

My Baby's Daddy Is Mr CEO by Kelvin Iwuchukwu Chapter 51

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Chapter 51

"What do you mean she was not on the plane?!" Oliver yelled as he paced around in his office. It was late at night already and the company had already closed, the majority of the staff had left already.

Sammy stood by Oliver's table with no idea on what to do. It seemed like Oliver was losing his mind, Sammy tried to calm him down but without going too far. He knew how his best friend behaves when in this mood so it was best to stay at arm's length.

"That can't be possible, she must have been on one of those flights, what do you mean there was no one with such a name on the plane," he barked. "You are useless," he spat and disconnected the call.

"Oliver, please calm down... you won't gain anything from..."

"Don't try to lecture me Sammy," he warned, waving a finger at Sammy.

"Okay I won't, but please calm down... what did they say?" Sammy queried.

"All the flights from Las Vegas to the United Kingdom that left within the time that she boarded had arrived but she was not among the passengers, I don't understand how that is possible," he replied.

"Well, maybe she didn't board the flight anymore, what if she changed her mind and decided to stay back, that could be the reason," Sammy said.

"Then I will go to Rosie's house right now, let's go..." he instructed.

"Um... I don't think that is a good idea, I mean it is late already," Sammy replied.

He was also scared of facing Rosie right now, she had been upset with him for what his friend did to Aria but how was any of that his fault?

"Are you coming with me or not?" Oliver growled.

Sammy knew very well that it was useless to argue, he would not be able to change Oliver's mind and the CEO might decide to go off on his own. It was not safe for him to be driving on his own right now.

"Alright, I will go get the car around, wait for me in the front," he instructed and walked out of the office.

Oliver grabbed his suit, switched off the light and left too. His heart was beating abnormally as the fear of losing Aria gripped his mind. He was scared that she was going to leave him forever and he doubted he would be able to live without her.

Just like Sammy had asked him to, he went down the elevator and out of the company. He stood by the roadside, waiting for Sammy to turn up with the car. He was feeling very impatient and if Sammy would not show up in the next few minutes, then he might take a cab.

Luckily, Sammy pulled up and he got in, then they drove off to Rosie's mansion. That night was a terrible one for the former Billionaire, well he was no longer a billionaire as he had transferred almost all his wealth and assets to his ex wife and daughter.

They were disappointed when they arrived at Rosie's house only to find no one. The house was locked and no one was available. Sammy suggested the leave but Oliver insisted on waiting.

He hoped that Aria might have missed her flight or changed her mind and Rosie decided to go and get her. He wondered if they were safe wherever they were, especially his daughter Princess, she was not even two months old for Christ sake, what was he thinking when he let them leave his house?

After waiting for hours and Rosie didn't show up, neither was she picking her calls, Sammy was finally able to convince Oliver for them to leave, he drove him back to Green Pastures and dropped Oliver off at his doorstep, then he left for his own house on foot. He didn't leave too far away from Oliver.

Oliver walked sluggishly into the Gomez mansion, the butler was the first person he met on his way in. The old man greeted him in the usual manner but he was not in a mood to reply, he just ignored and walked past.

The butler did not need a seer to tell him that everything had gone wrong. He was aware of everything that had happened between the Young Master and Young Madam, he feared that with Aria leaving the house, Oliver would go back to his old ways.

Before his lovey dovey days with Aria, he was just this mean rude and arrogant Billionaire CEO who only cared about himself, he was not the guy that you would say Hi to on a regular day, he only became a sweet young man after Aria came into his life, but now it looks like that sweetness was leaving with her.

Oliver walked into the large sitting room and met his grandfather sitting on the couch with Nora, she was drinking from a bottle of red wine, he acted like there was no one there and made to walk pass but the old man stopped him.

"Oliver, so you no longer care to acknowledge your old man?" he queried and stood up.

"Please Grandpa, I am not in a mood to talk right now, you have already destroyed my life, what more do you want from me?" he asked in a weak voice.

"Stop doing this to yourself Oliver, that middle class girl is not worth it. Look, Nora is right here for you, waiting for you two to get married so that she can bring real happiness into your life," he said and looked towards Nora. She blushed and then covered it with a smile.

