## **Love Slave 283**

## 283 Undercover Excitement

Although it was the middle of a weekday, there were many people in the shopping district. I guessed that just goes to show how into shopping people were. Then again, most people that were there were younger people who haven't started working yet or the elderly. Many tourists were among them as well. I was certain that within a few hours, this entire place would be packed with people.

I fully assumed that Ace knew where we were going. He must have spoken to Julianna and the team already and that meant that he knew all the spots where the commercial would be displayed. My heart began beating harder and faster in my chest at the thought of how close I was to finding out the audience's reaction to the commercial that we had worked so hard to produce.

Many couples walked hand in hand as they looked into the many attractive shop displays. I wondered if we looked like a couple on a casual shopping trip together as well as I walked with my hand in Ace's. Seeing our reflection in the shop display window made me think that we looked like quite a pair with our casual clothes on. No one would suspect that we were actually here to gather some insights for our commercial. The way Ace held my hand and led me through the throng of people on the sidewalk made me feel like we were on a date indeed.

"That's the first spot..." Ace said as he pointed his index finger at a very large screen located on a large shopping mall in front of us.

"Wow..." I murmured in awe as my eyes fixated on the large screen.

Our commercial is going to appear there?

"Julianna went all out..." Ace said what I had in mind.

"I don't even want to imagine how much it costs to get our commercial up there..." I muttered to myself as my eyes stared up at the large screen above us.

Ace was right about Juliana going all out about these commercial placements. This was supposed to be a non-profit project but it seemed like so much investment from our company had gone into it. That made sense considering how important it was for our company's reputation for us to win this competition.

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"Not much. I think Julianna negotiated for a very good rate with the excuse that our work is non-profit and that it'll make it look like the mall is supporting a good CSR cause," Ace replied with a careless shrug of his shoulders.

"Oh, I see...that's smart..." I said as I nodded my head.

"It's Julianna..." Ace said with a small laugh.

"Right..." I mumbled in reply.

I had to say that I was very impressed with her work and hoped that the audiences would be just as impressed if not more impressed. Once again, I was reminded that the CEO's office team was really

comprised of the top talents in the company and that I probably had a long way to go to match up with them. I stared up at the screen before taking in a deep breath. Instead of feeling down about it like before, I started to feel more determined about improving myself so that one day, I would be at their level too.

The way he said her name made me feel like he was so proud of her, and although that I knew that he probably meant that professional, it still brought a slight stinging pain to my chest. My eyes darted to Ace's face and then I wondered if he ever mentioned that he thought that I was smart in front of other people like that.

Probably not...

Another commercial was playing on the screen and it was clearly not yet time for the launch but that only made me feel even more excited. Ace checked the time on his watch before shoving his hands into his pant pockets and turning to me.

"What is it?" I asked with slight worry.

"We still have some time, I guess. Want to grab a quick meal before coming back here?" he suggested.

"I'm not really hungry..." I mumbled.

It was true but more importantly, I was scared of missing the first moment that our commercial would be displayed on the large screen.

"You know, the commercial will be played over and over once it starts, right?" Ace asked before grinning at me.

He probably knew what I was thinking and what I was scared of. Of course, I knew that the commercial would be looped forever until our assigned slot came to an end.

"It's not the same thing. I want to see it since the very first time that it starts playing. The audiences' reaction the first time is going to be the most unique as well..." I argued my case passionately.

"Alright, alright...I get it," Ace said with a chuckle.

I smiled at him when I found him smiling at me. The way his hazel eyes seemed to sparkle told me that he was probably just as excited to see the commercial as I was. Instead of going out to watch a romantic movie on our date, here we were waiting to watch the commercial that we worked hard on to produce.

"Umm...if you want, I can go buy you something to eat..." I suggested while hoping that it would be a good-enough alternative.

"I'm fine. Let's go out for a proper meal after you're satisfied with watching the commercial here," Ace suggested.

"Ok..." I murmured.

I felt his arms slipping around my waist before he pulled me backwards a little until my back was pressed up against his hard and larger frame. His arms around me felt very warm and secure and I was

overwhelmed by his familiar scent. Many people walked past us without paying us any mind as the shopping district started to get busier than before.

"Umm...how much longer do we have to wait?" I asked after standing there for a moment with Ace's arms around me.