

Guardian 441

Chapter 441 Cronus' a Skilled Poison User

"Mr. Lee, Cronus is all bark and no bite now that his best fighter is dead.

"Should Dan and I take Jackal and his team to vanquish the guy?" Gold Tooth stood ingratiatingly before Kaze and asked shyly. Standing in a corner, Dan looked rather excited.

A major shift of power rocked the Lilyrose underworld within 24 hours.

Alan was dead.

Cronus lost his right-hand man.

Gold Tooth and Dan realized that this was their golden opportunity. It was their time to become the new kingpins of the underworld.

Before that could happen, they needed Kaze's support. Without his support, they could not stand a chance against any enemy. It was a good thing Cronus crossed Kaze, and his fate was n

sealed.

Kaze knew what was on their name and said without a care, Jackal and his team to Azure Estate,

"If Cronus behaves, you can spare his life. If he doesn't, you can decide what you want to do with him."

"Of course, Mr. Lee."

Overjoyed, Gold Tooth and Dan took Gabriel's body along and left excitedly.

They returned in distress not too long later.

"We were incompetent, Mr. Lee."

They approached Kaze with pale faces and dropped to their knees.

Kaze knew then that the two men had screwed up.

"Tell me. What happened?"

Kaze said indifferently without telling them to get up.

"He set us up, Mr. Lee."

Looking remorseful, Gold Tooth gave the full account.

Upon arrival at Azure Estate, Dan and Gold Tooth waited while Jackal and his team fought a way in for them. Despite being outnumbered, Jackal and his team took out Cronus' men easily.

With the absence of Gabriel, Cronus had to show himself and invited them to the estate and offered them a drink. Gold Tooth and Dan were on cloud nine because of Cronus' humble

behavior.

They proposed to Cronus about handing over the mole of Left Group, who used the poison on Alan

It was like a switch flipped in Cronus.

Gold Tooth and Dan were not afraid of Cronus falling out on them. fact, they wished he would attack them. That way, they had a valid reason to kill Cronus and become the new underworld kingpins.

They ordered Jackal and his team to restrain Cronus as they needed an answer from Cronus before killing him.

Jackal and his team were ready for a fight. Suddenly, the six veterans fell to the ground, unconscious. Gold Tooth and Dan were stunned.

They would still be clueless if Cronus had not admitted to poisoning

Alan.

“Cronus is a skilled poison user. He sure kept that from everybody in Lilyrose for years.”

“If we had known, we wouldn’t have drunk anything he made us.” Dan tried to justify his incompetence. With the fall of the six veterans, he and Gold Tooth were sitting ducks.

Angel was about to suggest to Cronus about killing Dan and Gold Tooth.

That was when Jeremiah made an entrance.

Chapter 442 Are You the Mole?

Jeremiah's presence at Azure Estate scared the hell out of Cronus.

Cronus knew that Jeremiah was not easy to deal with like Gold Tooth

and Dan.

He ditched his men and fled out of the estate with Angel. His whereabouts were unknown.

Gold Tooth and Dan were glad to be alive. They scrambled out of Azure Estate and reported back to Kaze that instance. Kaze was calm as the duo gave details of what happened.

Upon hearing that Cronus admitted to poisoning Alan, Kaze raised his brow in surprise.

"So, Cronus recreated Shadowbane Essence himself?"

It took great skills to synthesize Shadowbane Essence.

Not many knew about the ancient poison. For centuries, the knowledge of crafting Shadowbane Essence resided sole families of medicine, inheriting through word-of-mouth.

Only a handful could recreate the poison. Kaze learned about Shadowbane Essence from the old fool who raised him. There must be more to Cronus since he could craft the poison. Gold Tooth and Dan could not be blamed for falling into his hands. "Get up." Kaze waved his arm. Gold Tooth and Dan exchanged looks without any intention of getting up. "Mr. Lee, we didn't do much to help this time. We will gather our men and fish Cronus out by whatever means." "That's right. Please give us another chance, Mr. Lee." Thinking Kaze was disappointed in them for a botched job, the pair knelt on the ground and uttered dramatically. They wished they could dig their hearts out of their chests to prove their loyalty to Kaze. "I told you to get up." Kaze gave them a cold look. The two shuddered and rose to their feet. "Forget Cronus. You're no match for him," Kaze said indifferently. Kaze had to put Cronus on the back burner for now. Jeremiah spooked him away. Cronus would not be returning Lilyrose for a while. Still, Kaze would make sure that was the last of Cronus if he decided to mess with him further. Gold Tooth and Dan left dejected. They hated Cronus. If Dan and Gold Tooth had done a good job today and pleased Kaze, they would become the next underworld kingpins. Now that dream was long gone.

