called him and summoned Cara.

New Orleans,

Aries walked into the massive kitchen of his new hotel and his staff followed him to write down all the instructions from him. The kitchen crew cleared his way as he inspected the kitchen. Today they were hiring top chefs and each one of them presented at least one of the dishes they specialised in.

Aries's scrutinising eyes travelled to every nook and corner of the restaurant and he realised some

of the kitchen safety appliances were missing. His staff took note of everything and finally Aries was done with his inspection.

“Okay, chefs, you have fifteen minutes left and I’ll see you all in the restaurant.” He announced and exited with his staff following him out. He stopped at the reception and turned to his staff. “There will be an additional team in the kitchen department. The job solely will be to look over if everything is accordingly!”

“But sir, the additional department will require an extra budget and we’re running out!” His manager pointed out.

"I don't care about the budget. Safety and reputation are the key elements for me. Talk to the finance department and get it done immediately."

He said when the kitchen staff appeared to inform him that the chefs were ready with dishes.

"Let's head to the restaurant!" He said and walked to the grand restaurant gracefully. The servers opened the door for him and he took the seat right under the voluminous golden chandelier.

One after another, famous chefs presented their dishes and Aries judged them first by their presentation when his assistant appeared beside him and leaned down to whisper. "Sir, Mr Johnson

from Glazier Group is here to see you." He said, but Aries focus on the dishes presented to him.

"Send him here!" He said nonchalantly, and the assistant walked away.

"Collaboration?" Aries lifted an eyebrow when Mr Johnson from Glazier Group presented an exciting collaboration deal.

"As a conglomerate, Glazier Group is now excited to step into the hospitality industry, and what could be the better way to get a chance to work with you? The king of this industry who has everything

on the tip of his finger." Mr Johnson smiled.

The corner of Aries's mouth lifted. "What will I get in this collaboration?" He asked as his assistant appeared with the financial year reports of Glazier Group.

"Fifty per cent shareholding!" Mr Johnson quickly said as Aries read the file and the profit for every year.

"Fifty-one percent stake holding!" Aries said in his deep voice. His eyes were still pinned on the detail mentioned in the file, and Mr Johnson parted his lips.

"What?" He asked.

"Fifty-one per cent stake holding and decision-making power!" Aries closed the file and faced Mr Johnson. "I just had a brief look at the profit Glazier Group makes every year. The four years profit is impressive, but it has lowered as compared to the last six years of the company. I see the company slowly drowning ever since the death of Mr Shane Glazier." Aries mentioned the founder of the Glazier Group.

Mr Johnson had a complicated expression as Aries's intimidating gaze was pinned on him and he was sure that any of his smart answers won't

work at him. The man had the knowledge of the company inside out.

“Mr Johnson, my offer is legit. Your company will use my resources, finances and expertise to establish itself in this industry. And I live for my reputation and under no circumstances I’d bargain with it. If you agree to my terms, I’m ready!” He gave his enchanting smile.

“I’ll speak to the board members and get back to you!” He said and rose from his seat.

“Of course!” Aries rose as well, and they shook hands. He watched Mr Johnson leaving and took a sip of his red wine with a mysterious glint in his

eyes.

Aries took Cara to the police station, and the latter gulped in nervousness. "Are you taking me into custody?" She faced Keith as he unfasten his seatbelt.

"What? Why would I do that?" He knitted his eyebrows.

"I hit Rob in the head and you've got my fingerprints on the vase!" She said, looking into his eyes. "Please don't arrest me!" Her heart was thumping loudly against her chest.

Keith looked at her scared face and smiled. He was now sure she wasn't going to ditch them at the last minute, so he decided not to scare her anymore. He reached out his hand and cupped her cheek. "The proofs against you is destroyed! You are free," He said and Cara parted her lips watching him.

"What... really?" She asked a small smile appeared on her lips.

Keith nodded. "Let's go! We're here to record your statement." He said, and they stepped out, walking into the police station. Keith took her into his senior's office and the latter smiled as they took a

seat before him.

“Hello, Cara! You look much better now.” Keith’s senior said.

“I am much better now, thank you!” Cara smiled and for some moments Keith’s senior appeared to be in thought.

“I feel I’ve seen you before!” He said and slowly Cara turned nervous. “Have we met before?” He asked, narrowing his eyes.

“I don’t recall meeting you, sir!” Cara politely answered, fumbling with her fingers under the wooden desk and Keith’s senior shrugged it off

when another officer knocked on their door.

“Come in,” The senior officer invited him in and took the vacant seat next to Cara, opening his laptop.

“Okay, Cara. You have to tell us everything you witnessed that night!” The officer said, and Cara nodded her head. While Keith’s phone started ringing and he excused himself by walking out.

Cara recorded her statement, recalling the fateful night she experienced outside the club a few weeks back. The officer opened five pictures on his laptop. The middle one was of Sebastian and the other four were his gang members.

“The middle one is the one who shot the man in the knee and attacked Janet that night?” The officer asked Cara, and the latter narrowed her eyes, staring at the pictures. And a few seconds later, she came up with an answer.

“No! He isn’t the one who shot the man and Janet.” She said and pointed to the other picture. “He is the one who shot the man!” Her finger moved to the other picture of his gang member. “And he is the one who shot Janet. You can ask her.”

The officer gave each a look and the senior officer took a deep breath. “Cara, it doesn’t matter who shot the man and Janet. You have to testify

against Sebastian! The man in the middle." He pointed at the screen.

Cara's eyes snapped to the screen and to the senior officer. "But this is a lie. I won't lie in the court. If Sebastian didn't hurt anyone, why should I testify against him? This is wrong and I won't do it." She shook her head, stating her ground firmly.