Oliver scoffed, feeling irritated. "I don't have time for this Grandpa, if you don't have any other thing to say, then please let me retire to my room, I have had a rough day," he mumbled.

"Relax son, don't go so hard on yourself, you are not at fault here, you only did the right thing. Anyway, I heard something that I wanted to confirm from you. There has been a rumor going on that you transferred all that your company has saved in the past few years to your Ex wife's name, I know that is not true but I still want to hear it from you."

Oliver sighed, "It is true Grandpa, I gave eighty percent of all I own to Aria, is there a problem?"

"What?" Grandpa Go and Nora screamed at the same time. Oliver shot her a mean glance and she comported herself.

"What the hell did you do? Have you lost your mind, why did you have to give her that much, you know very well that she is a gold digger and yet you gave her what she wants, now she would live a life of luxury and forget you like you never existed," Grandpa Go said.

"And how exactly is that your Problem Grandpa? The money is mine, I made it all and I will make even more, but none of that is worth more than my wife and daughter. You took more away from me than she can ever take, Grandpa."

"What are you saying son? You know that is not true, you made a big mistake by doing that," he scolded.

"Like I said Grandpa, the money is mine and I do what I want with it, if I chose to lavish it in a club or gamble with it, then that's my choice and you don't get to question me," Oliver retorted.

"I see, now I get why you did this, you thought that you could scare Nora away by giving away your wealth, but you are very wrong, because you see Nora here is a well trained girl, she is not after your money and so she will survive without those luxuries. Isn't that right Nora?" Grandpa Go asked.

"Oh... um... um... yeah, I mean of course," Nora replied and forced a nervous smile. In her heart, she was on fire, she could not believe that Oliver had done such a thing and she felt like cursing him.

But then she was not too worried, he said he would make more money after all and she believed he would. He was hardworking and after getting used to such a life of luxury, she doubted that Oliver would want to become poor; he would ensure that he doesn't go bankrupt.

"If that is all you wanted to talk about, then I would like to take my leave now. Have a goodnight and thanks for ruining my life," Oliver muttered and walked off.

He first went to the mini bar and grabbed a bottle of wine before climbing up to his room. That place still smelled like Aria and Princess, now how was he ever going to sleep and not think about them? It was almost impossible. Good thing he had his alcohol to keep him company.

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Chapter 52

Arianna woke up in the morning and stretched her bones, she was up late just like she had gone to bed late. Well it was difficult falling asleep in a new environment. She checked on her baby who was still sleeping comfortably, or maybe not too comfortably. Her bed was not as cozy as the one in Oliver's house.

She stood up and decided to take her phone. She had kept it switched off since the moment that she left home for the airport. She knew that Oliver would try to contact her when she was gone and if she listened to his voice, then he might succeed in making her change her mind and stay back, so it was best to keep it off.

She brought the phone out of one of her travel bags and switched it on. Just then. Several messages from Oliver started to barge in continuously; she did not open any of them till they had all entered. It was a total of eighty messages and that made Aria feel bad.

At first she did not want to open the text messages but on a second thought, she decided to check a few.

The first one read, "Where are you Honey Bunny?" she exhaled before opening the second one. It read, "Please Pick my calls Aria, I need to talk to you." She moved on to a next one that read, "Don't do this Aria, I can't live without you." That was it, she felt like she had had enough, if she opened anymore, she would feel emotional and could end up crying.

She ignored the rest of the messages and went to her email. She wanted to log it out so that she could log into a new one, that way Oliver would not be able to reach her.

She opened the email box and noticed that there had been a message from the legal rights departments which had been unseen for the past three days. She was curious to know what the contents of the message was, so she opened it.

Her eyes widened with what she saw next, she gasped and closed her mouth with her palm. She could not believe that Oliver had done that, he had transferred almost all he had to her name and he didn't tell her. She remembered the day she had signed the divorce papers, her eyes had seen something similar but she did not care to pay attention to it.

She felt bad knowing that he had only done it to win her trust and now he would not be able to get access to those assets or cash because she was not around to will it back to him, or was that his parting gift for her and her daughter? She wondered how he was going to cope without all that Capital for backup. How was his company going to stand if they faced any major setbacks or conflicts? It was like living on life support.