News about Jeremiah beheading Gabriel and scaring Cronus into hiding at his estate rocked the organized crime community and neighbors of Lilyrose.

Leteria Gang was the most affected.

No one could have guessed the Grim Reaper would resurface twenty years later, still the gruesome terror that he was.

Even Cronus, the underworld kingpin, was forced to ditch his empire of years and disappeared out of the scene. Jeremiah returned to River Watcher Inn and vowed to catch the mole.

Emotions ran high within Leteria Gang.

The community of Leteria Gang wondered if Jeremiah intended to purge the administration.

Who would Jeremiah's broken sword be pointing at next? No one

knew.

The key members of Leteria Gang were scared.

In the end, Sieg said, "You're overthinking it, Jeremiah. The staring right at us. Cronus instructed Kaze to poison Alan. is

"Kaze is the mole of Leteria Group. Just kill him. | doubt we ha other moles in Leteria Gang-"

Before Sieg could finish, Jeremiah shot a grimacing look at him.

"You sound flustered, Sieg. Are you the mole?"

Chapter 443 Shake Things Up

Sieg saw Jeremiah raise his sword.

For all Sieg knew, Jeremiah could be coming for him any second. His hair was standing on end.

He cleared the air right away. “You got the wrong idea about me, Jeremiah. I’ve been with Alan as long as you. How could I possibly collude with an outsider to harm him?”

“Hmph! I doubt you have the brains and guts to be a mole anyway.”

Instead of wielding his sword, Jeremiah scoffed and let Sieg go. Sieg turned ashen, feeling uncomfortable by the statement. Jeremiah’s words were not hurtful, but they did bruise his ego. Clear that Jeremiah looked down on him.

“You have a point, Jeremiah.”

Sieg smiled awkwardly without refuting.

Ignoring Sieg, Jeremiah swept a cold glance around the room and said, “We have a mole in Lefteria Gang, and I know so. It could be just one person or more. I don’t care how many of you are involved, but I will uncover and kill you.” Adeafening silence ensued.

was

Jeremiah looked away and offered his final respects to Alan before taking off.

He was trying to shake things up and send a warning.

In the back, Leo's righteous speech echoed across the room.

"I dare those with something to hide to come forward. We can make this quick for you. Don't wait until we find you. We all know what happens to moles."

Leo then approached Alan's coffin and had a moment with him.

"I swear that I won't hold any position at Leteria Group until I find the mole and avenge you, Godfather."

Leo had gained control over Leteria Group, so he had his fingers dipped in every affair concerning the business. Many had expressed to him in private about him taking over the group as the chairman as soon as possible. With Leo giving his word in public, the key players on-site nodded themselves in approval.

However, no one realized that Leo's hands were shaking. He was scared by Jeremiah's threat.

'It's not enough for Kaze to take the fall alone. I need to find a better scapegoat,' Leo thought to himself, and immediately, he thought

about Miru. His eyes grew grimacing. At Lilyrose Detention Center, Kaze told Don, "Drop me back at Horizon Mirror Mansion, Don."

Since Cronus had fled away from Lilyrose, and Jeremiah would sort out the mole in Leteria Group, Kaze had no reason to stay at the

detention center anymore.

He could get home and explain the whole thing to Darcy.

Darcy was too angry to hear his explanation during the day. Hours had passed, and Darcy could have calmed down by now.

“Alright. I'll get Luis to bring the car around.”

Don made a quick phone call.

Soon, Kaze got a ride out of the detention center.

A conversation took place at Horizon Mirror Mansion.

“It's late, Darcy. Are you still going back to the office?”

Kiev followed Darcy out of the house.

