

## 38 CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

After a terrible encounter with Seun and his goons, Samuel was admitted to the hospital, where he spent a few days. His mother on the other hand mourned the death of her best friend. Given her untimely death, Mrs. Akande and Esther's family remained in pain for so long. 1

Shola took a while trying to soak in all the truth about what was happening behind her back. Seun was manipulating everything happening in her life to his benefits and she had absolutely no idea. Her father, her best friend and even Jimmy, she had finally come to know that Seun was behind it all. Speaking of Jimmy, Shola had a lot of apologizing to do to his older brother.

It had been one full month and Samuel and Shola had yet spoken again after the incident at Seun's house. Though she was full of words to say to Samuel, she had many more mixed emotions at the time, the stronger being shame. Shame that she wasn't able to trust Samuel.

Down at the police station, they continuously carried out intense investigation to find Seun's whereabouts. If Funmilayo had learned anything about Seun throughout all the investigation, it was that Seun wouldn't go anywhere without his prize, Shola. So they left their eyes peeled and



stayed prepared for when he was going to make a move to get Shola.

But that was not all for Funmilayo, even if she found Seun and apprehended him she still had some unfinished business with the case. Someone had tipped Seun about their raid of the Akande house when he was there and it had to be someone really close.

And Funmi had a very strong guess.

"Good morning Mr. Grey." Funmilayo walked into his office.

"My little fighter! Have a seat dear." Having no knowledge of why Funmi was there, "You have no idea how proud I am of you and how proud your late father would have been."

Funmi wore a faint smile, "Thank you sir."

"No, you deserve all the praise. You need to celebrate."

"I appreciate sir... but I feel like there is one more person I am missing."

"Missing? I don't understand." Mr. Grey grew in curiosity.

Funmilayo was a little suspicious of Mr. Grey already and wouldn't want to make obvious her suspicions of him, so she had to be careful and take things slow.



"Back at Samuel's home, we could have caught Seun but he somehow escaped, and I beli-

With a short chuckle that cut Funmi short, Mr. Grey answered, "Look Funmi, in the police world there are times where things happen that you don't understand, and while we will surely look into them, don't let them haunt you."

"I know but I don't think this is one of them." She wasn't going to allow Mr. Grey sway her.

Quickly picking her brain, Mr. Grey's expression changed, "What do you mean?"

"I mean someone must have informed Seun of our coming. Or else, there is no way he could have known we were coming."

"Hmm..." He leaned slowly on his chair, "And you are confident about this assumption?"

"Yes. Because not only did he know we were coming, he also knew how we were coming. And there were only three people that had that information."

Of course, one of them being Mr. Grey.

Knowing Funmilayo for so long, he slowly grew scared at her assumptions. He knew that she was always very adamant to prove a point and wouldn't give up until she did. And if she did prove this point, it meant he would be ending up



behind bars.

"Uhh... if you feel so strongly about that I will have one of my own trusted personnel look into it." Even though he somehow knew she wasn't going to agree to that, he had to try.

"No sir, I think it would be better if I looked into it myself." she had to make sure for herself that her suspicions of Mr. Grey was either right or wrong. "I will take my leave now."

With his face holding a rather spiteful stare that had a slight sense of fear, Mr. Grey remained leaning against his seat as he watched Funmilayo leave.

"Goodluck!" He said.

Slightly turning her gaze over shoulder as she stood at the door, "And you too." Funmilayo answered, sending a strong hint to Mr. Grey that she wasn't going to back down no matter what she found out.

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"So what do I do now?"

Walking into the living room with a glass of water for Samuel, Mrs. Akande replied. "You know what to do Samuel...", handing him the water, "Shola is probably there, thinking about you everyday since the incident and is probably too ashamed to contact you."



"But--"

"You told me yourself, how she held you at Seun's house. That's the confidence and trust she has in you, no matter how little, you need to consider that too." She counted out his medicines and gave them to him, "Here, take your medicine."

From the woman who strongly didn't want her son to have anything to do with Shola, Mrs. Akande was now desperately interested in having Samuel and Shola end up together. She knew in person what kind of girl Shola was and there weren't many other girls like her, plus, she made Samuel very happy.

"Trust your mother on this one, she's hoping you'd call her." Mrs. Akande left the living room and Samuel to his thoughts.

If not anything, this was probably her biggest chance to make amends for her past mistakes and Mrs. Akande wasn't going to miss it.

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"How did you even just start to love me just like that?" Samuel asked, slowly stroking Shola's hair as she rested on his thighs.

"That's a strange question."

"I know..."

"Hmm... honestly, I don't know. It was probably the weather that day."

"The weather?" Samuel scoffed, "You know I am not buying that. You fell for my good looks and charms."

With a huge burst of laughter Shola got off and turned to him, "You? Charms?"

"Yeah!"

A jestful hiss followed as Shola laid her head back on his thighs, "Charms kon, Juju ni."

Samuel chuckled a little and they both remained quiet for a short while, enjoying each other's company at the park where he first proposed to her. They remained at their favorite spot, watching the fountain as it flowed with a beautiful, somewhat unending rhythm.

"What of you, how did you start to love me?"

"Because you were very clingy"

"Hey!!" Shola quickly took offence and got off him.

"Hahaha!!! I am kidding!"

"Better!"

"Just like you, I am not sure." Samuel raised his gaze to her's as they both met midway. "I saw you were beautiful... I mean, I have met other



beautiful ladies but with you, I have always felt secure. Everything just felt right with you even though I didn't really know you."

"And now?" Shola's eyes vibrated and her lower lip slowly slipped in with emotions beginning to boil up in her. A reaction that was very common with her.

"Now I know you and I keep falling in love with you over and over again everyday."

"Oh Samuel!" She jumped in with a hug, creating comfort in his arms. "I love you Samuel!"

"I love you too Shola and that is never changing."

Sitting at the park with her sight fixated at the fountain, Shola reminisced about times she and Samel had spent together before their whole relationship slowly started becoming a mess.

Like droplets of water rolling down a window on a rainy day, Shola's tears couldn't help but leave trails on her cheeks as they made their way from her teary eyes. She couldn't stop blaming herself for what happened between them. If she had just put a little trust in Samuel and listened to the explanations he had to offer, things might have not gone the way they were between them.

How will she ever face Samuel now? Was he ever going to listen to her if she wanted to apologise?



He might have gone to save her from Seun but that was just the natural instinct of anyone in love. Is the love strong enough for him to forgive her?

Shola had countless questions in her mind that she didn't have any answers to, even though the only people that could answer those questions were her and Samuel. But never one without the other.

Shola remained conflicted, sitting alone at a spot she'd usually visit with Samuel, maybe hoping for some kind of miracle to occur and fix all the problems she had. An angel maybe.

Until...

"Hey!"

Shola jolted upon recognition of the voice and turned around to the person with her eyes torn wide open.