



## 35 CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE

Back at Seun's house, the party seemed to be over for the guests. With Seun absent without notice and his fiancée supposedly nowhere to be found, everyone began leaving one after the other, as they were all busy in one way or another. The mood downstairs had changed completely from a somewhat exciting programme to an empty house, for some reason Ezekiel remained at the venue while Shola, again, was nowhere to be found. 1

Even though the livingroom was quiet with no one around but Ezekiel, the opposite was the case upstairs, though it wasn't exciting in the sense of pleasure or joy.

Shola sat in the bathroom of Seun's bedroom, leaving the door ajar, probably hoping Seun would come in anytime soon. She sat on the floor with her head bowed a little, and her back crouched as she buried herself in tears and memories of her and Samuel.

"I hope you are good?" Samuel asked, holding her hand with care as she sat on his bike.

"Yup! Ready to go!"

"I don't think this is a good idea Shola..." His worries made it hard for him to let go.



No matter how worried he was, Shola was very stubborn, "Trust me, I have ridden a bike before."

She constantly whimpered, with tears probably enough to fill a tea cup rolling endlessly out of her eyes and down her cheeks. No matter how hard she tried to pretend, no matter how many times she told herself that she hated him for what he did, she still couldn't help herself but to hope things were different. She loved him so much and it was getting harder to hide it by the day.

"That fool!" She complained, before a strong sniff caused her to pause, "Why did he have to call when I was with Ezekiel?"

Was she somehow hoping that Ezekiel and Samuel's plan worked out without her knowing, and it would eventually make her fall in love with Samuel again?

Maybe.

Not even holding back, and allowing her tears to fall on and on, Shola rested her back against the wall behind her and dug her fingers into her hair.

"You left me with a heavy burden, Samuel. Because no matter how hard I try, no matter what I do, there's no way I will ever forget you. Not just because I still love you, but because of what you left with me." She slowly places her



right palm over her stomach, "This will be the reason why you will always be with me Samuel, a reason that I cannot deny. Your child... Our child."

A mother and father that were never meant to be together, a union that only existed in the minds of the two lovers, and a child that was probably conceived from one mistake. Even though it might sound like a mess to another, it was all a beautiful mess to Shola and it was all going to be perfect for her if things had turned out differently.

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After waiting so long without receiving word from Funmi, Ezekiel had called her severally without any response, so he finally decided to take his leave too. He wouldn't want Seun to get suspicious of his intentions after returning home.

On his way out, he placed a call one more time to Funmi which she picked, "What's the update?"

"We have all of the police men working for Seun in our custody, we are en route to Samuel's house, about thirty minutes out. Hopefully, they are safe before we get there." Funmilayo sounded very relieved, "What of your end?"

"The event is over. I think everyone got upset and left."



"And Seun?" Funmi's tone had a sudden sense of worry to it.

"He left a few minutes a-"

"What?! Why didn't you follow him?"

"I don't understand..." Ezekiel might have been very smart but he didn't know how the criminal mind worked, which as a police, Funmi was very well trained on.

"Driver hurry!!" Funmi shouted urgency into to mind of the driver before responding to Ezekiel, "You shouldn't have let him out of your sight at all. In this state, he is a threat to every possible loose ends in his crimes and right now there's only one person that we know..."

With a not so obvious gasp, Ezekiel answered, "Mrs. Akande..."

"Yes, and her son. They are both in danger."

In his lack of experience in the art of crime, Ezekiel might have just cost Samuel and his mother their lives without even realizing quickly.

"Oh no."

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Mrs. Akande sat helplessly, yelling and crying for her son. A gun pointing to his head as he laid on the floor, holding his stomach. His left eye was



all swollen from the hits he received from Seun, and his mouth was very bloody. There was nothing left for him as he stared hopelessly at Seun, being punished time and time again by a competitor he never knew he had. His little brother was killed, he was sent into coma, his relationship ruined and his mother turned against him. How much more can a man suffer for love? And now it was his turn.

Struggling to keep his left eye open and show strength in his final moments, he said; "Don't think that you will get away with this. You will kill me now and run but they will still catch up to you and Shola will know the truth."

"Shut up." Seun had heard many of such statements over his lifetime of crime.

"You will face the consequences of you crimes someday, and all the lives you have ruined for your selfishness will be accounted for. You will be punished to the full extent of the law!"

"Shut up!" One of the thugs threatened him by pointing his gun at him too.

Now two guns at him, nothing had changed for him. Samuel knew he was going to die anyway, one gun or two, what difference did it make?

"Relax," Seun ordered the thug as he enjoyed the moment, "he is already a dead man. Dead men



say whatever they want."

This time, with more determination in his voice, Seun added, "Now... die!"

"Nooooo!!!!" Mrs. Akande yelled, tumbling to the floor with her chair still tied to her.