He had been at the residence the whole afternoon.

Kiev was there under the excuse that he was concerned for the safety of Darcy's family.

Skylar View District had become the restricted zone after the twenty assassins sent by Sieg were annihilated. No one would stir any

trouble in the area.

While walking, Darcy said, “Since | just took over Quartet Group, | have a lot of things to do. | need to take care of an emergency.

“You should get back and get some rest, Kiev. Thank you for You have saved my family.”

“Don’t mention it, Darcy. I was just doing what I could.”

Kiev stared at Darcy intensely and said, “I just found out how it has been hard for you in the last few years. Your marriage to Kaze didn’t make things any easier for you.

“Don’t think too much about today, Darcy. It’s all in the past. As a friend, I don’t want life to be tough and exhausting for you. “The Darcy I remember always had a smile and bright eyes.”

Feeling uneasy by his burning gaze, Darcy turned away awkwardly.

Kiev

He took her body language for shyness and felt smug with

He said, ‘I’ll take you to your office. You can have a rest in the car.’

Darcy glanced in the direction of the garage. The three cars Kaze got from Taurus Automobiles were parked there. Among the cars was the Quattroporte that Kaze gave her.

Before she got to the bottom of the whole thing, she did not want to drive it.

If Kaze was proven to kill Alan, Darcy would need to return the car to Taurus Automobiles.

“Alright. Thank you.”

Darcy gave a nod.

Kiev soon drove his car over. It was a Maybach with a Sunrise City license plate.

He got out of the car and opened the door to the front passenger seat for Darcy.

Darcy hesitated for a moment. Since it was rude to sit in the back seat, she accepted the gesture and took a seat. The Maybach drove away.

Behind the willow tree by the lake, Kaze watched the Maybach kick the dust behind it while clenching his fists. He was filled with a mix of emotions.

Kaze had witnessed the sweet moment Darcy and Kiev shared in front of his home entrance.

“Mr. Lee, Kiev’s father is the vice commander of the South Rive Strategic Department. When you were taken away to the holdin he asked his father to stop Lefteria Group’s retaliation against Quint’s family.”

Don cautiously reported to Kaze his knowledge of the situation.

“I don’t need him to butt in on my family affairs,” Kaze said curtly.

Kiev's feelings were apparent at the Lily Garden Hotel that afternoon.

Kaze did not believe Darcy was oblivious to Kiev’s advances.

Hence why Kaze was angry.

"Come on."

Kaze turned around dejectedly to leave.

A group loomed along the lake.

After dinner, Hector, Agnes, and Agatha's family came out for a stroll near the lake. Rose and Landon were there too. Sky was nowhere to be found, though.

"Why are you here, Kaze? Were you released?"

The group was surprised to see Kaze.

Landon clapped his hand when he noticed Don, following behind Kaze in a police uniform.

"I know what's going on. I saw on the news that the police could take the convict to identify the crime scene and how everything happened."

Agnes pulled a long face. "Chief Braders, our home is not a crime scene. You should be taking the criminal to Lefteria Group." "Mrs. Quint, Mr. Lee isn't a criminal. He's been fr—" Don wanted to clear Kaze's name.

Nevertheless, Landon cut him off. "I know that. He's just a susp for now, but it's basically proven that he has blood on his hands. He no different than a criminal."

Everybody was sure that Kaze was brought there to reenact the crime.

“Chief Braders, get your investigation done and take the train wreck away. Those from Lefteria Group are after him. We were barely able to escape their wrath thanks to Kiev’s help. We don’t want him to cause more problems.”

Agnes glared at Kaze with resentment.

“We have Kiev to thank for. Otherwise, your family will be ruined, Agnes.”

“The psycho should be locked behind bars before he causes more harm to society,” Agatha and Nelson commented bluntly. Even Rose and Landon looked at Kaze in contempt.

Kaze did not care what Agatha’s family thought about him.

He cared about his family’s attitude. Darcy’s family was his family.

Kaze turned to Agnes and said earnestly, “Tell Darcy that I was framed, Agnes. I will soon catch the person who made me a scapegoat and renew my vows with Darcy.”

After a brief anger, Kaze pulled himself together.

