

Chapter 26

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Karla nodded and answered.

"Yes, I am fine." She forced a smile.

"So, I asked about your family."

"I...only have my Dad."

"Okay, and..."

"Please." She held up her hand, shaking her head. "Let's just not talk about my family."

"Okay."

"So, what about yours? I mean, you returned to your in-laws' house and..."

"Wait, why are you so invested?"

She rolled her eyes at him. "It's because I'm your partner."

"Not legally, unlike Abigail."

"Can you forget about that sly woman?"

"What? She's good and..."

"Okay, stop." Karla pulled a frown.

"Alright. Well, I've gotten my wife's lover sacked from my company."

"What?"

"Yeah, I'm talking about my progress now."

"Yeah, I know, but...I don't understand."

"The news going around about Peterson Rogers, don't you know about it?"

"

"Oh, yes. Now I remember, he's the guy Zinnia was making out with in front of that club?"

"Exactly. He was the COO of one of Walton Group's under-companies, Vast Group Company."

"Woah, you guys own that company too, great. I saw the video of him being rough-handled. I couldn't stop laughing."

"And, I got some money transferred from the Lennart's company to another account."

"What? Did you hack the account? How did you?"

"I did nothing. Someone great helped me. It was Abigail."

"Really? She can do something like that?"

"Yes, she's really skilled."

"How much did you steal?"

"It was the money my proud brother-in-law, Marcus had gotten from three deals, 50 million dollars."

Karla gasped and blinked uncontrollably.



"Isn't that...cruel of her to do? She took all the money."

"No, I'm the cruel one because I asked her to do it and she did it because she understood why I was doing that. So, that's why I told you to stay away."

"I won't. I can understand you better too."

Duncan exhaled and took out his phone which had beeped. He stared at the screen and saw a notification from the tracking app he had installed on Zinnia's phone. It showed that Zinnia was at a house which was Peterson's house.

"You need to be quiet, I want to hear what they are going to discuss," he said to Karla, taking out his earbud case and putting on a piece of earbud.

"Wait, how would you hear their conversations?"

"I placed some chips in her purse to enable me to hear her conversations."
"

"Hmm, smart."

Duncan placed a finger on his lips, signaling to her to keep quiet and she nodded and folded her hands, staring at him.

Duncan thought for a second that they probably left to somewhere else to talk until he heard Zinnia start talking.

"Peterson, I've been waiting for you for eternity," Zinnia grumbled.

"Hey, I know it's not been long since you arrived," Peterson said, walking up to her. He leaned forward when he reached her and placed a kiss on her cheek.



"You seem so happy despite what happened today."

"Surprisingly, I am, Zinnia."

"Where have you been? Did you go out to get yourself wasted because you've lost your job?!"

"Do I look drunk to you? I went to count my chicks that have hatched." A smirk appeared on his face as he crashed next to Zinnia on the couch.

"What do you mean by that, Peterson?"

"Zinnia, you don't need to worry about anything."

"Well, I have to after you disappoint me."

"If I knew I was fired I wouldn't have called you over. Why did you rush to come?"

"Because I was excited. I had trusted you and..."

"Don't worry. Nothing is ruined. Though, if I had been allowed into my office earlier, I would have transferred the money into your account. Anyway, I still have luck by my side."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean what I said. Babette and the stupid Walton Group of Companies think they could bring me down by firing but I'm sure no one had an idea that I was pilfering money from the company for the last five years I've been working there and with the money, I got my own secret company made, it's HLS Group."

"Oh my goodness! You own HLS Group?"

"Yes, my love."

"That's good, baby!" Zinnia cooed and hugged him.

"Yeah, and the better news is that I've got a new opportunity to get a great deal. I need to seize this opportunity because the deal is worth a lot of money."

"Oh, great! Come here, baby." Zinnia arose. She climbed on Peterson and started kissing him.

Hearing the smacking of their lips as they kissed, Duncan got annoyed, causing him to grab the coffee table in front of him and toss it aside to Karla's big shock.

"Damn!" He groaned, grabbing the earbud and throwing it away.

"Duncan, what happened?" Karla asked, jerking up to her feet.