She wished she could return the money and assets to him but to return it to him, his signature would be needed and that would mean going back to Las Vegas. She knew how difficult it was for her to come here, so it would be impossible for her to go back to Las Vegas.

Well, Oliver must have wanted her to keep the money if he willed it to her on purpose. Aria thought about it and felt that it wouldn't be a problem if she withdrew some money from the account for her baby's upkeep, she could always put it back when she found a good job.

She had also been wondering how she would survive here without much money with her. She had used her savings to book the flight to here and she did not want to be a burden to the old couple she was now staying with; they had already tried by giving her a roof to lay her head under, it would not be proper to bother them more.

Come to think of it, Oliver would not have transferred it all to her if he could not survive without it, and it was not like she was going to take it all. Just ten percent of it was enough to give her baby a good life for a few years, a capital to stand with was all she needed.

Although it was hard to conclude on that, she finally decided to visit the branch of the required office and make a little cash withdrawal from the account Oliver had put in her control. She would just take a million out of the billions in it. One million dollars would be enough to take care of her child.

She hoped to pay back when the time came, after which she would transfer everything back to Oliver. She wanted to make her own money and be her own woman but she needed a solid foundation to achieve that.

Oliver woke up on the sofa the next morning and right after taking his bath, he headed to Rosie's house. He hoped to find Aria there but once again he was disappointed.

When he got there, he met no one. He refused to leave, waiting for someone to show up and an hour later, Rosie returned. She had just returned from a night party.

She got to her door and met Oliver standing there, she scoffed and went on to open it like he was not there but Oliver stood between her and the door, with a face devoid of emotions.

"Where is she?" He asked solemnly.

"Look Mr. Oliver, I feel very exhausted and have no strength to argue or fight. I have told you already that Arianna is out of town, she left Las Vegas for good. Okay fine, u would tell you where she went, she would be in London by now, she left very early yesterday," Rosie confessed.

Oliver was confused, even Rosie said that Aria went to London, but why did all of the airports report that she was not on any of the planes. Was she alright? Has something bad happened to her?

"London? But the embassy reported that she did not arrive there," he argued.

"So you were going after her? Anyway she did, I would have been worried if I had not spoken to her this morning, but she called me and confirmed that she was safe."

"I have been trying to call her but her number is switched off," Oliver said.

"That is because she does not want to talk to you, just go home Oliver, go and start your life afresh, forget about Aria, she is gone," Rosie replied.

"You don't tell me what to do, Aria cannot leave me," he stated.
"Too late, she already did, please excuse me, if I don't get a sleep right away, I could pass out." Rosie chuckled and pushed him aside gently.
She opened the door and walked in while Oliver stood out there in the cold, looking lost. He had no idea what to do next, should he go in search of her or accept the fact that she was gone for real, that she had moved on?

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Chapter 53

Days went by, and then weeks but Oliver was not able to find or contact Aria, his Grandfather finally succeeded in pressuring him into marrying Nora. It was a simple, quiet court wedding.

Oliver was neutral about it, he could barely feel any emotions these days, he was slowly drowning into depression, becoming a sadist that he has always feared becoming.

A cold ruthless CEO with zero feelings and emotions; Aria's departure had really shattered him and the only thing he could concentrate on right now was his business. He blamed everyone for his misfortune, that includes himself and Aria. Yes, he made a mistake but why did she have to leave without saying goodbye, she did not have the right to vanish with his child the way she did.

She had denied him all forms of contact, her number was always switched off no matter when he called or with whose phone he called. It was like she had made herself invisible from him.

Soon, he starts to drown his sorrows in alcohol, he would end up in bars after work and sometimes sleeps over. Sammy took it as a responsibility of following him around to make sure he was alright since he had fired all his bodyguards. But no matter how drunk or less concerned he became, he was still serious with his business. It was all he had at the moment and he didn't even need to try hard to rise back to his feet financially. He was born to be a CEO after all, he had what it took to grow a company from scratch.