He had figured some things out.

His failure to fulfill his duties as a husband set in motion the event that took place today. 2 Darcy announced a divorce to save her family.

It was supposed to be his duty to protect the family. He had no reason to blame Darcy.

Chapter 445 Never Giving Up

“Renew your vows? As if that’s going to happen.

“Haven't you given us enough problems, Kaze?

“Remind me how many times we have been in trouble since you married into our family?

“You're a train wreck and a curse. The nerve of you to say you’d renew your vows with Darcy. Get lost now!” Agnes glared at Kaze in disdain.

If Don was not there, Agnes would have gotten in Kaze’s face and hit

him.

“Come on, Don.”

Without another word, Kaze took off. He planned to stay at the residence next door which Draco bought. Unless Darcy said the word, he would never give up on her.

“Leave now and never step foot on Horizon Mirror Mansion

Not done with Kaze, Agnes shouted at his back.

“Cut it out, Agnes. Kaze has done everything for you before this happened. When you and Sky were forced to kneel yesterday, he was the one who came to your rescue.

“The child was fooled and led astray,” feeling bad, Hector said.

Agnes felt awkward as yesterday's incident came to mind.

She scoffed furiously. "He never thought about us before killing Master Cunningham.

"I've been wanting Darcy to divorce him. It's time they cut ties. Darcy has no reason not to take my advice this time." Agatha was overjoyed.

She said, "You're right, Agnes. Kiev is fond of Darcy. His feelings for Darcy haven't changed over the years. Darcy is better suited with him than an infamous murderer."

"I think Kiev and Darcy look good together, but his family might not accept Darcy because she's been married once." Agnes sighed. Kiev's family seemed out of reach.

"Wasn't Darcy forced to marry? She and Kaze have not consummated the marriage, so the Cliffords won't mind it. "Besides, Kiev is his own man. His parents won't interfere in his personal affairs."

Agatha's words assured Agnes. She hoped her daughter would be together with Kiev.

The Maybach pulled up outside Clover Center.

Darcy unbuckled her seatbelt and said, "Thank you, Kiev. You should head back to the hotel for some rest."

Kiev and Agatha's family had booked a hotel prior to their trip to Lilyrose.

Nevertheless, Agatha's family intended to stay at Horizon Mirror Mansion for the night. Kiev could not spend the night there, though.

"I'll wait for you and drop you home later. It's too late for a lady to stay out alone. Just relax and talk to me like old times," Kiev said with a smile.

Darcy smiled and got out of the car. "I'm good. My employee can drop me home, but I might not go home tonight."

"Alright then. Call me if you need me."

With disappointment reflecting in his eyes, Kiev drove away.

He had not noticed that an inconspicuous car was parked by a nearby road. The car, holding two passengers, followed them from Skylar View District to Clover Center.

They were from Tiger Fangs Militia, tasked with protecting Darcy in

secret.

Darcy watched as Kiev drove away. Instead of entering the office building, Darcy waited outside the building for a minute. Asports car was fast approaching. Without getting out of the car, Miru removed her sunglasses.

"I'm sorry, Miru."

Darcy did not know how to face her best friend.

Miru waved her arm, gesturing for her to get in. "Did you call n middle of the night just to say you're sorry in person?"

he

Darcy sat in the front passenger seat.

“That’s right. | think Kaze is innocent. | want us to investigate the truth behind your godfather’s passing and find the real culprit.”

Chapter 446 Shane Blanc.

Darcy looked her best friend in the eye nervously.

She knew that Miru must hate Kaze after losing her godfather.

Her words might anger her.

Darcy did not want to lose her best friend. Nevertheless, she needed to seek the truth and find out whether Kaze was framed.

To her surprise, Miru displayed no anger. She stared into Darcy's eyes and asked, “What if we find evidence that Kaze killed my godfather?”

Darcy clenched her teeth. “Then I have nothing to say. He deserves it.

“Alright. Let's check it out.

Darcy was not expecting Miru to be on board and rather quickly too.

“After clearing my head, | realized something wasn’t right about my godfather’s death,” Miru explained indifferently. She put on her sunglasses and drove away.

The car soon hit the highway.