"That crook, Peterson Rogers, has been stealing from Vast Group Company since he started walking there and he had opened his company."

"What? Damn him," Karla hissed. Then they heard a knock on the door and Abigail walked in.

A flicker of surprise showed in Duncan's eyes which was overtaken by his anger at the moment.

"What's it, Duncan?" Abigail asked, walking up to him.

"What are you doing here?" Karla asked.

"I came to see Duncan. I got to know he was here and I heard a noise so I

came in."

"You should have waited for me to ask you to come in..."

"This is my hotel," Abigail snapped, trying not to sound rude.

"Excuse me?" Karla frowned. "You..."

"What's going on, Duncan?" Abigail asked again, ignoring Karla.

Duncan whispered. "You came at the right time."

"You look upset. What is it?"

Duncan told her what had happened and she furrowed her brows, looking away.

"That double dealer, he's really smart."

"You shouldn't call that being smart, Abigail," Karla corrected, making Abigail roll her eyes.

"I'll gather important information about him for you, Duncan."

"It's alright, I'll seek my sources too."

"Alright. It's going to be fine. Don't think about it too much."

"Okay. I'll leave now." Duncan glanced at Karla and left, trying to control his anger.

Abigail eyed Karla and turned to leave.

"I'll be leaving your hotel soon, Abigail Waclaw," Karla said, causing Abigail to stop at the door.



Abigail turned and nodded. "You've been one of my hotel's best customers. Where are you going to go to?"

"My home."

"Home? I never thought you had one, Karla Burton."

"Whatever. I'm sure you coming here wasn't a coincidence."

"Why? Are you feeling a little bad because I do show up whenever Duncan needs help?"

"That's nonsense."

"You think so? I guess Duncan and I share a connection."

"Connection, my foot. Leave my room."

Abigail chuckled and left. She headed down the hallway and stepped into the elevator.

When she stepped out of the elevator on the ground floor, Xia rushed up to her with a coat and made her wear it. 1

"Ms. Waclaw, you were in a hurry, and you didn't take your coat. Why return to the hotel?"

"Um...I...yes, I forgot a file in my office, so I came back to take it," Abigail lied.

"Where's the file, Ms.?" Xia's gaze dropped on her bare hands and Abigail shook her head, thinking of what to say next.

"The file wasn't there. I guess it is at my place."

"I will help you search your house thoroughly for it."

"Oh, never mind."

"Okay. By the way, Ms. I saw Duncan left the hotel now."

"Really? I didn't see him. Let's go." Abigail walked past her, heading out of the building.

When Duncan returned to the house, he was heading to the staircase when he saw Zinnia rushing to Ma'am Luna's study room with a bright smile on her face.

He followed her and watched her enter the study room before he gently walked to the door. He looked around, making sure no one was in the hallway, and started eavesdropping on their conversation.

"What are you saying, Zinnia?"

"Another chance, Grandmother. I know I disappointed you earlier but this time, I won't."

"What do you mean? I don't want to hear your empty talk, Zinnia."

"No, grandmother. You know, Peterson is really smart. He had been stealing from the company for years and he made his own company. He's the owner of the HLS group."

"Really?" Ma'am Luna's brows creased as she keenly stared at Zinnia. "I've heard some things about that company, are you sure he owns it, Zinnia?"

"Yes. He has an opportunity to bag a deal worth over 200 million dollars."



"Are you being honest?"

"Yes, grandmother. He's among the first batch to present a presentation tomorrow to the people who'll be giving out the deal. He's certain he'll get the deal." 1

"Then of what benefit is that to us? How would we recover the 50 million dollars your useless brother lost?"

"He promised to give me the money once he gets the deal."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes, grandmother. Peterson loves me so much. And I'm going to get the money from him."

"If you're able to get our company back the 50 million dollars, then my trust in you will heighten and you know what that means."

"I will, grandmother."

"Okay. Leave now."

"Goodnight, grandmother."

Duncan quickly went to hide in a corner when Zinnia approached the door. He watched her leave the study room before stepping out from the corner.

"No way, you guys won't have your way. Peterson Rogers, you think you're smart? Don't worry. No matter what it takes, you'll not get the deal," Duncan vowed.