



26 CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

"I must say Ezekiel, I am a little surprised to see you here." Shola shifted a little to face him. ¹

"I am sorry, it's just... I didn't know where to go." Letting out a gentle breath.

"It's okay. I can almost guess how you feel right now. We both lost someone very dear to us." Although she lost two.

"Like... when I found her dead, I... I couldn't think straight. I felt..."

"...lost." They said in unison.

"Yes..." Ezekiel sent his gaze directly at her understanding eyes. For the first time after Junmi's death, he felt a little comfort.

'Her eyes... It feels so real, I can see her pain and anger even though she is hiding it so much. Could I be mistaken about her killing Junmi?

"To be honest, this is the first time I am losing someone close to me. I have never experienced this before."

Shola nodded her head, "My first was a young boy, probably eight or nine months ago... actually he was my boyfriend's younger brother... Umm my ex-boyfriend."



"Oh I am sorry to hear that."

'And here was I, thinking Seun was her boyfriend'

"He was in a hostage situation where he and his older brother got shot... he died but his older brother made it."

"Umm... Could you excuse me?" Seun left the sitting room for them.

Ezekiel threw him a curious look before focusing back at Shola, "That must have been really hard for you."

"It was no more harder than this has been for me. Beacuse... this time 'my father and best friend' were involved, right?" Her face slowly began to squeeze a little while her lower lip gently vibrated as it puckered again.

Sensing her emotion building up again and her tears slowly glistening her eyes, Ezekiel moved closer; "Shola..."

"... You have no idea how much I suffered then. The way his mother treated me like I shot them and not getting to see Samuel for so long... but all that was fine, I was beginning to settle with that. Then my father and best friend dies? Why did all these happen to me?"

For the first time since her father's death, Shola

finally found the courage to speak out all that she felt. Talking to someone that could almost understand her pains and feel all that she felt at the moment helped her let out all her feelings.

"It's fine Shola." Ezekiel went in with a hug.

'How could I have been suspicious of Shola. Now I know I was wrong, it can't be her. Or could I have been wrong about Junmi's death overall?'

Ezekiel could see Shola's love for all the people she had lost manifest itself through her present revelation. From the day of Junmi's death it didn't make any sense to him how casually Shola had reacted to it, but now it did. She had all her feelings and sorrow suppressed in herself for so long that she didn't know anymore how to let them out.

"You are going to be fine Shola. I promise."

Breaking out of the hug with a sniff, "Thank You."

"I came here because I was lost, but here I am making you cry."

"No it's fine, I actually needed this. Thank you." Shola gave off a forced smile. Something Ezekiel could see through.

"It's alright," he replied, "I should take my leave now." Ezekiel slowly got up.

After seeing him off to the door, Shola shut it



close before turning around and bracing herself against it with a soft sigh.

"Every day that passed has been hell for me, every passing hour and minute has never been easy without you. I look to the sky and wonder if I would have been able to save you had I known. It's been over a month now and I still can't accept fully yet that you are gone even though I know you are. My dreams were once happy dreams you know?"

Time had passed, and with it so many things. So many things but Ezekiel's pain. He was hurting with every thought he had about his love.

How couldn't he?

On the first day of every week since Junmi's death, Ezekiel came to visit her grave bearing a gift.

"I brought again your favourite hibiscus flowers. Now I regret those days I always forgot to come to you with a flower."

Could this be atonement for his guilt of not handing them to her when she was alive?

Probably.

With evening chills beginning to ooze into his coat, Ezekiel already recognised it was time to



leave. He quietly said his prayers for her before beginning to make his way out of the cemetery. Walking out of the cemetery he noticed an older woman sitting beside another grave as he passed by.

"Was she a lover?" The woman asked.

Pausing on his trails, Ezekiel did not answer.

"Every time I come here, I see you beside that grave. You must have really loved her." The woman started. "It was a son for me... nine months ago."

'Nine months?! Could this be the boy Shola mentioned?'

Ezekiel's attention immediately grew as he turned to the woman, "Yes, she was a lover. And she was cruelly taken away from me."

"Aren't they all cruelly taken?" The woman said, tapping a spot on the ground for Ezekiel to sit. For some reason he complied.

"Can you tell me about him?"

With a nod the woman began, "He was my last son, my last child. A very happy and active young boy, had good grades, was excellent at sports and had a lot of charisma. Until the day they captured him..."

Time went by rather quickly but they didn't



notice it, the woman narrated the full story to Ezekiel about how she lost her son.

With his breathing and heartbeat gradually increasing by each passing second, Ezekiel's demeanour and expression was that of a person that had memories flashing before him.

In quick realisation he jolted up, "I am so ma, but I have to go now."

Watching him run away, she wondered what she could have said that made him tremble so much. But regardless, she turned to her son's grave and said her prayers.

"You might not be with me in person but your pure soul will forever be in my heart and mind. I love you Jimmy."

Running to his car without looking back a second, Ezekiel had finally stumbled upon the answer he had long searched for. All the mystery, the problems, everything, it was all more or less answered already to him. Scary memories.

"That woman... she is the mother of the boy Shola mentioned. It can't be a coincidence, that woman accused her son's death on Shola's rich boyfriend. Could that be Seun?"

Yes... that's probably why he couldn't stand listening to me and Shola talking about his death.'



"But why?!" Ezekiel bumped his hands against his car with heavy breaths.

'Why?! Why would he kill the kid?... No! It's not the kid he wanted, he wanted to kill his older brother. Even so, why?!

Could this possibly mean, Seun is truly still in love with Shola and is playing all these acts just to get her!

"I see!" He exclaimed under his breath.

'First he fails to kill the older brother, then he plots to separate them somehow which probably involved killing Mr. Joel. But then how did Junmi get involved?'

He raised his gaze as his eyes drew wide open upon realisation.

'She must have found out and he knew. So in order to keep his evil plots secret, he had to kill her. And it happened on the day Shola left to see her boyfriend. The day Shola and her boyfriend broke up.'

It was all beginning to add up to Ezekiel, though they were all speculations and calculated guesses he was certain all that was happening to everyone, happening to Shola, had something to do with Seun.

This time unlike before, he had a lead.



Something to add to his determination and strong spirit.

Finally, this could be the start of Seun's downfall.

Comment ⁰



Leave the first comment for this chapter.



Vote



Send Gift

Swipe left to continue >