Darcy asked in confusion, “Where are you taking me, Miru?”

She had the utmost trust in Miru, so she doubted Miru had sinister motives to take her out of Lilyrose.

“How are we going to work the case with just us? We're going to Melrose to get some help.”

Melrose was east of Lilyrose.

Miru wanted to seek help from Shane Blanc, an underground

informant in Melrose.

The person built a network of intelligence and had eyes and ears all across the cities of South River state.

He was well known in the South River underworld. It was said that he

had all the information of the South River state in the palm of his

hand.

He had the inside of the rich families' secrets and the latest buzz about politicians.

No walls were thick enough for him.

Miru and Darcy were off the highway in less than an hour and entered Melrose.

They arrived at a busy logistics park.

Trucks carrying goods were in and out of the place.

Shane's daytime job was as the owner of the logistics park.

His identity might be a secret to others but not to Miru, who had access to information in the underground world. Miru and Darcy met Shane in no time.

"Welcome, Ms. Scarlet. Excuse me for the delay. Come and join for a drink."

A jolly, plump middle-aged man said to them. He offered them the salutation reserved for those who walked in shadows. On the surface, he was a sensible businessman.

No one would have thought that he was the well-known information peddler in the South River state underworld. Shane was a pseudonym he went by in the underground world.

Nevertheless, Miru could not care less and had no intentions of digging into his identity.

The underworld existed in the shadows. Many preferred to keep themselves anonymous and hide their past lives.

Miru cut to the chase. "I'll get to the point, Mr. Blanc. I want to investigate the truth behind my godfather's death. Can you do it?" "You have come to the right place, Ms. Scarlet. I can find out about everything in the South River state. That, I know as much." Shane chuckled, and his tone bore pride.

With Miru giving a nod, he said with a smile, "But Mr. Cunningham's passing rocked the underground community of the South River state. It is a matter of great importance, but it's a strange and bizarre case too. It will be challenging to investigate—"

"Name your price, Mr. Blanc."

Not wanting to hear any more bullshit, Miru waved her arm and interrupted him.

"I have long heard about your generosity and competence, M Scarlet. So, the rumors are true." Shane put down his glass and added, "You are forthright, so straight down to it."

He put one finger up and looked at Miru with a smile.

"The price is fixed at 100 million dollars."

Chapter 447 A Hundred Million

"100 million dollars is too much."

Miru frowned.

Even Darcy was shocked.

100 million dollars for a piece of intelligence was daylight robbery.

Shane shook his head and said with a smile, "I'm not asking for a lot. Mr. Cunningham is the underworld kingpin whose influence extended to the South River state. His passing is more than meets the eye. I'm putting my people at risk to investigate his death."

Miru was without a word. The key players of Lefteria Group stripped her of power, so she had no access to funds.

"If you find the price expensive, you're welcome to leave, Ms. Scarlet. I won't charge you for the drinks. We are all friends. There's no telling if we will have business deals in the future."

While talking, Shane showed them the door.

The man may seem friendly and approachable, but he was a seasoned professional who knew what he was doing. "400 million dollars, it is, Mr. Blanc," Darcy got up and said.

She believed 100 million dollars was worth confirming whether Kaze was framed.

If that was not enough, Darcy was willing to fork out more to prove Kaze's innocence. That was on the premise that he was framed.

Kaze had always been there during her darkest moments. He was by

her side. He protected her.

Miru glanced at Darcy in silence.

"You're straightforward, and I like it. So, that's decided then."

Shane clapped and added, "I have a rule. I will need half the payment in advance."

Seeing that Miru was on board, Darcy nodded. "Alright. I'll wire the money now."

She gave Riley a call to move 50 million dollars from Quartet Group's corporate funds.

Since Darcy took over Quartet Group, she had become a VIP client with the banks.

The money was paid out right after a brief verification.

Shane asked Darcy to convert the 50 million dollars into Bitcoins and completed the transaction in virtual currency. "How long before we get the truth, Mr. Blanc?" Darcy asked.

"Don't worry, Ms. Quint. It won't take long," Shane said co

As his network of intelligence expanded across the South Riv he had his sources in Lilyrose.