Samuel's head was Seun's target, he didn't want any chance of survival this time. But before he could pull the trigger, a call came into his phone and judging from his response and demeanour, it had to be an emergency call.

With a heavy breath, he put the gun down and walked out of the living room to the kitchen to pick the call. As he left, thugs remained to make sure Samuel didn't do anything silly.

"Hello, this better be important!" His threats were limited to no one.

"Seun please don't tell me you are at Samuel's house."

"Wai- What? Ha-How did you know about Samuel?" dumb found and shocked, he asked.

"You fool... you better leave there now! My Swat team are probably like ten to fifteen minutes from that house."

"But Mr. Grey, I have unfinished business here..."

Mr. Grey?!



Mr. Grey was the same person Funmilayo reported the case to, but now he was calling Seun to warn him. Seun clearly meant it when he said he had control of the entire police force.

"You better listen to me now. Everyone has been caught, the only reason I am not a suspect is because the lady that reported it trusts me with her life. If you don't leave now, they will arrest you." Mr. Grey's voice had shivers in it.

Maybe he wasn't giving Seun all that information to save him, he was doing it to save him self. Out of fear that if Seun was to be arrested, he might rat him out.

"Thank you Mr. Grey, for everything."

"Go now and thank me later. A couple of my men have a black pick up three blocks to the north of that house. They are going to storm the building from the south, west and east because I only gave them that much men. So go straight to the north and you will see my men, they will pass you out of that place safely. Now go!" Mr. Grey's instructions were clear and precise. He was a man that carefully calculated everything he did before going through with it.

All Seun had to do now was to not screw the whole escape plan up. Quick witted as he was, he immediately made his way out of the house through the back entrance and started running



north immediately.

Back at the livingroom, the thugs were getting impatient.

"Ah! Oga don tey oo." Seun was taking too long and they couldn't understand why.

"Hey! Tolu, go check wetin oga dey do for there."

"Ahan!! You no fit go?!" Tolu was very tempermental, "Why you go send me? You never ready."

"Shey you dey mad ni?!!" He always hated Told's remarks. "I go-" He was cut short as two stun grenades were tossed into the living room.

With a flash, the thugs were sent out of balance. Unable to see what was around them, they both fell to their knees and raised their hands up.

"I surrender! I surrender!!" They might have both disagreed on a lot of things, but they were similar in their cowardice.

Like a lightning strike, the Swat team, with the aid of Funmilayo swept into the building and apprehended the thugs, saving Samuel and his mom.

Sadly, they were not quick enough. Mr. Akande wept and Funmi bowed her head to cover her face in shame as they stretched Esther's body out of the house. Only if they were a few minutes



earlier.

"All that man's doing and now he is nowhere to be found again!" Samuel couldn't still control his anger.

"How's Seun still a step ahead of us?" Funmi stroke her hair in soliloquy.

"So that's his name, Seun." Samuel's anger knew no ends, "He received a phone call and it seemed very urgent because it not only saved my life but Seun didn't want to make it in our presence. After which he mysteriously disappeared."

"A phone call to save his life. I ordered the men to stop any car they see leaving, except..." Funmi turned her gaze to the entrance of the door, "Someone from among us warned him of our coming."

"It's probably Jeje!" Mrs. Akande felt the need to contribute.

Shrugging that off with a shake of her head, Funmi replied; "Jeje is in police custody. It had to be someone that knew our plan of entry." Funmi probably already knew who might have tipped Seun off, but she wasn't confident enough to admit it to herself.

Still wanting to contribute, Mrs. Akande asked, "If he knows he is now under the police radar, won't he try to escape from her completely?"

"Shola!!"

"What?!" Funmi and Mrs. Akande turned their gaze to a hurried Samuel.

"He is going to take Shola with him." He ran through and between all the policemen that were on his way to the garage for his bike.

Samuel had lost Shola before and he knew she probably still didn't have any interest in seeing or talking to him anymore, but all that didn't matter right now. If Shola was going to be with another man, fine. But she deserved way more than to be with a man such as Seun and Samuel was going to make sure it didn't happen.

As he opened the garage and sat on his bike, his mother came running with his helmet.

"Samuel!" She called his attention, handing over the helmet, "Be careful."

On collecting the helmet, Samuel nodded his head with a certain look in his eyes that had a lot of apologies written all over it and his mother understood.

"It's okay..." She couldn't be mad at him.

"Here," Funmi also came forward, "Ezekiel just texted the address." Handing Samuel a piece of paper.

"Now go, and make sure to bring my daughter



**In-law back home!" Mrs. Akande could not refuse Shola anymore.**

**With another nod filled with determination Samuel pulled the throttle, releasing a large roaring sound from his bike before he zoomed off. Off to save the love of his life.**

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