He knew many would acquire intel upon learning of Alan's death, he got his men on the case right away. It never occurred to him that Miru and Darcy would be the first to come and seek his help.

"Are we heading back to Lilyrose, Miru?" Darcy asked.

Miru shook her head. "We should wait in Melrose for the update. Danger lurks in Lilyrose now."

Ambitious members of Leteria Group simmered, poised to seize control at her godfather's death. Cronus, an underworld kingpin, set his sights on reigning the criminal world solo too.

Leteria Group was struggling internally and externally.

Miru wanted to stay away from the fuss for now.

Darcy nodded, wanting to get an update from Shane as soon as possible.

The next day, Leo arrived at River Watcher Inn at the break of dawn.

He said a little prayer to Alan before asking his chauffeur, "Where is Miru? She should be here with our godfather."

“She went to Melrose’s logistics park with Kaze’s wife, Darcy,” the chauffeur replied. d.”

“Why did she go there in the middle of the night? She said she wanted to stay with our godfather as long as possible before he was Leo said disgruntledly.

The chauffeur responded, “Sir, that is Shane’s territory. He ow biggest underground intelligence agency in the South River state must be trying to find the mole.”

Leo felt his skin crawl.

There was nothing Shane could not find out in the South River state. The evidence would quickly trace back to him. Miru’s knowledge would not kill him.

However, Jeremiah would finish him with a blow when he learned the

truth.

There was no way Leo could survive against Jeremiah.

“Contact Shane now. | want to talk to him.”

Leo’s eyes flickered with murderous intent.

Leo soon arrived in Melrose.

He met Shane who had been waiting at the logistics park.

“Business has been booming here in the past two days. I have met two successors of Lefteria Gang now.” Shane said with a smile, “I’m sure you’re here to see me about investigating a mole.”

“Do you know who the mole of Lefteria Gang is?” Leo asked emotionlessly.

“Yes, but you should follow my rules in business. My services don’t come free.”

Shane carried a drink over.

Leo held the drink in his hand without taking a sip. He asked, “How much did Miru spend?”

“Her companion, Ms. Quint, spent 100 million dollars. She

half up front.” Shane revealed without holding back.

Leo scoffed. “These women are sure willing to pay a lot.”

He glanced at Shane.

Shane was a classic businessman.

If it were a regular transaction, Shane would not disclose as much as he did.

For Shane to divulge the amount Miru spent, Shane must have discovered that Leo was the mole at Lefteria Group. Leo would need to spend even more money to make that information

go away.

Putting down his glass, Leo put up his index finger and wagged it. Whatever they have given you, Mr. Blanc, I'm offering ten times more."

"A billion dollars?"

Shane was shocked. He did not think Leo would be so generous to up the price by ten times. "That's right. A billion dollars."

Leo stared into Shane's eyes and said solemnly, "I want to buy the intel out and a little favor." One billion dollars was a lot, but Leo could care less about the money

now.

Once he got this problem fixed, he would have full control over Lefteria Group.

All the funds of Lefteria Group would belong to him.

"Don't scare me, Mr. Lionel. I'm just a simple businessman making money out of selling intelligence. | don't get myself involved in murder or smuggling," Shane said with a dry laugh.

Nevertheless, his sparkling eyes betrayed his true intentions.

Leo turned his head immediately and instructed his chauffeur, Withdraw 1 billion dollars from the offshore account." "Yes, sir."

The chauffeur behind Leo made the call right away. He soon told Leo that the deed had been done. Leo turned to Shane and said, "Just say the word and one billion dollars is yours."

"There sure is no nonsense with you, Mr. Lionel."

With Leo getting down to business, Shane was tempted.

He slapped his thigh and replied, "Just tell me what you want me to

do."

"I want Miru to be the mole of Lefteria Group, and concrete evidence to prove it."

Leo looked Shane dead in the eye and added, "I doubt this will be an issue for you, Mr. Blanc." He wanted to clear the suspicion on him and make Miru the

scapegoat under false accusations.

Miru could replace him to die under Jeremiah's sword.

"Alright," Shane contemplated for a moment before giving his answer

with a nod.

"Good."

Leo laughed sinisterly.

Darcy was woken up by the ringing of Miru's phone.

"We have news for you, Ms. Scarlet. Can you come over?"

Miru picked up the call and heard Shane's ever-friendly voice on other end.

"That's quick."

Darcy woke up right away and sat up. "Miru, is there news on the investigation?"

"Alright. We're heading there now."

Miru put down the phone and responded, "Yeah. We should see

Shane now."

"Okay."

The pair got dressed and went to Shane's living quarters.

Darcy eagerly asked, "What did you find, Mr. Blanc?"

"Take it easy, Ms. Quint. We don't have information whether your husband was framed." Darcy was disappointed, but Miru was about to be in for a shock.

"We have found the mole of Lefteria Group. It's Leo Lionel."

Shane pulled out a few photos and gave them to the women. "He is sleeping with Ruby Lindsay, the HR deputy director of Lefteria Group.

"She's a spy planted by Gabriel White, a right-hand man of Cronus.

"Leo and Gabriel were introduced through this woman."

The evidence Shane had was not just a few photos. He had an audio recording too.

The phone conversation between Leo and Gabriel plotting Ala murder two days ago was caught on tape.

The evidence was substantial.

The mole of Lefteria Group was Leo for sure.

"Leo is a bastard! My godfather saw him as a son. How could he do something so sickly?"

Miru clenched the recorder in hand and said murderously, "I want to get to Lilyrose and show everybody the person he is."

Chapter 449 Flip-Flopping

"Let's head back to Lilyrose now, Miru," with her eyes welled up, Darcy said eagerly.

Since Leo was the mole, it was clear that Kaze was framed.

Darcy beat herself up.

Nobody, including her of all people, believed Kaze at the Lily Garden

Hotel.

Driven by rage, she even slapped Kaze.

Darcy wished she could teleport to Lilyrose and bail Kaze out now. She was desperate to apologize to Kaze. "Come on."

Miru nodded and walked off with Darcy.

"Hang on, Ms. Quint. I have not received the final payment."

Shane's friendly voice came from behind.

If it were not for the remaining 50 million dollars, Shane would not be so patient to waste his breath with these two women. Despite her distraught, Darcy stopped and called Riley to wire the

money.

The remaining 50 million dollars was converted into Bitcoins before reaching Shane's account.

Darcy said,

"You got the money, Mr. Blanc. We should leave now."

"You mean business, Ms. Quint."

Shane gave the thumbs up and said gleefully, "But you can't leave just yet, Ms. Quint. I'm afraid you'll need to stay with me for a couple more days."

Darcy scowled.

"What do you mean, Shane?"

Miru furrowed her brows and said curtly, "You provided us with intelligence, and we paid the money."

"What else do you want from us?"

She pulled out her phone to call for help.

"Are yo

you giving the four men who followed you to Melrose a call? I'd advise you to save your breath."

Shane added with a smile, "Leo took them back to Lilyrose before you came. They will testify that you are the mole of Lefteria Group."

Color drained from Miru's face.

"Leo was here?"

Skeptical, Miru dialed her four subordinates' numbers. All she a chilling busy tone.

Miru's heart sank to the pit of her stomach.

"Clap, clap."

At the clap of Shane's hands, the security team he hired appeared at the door and stared down at Miru and Darcy.

"Ms. Scarlet, Ms. Quint, please stay at my humble abode for the next two days. Don't worry. I will be a gracious host if you cooperate."

Shane was courteous, but he would not take no for an answer either.

Darcy leaned toward Miru in fear.

She had not interacted with those in the underworld, so she leaned on Miru for support.

Keeping her cool, Miru grabbed her best friend's arm and stared at Shane. She asked curtly, "How much did Leo give you, Shane?"

"A billion dollars."

Shane did not hide that fact.

Miru negotiated. "Let me go now. You'll get 2 billion dollars once I deal with Leo and take over Leteria Group." While Shane revealed greed in his eyes, he shook his head.

“Leo gave me cold, hard cash, but you're only giving me a promise. If you were me, who would you choose?”

Was Leo that wealthy?

Though frustrated, Miru was not willing to give up yet. “Be smart, Shane. Don’t be fooled by a bit of money.

“We paid you first. Underground businesses should be condu with integrity. You're only giving yourself a bad name.” Shane took their money and sold them intel.

However, Shane turned around and sold them out because Leo paid higher price.

If word got out, Shane’s reputation would be ruined.

No one in the underworld would want to work with him.

Shane burst out laughing. “That’s where you're wrong, Ms. Scarlet. | received payment from Ms. Quint. You have nothing to do with the transaction whatsoever.

“I'm keeping you here, and Ms. Quint just so happens to be here. For her safety, she has to stay with you too.”

Miru was livid by Shane’s audacity.

Since they were outnumbered by the security team, Miru knew they had to cooperate before anything bad happened. “Come on, Darcy.”

She dragged Darcy out.

Shane's men escorted them to the accommodation building.

"Boss said that you are to hand over your phones, Ms. Quint and Ms. Scarlet."

One of Shane's men said when walking to their room.

Miru and Darcy turned in their phones.

They were now disconnected from the outside world.

"I'm sorry, Darcy. I dragged you into this. It's Leo's fault. If he hadn't framed Kaze for killing my godfather, you would have never been involved," Miru said apologetically to Darcy.

They were back in the same room.

"Never mind that."

Darcy knew now was not the time to dwell on faults.

Although she was afraid, she was a tough businesswoman. She would not freak out over every single issue. Darcy asked, "How do you plan on solving this, Miru?"

Chapter 450 Darcy's Backup Phone Miru felt better because Darcy did not blame her. She started to figure out ways to address the issues.

"Leo bought Shane off to make it seem like I'm the mole. He probably wants me to take the fall, so Jeremiah would come after me instead."

Miru analyzed the situation she was in.

“You can clear the air with Jeremiah when he goes after you. At least, you can show him the evidence.”
Darcy had no idea who Jeremiah was.

Nevertheless, she could tell from Miru’s words that the person took a

neutral stance.

Miru shook her head. “Jeremiah’s loyalty lies with my godfather. | have never met him before. | don’t even know if | can trust him because he has been through thick and thin with my godfather and Leo’s late father.

“Besides, my sources in Lilyrose told me that Jeremiah didn’t

for some reason.

“Jeremiah went to Azure Estate. Cronus would have died had h

fled in time.

“| doubt Jeremiah will give me a chance to talk if he determines that am the mole.”

Darcy broke out in a cold sweat upon learning that Jeremiah had gone to the detention center to see Kaze. Miru glanced at her and said, “If Leg wants to frame me, Kaze will be in trouble too.”

As Kaze and Leo had a feud, Leo would make Kaze pay 1

for sure.

Miru realized now why Leo chose to frame Kaze before.

Terror struck Darcy.

She asked in a trembling voice, "Can you contact anyone in Leteria Group to expose Leo?"

Miru shook her head.

"I don't have my phone with me. Even if I did, I don't know who to call. There's no one I can trust in Leteria Group." The truth shocked her.

Leo, whom Alan raised, turned out to be the mole who killed him.

Miru could not trust anybody in Leteria Group.

"I'll figure out a way to escape this Godforsaken place. I've been around the underworld long enough to know that death can come knocking at any time.

"But you're my best friend, Darcy. I can't get you involved. Even I must get you out somehow." lie,

With her hands over her head, Miru cracked her head to find

Darcy's eyes welled up.

She stood up and looked around. After confirming that the room carried no listening or recording device, Darcy took off her jacket and fished out a mini phone from the back of her bra.

“Why do you have that?” Miru was stunned.

If she had not known Darcy for so long, she would suspect that Darcy

was some sort of special agent.

Many people carried backup phones, but no one would hide it somewhere so private. Darcy said, “After the incident with Henry and Eliot, I took extra

precautions to protect myself. I keep a pocket phone with me in case of emergencies.” While talking, she turned the phone on.

Darcy only stored Kaze’s number in the mini phone.

She was overwhelmed with a mix of emotions.

Before, she could call Kaze for help without hesitation.

Now, Kaze was locked up in a detention center, waiting for her to save him.

The face of another man came to mind.

It was Kiev.

Maybe Kiev was the only one who could save them now.