As for his responsibilities as a husband; well he barely remembers that he is married, on the first night of his wedding, he had slept in a bar and after that night, he either slept on the balcony or in the guest room.

He had also locked away Aria's room and instructed that no one should go in there, he was saving what was left of her memories in between those walls and whenever he missed her badly, he would go in there to get some closure with her scent and few pictures of her.

Anything that once belonged to her was of great value to him, her jewelry, clothes, pictures, even the bed she used to sleep on. He made sure that everything remained the way she had left it.

He had given a different room to Nora, a room that was meant to serve as their matrimonial room but however he had not rested his head on the bed for once, let alone lay on it with her.

She tried to lure him to bed several times but he kept refusing and rejecting her. Even in his drunk state, she was not able to make him sleep with her. It was like his hormones were dead, they could no longer feel a single attraction for any person, talk more of Nora whom he despised.

At work, he was the mean boss who would not tolerate any shit. He fired workers and staff for the slightest mistakes without reconsideration. He still owned fifty

percent shares of the company while Aria as a ghost shareholder had the other fifty percent shares.

The account he had transferred to her kept getting fatter while she did nothing about it. He was keeping track of the money leaving it and he figured she had made withdrawals from it only once; that was how he was able to confirm that she was really in London, but she had left no trace or leads that he could use to find her.

Slowly, very slowly... time was passing, but he did not stop hoping to see her again.

Arianna on her own side also moved on, she stayed with her step aunt for two months before she moved into a new apartment. She felt bored of staying at home all day so she pursued her career as a model part time.

She started by taking steps like practicing at home, taking relevant classes, building her own photograph portfolio with different designs of outfits. She had to rent some of the outfits as she could not purchase them.

Then she started to promote herself through social media, looking for opportunities to be noticed while on the hunt for an agent. She was also applying in modeling agencies, both the popular and less popular ones.

She made sure to eat and drink healthy foods and get plenty of exercise to stay fit, she quit intake of alcohol completely and also gave up on sodas. She promoted herself with self videos where she showcased her flawless skin and shiny black hair, wearing modeling outfits and carrying herself as an aspiring model.

She was aiming to be an A Plus-sized model as her body was curvaceous enough to be one. When she was not practicing or hunting for an agent, she was keeping herself busy by reading books, blogs and articles about modeling. She was also working on getting rid of her shyness completely as most of the clothes she had to wear were a bit revealing.

She made sure that the photographs in her portfolio were professional-looking headshots: shots of her up close without a lot of makeup and on a plain background. Most of those photos were expensive but she had to make the sacrifice in order to accomplish her goals and before long, the stars shone on her.

She met someone who was going to change her life completely. A man who was into the modeling business, he offered to be her manager and helped her get signed into a small entertainment company with a modeling branch.

It was not the big hit she expected but it was an improvement that showed a bright future for her in that field. He became a friend to her and taught her everything she needed to know.

As time passed, Aria became more popular, she appeared on TV and magazines a few times and soon, bigger agencies started to call her. Sometimes it was for a one time business while other times, she signed contracts that would last for months, but she still aimed for more.

She looked forward to signing longer lasting contracts with bigger agencies as that would make her more popular in the modeling world, not just popular but richer. Yes, she looked forward to a huge amount every time she was called for a job.

Michael, her new friend, was not surprised at her, he knew for a fact that this was her calling. She was born to be a model, she was beautiful and talented, she had a nice voice and was good at the job, what more could she possibly need to become a star?

As for little Princess, well she wasn't so little for long, just like every other person, she was growing into a strong, smart and beautiful girl. Those eyes that made everyone stare twice, she was indeed a Princess.

Even though Aria was happy with the progress, she could not deny that she still had a hole in her chest, one that no matter how hard she tried, she could never get it filled up. She knew what the hole was about, it was her affection, it was love... she had given those to her husband and she could never take it back unless she went back to him, but that was off-chart, she had no intentions of ever setting her eyes on him again.

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Chapter 54

Grandpa Go walked into the Gomez mansion with his stomach rumbling, it was evening already and he had not had lunch, he had been out all day gambling. Right now he was hungry and needed to eat food immediately. He headed into the kitchen and realized that the servants were out. Oliver had given everyone a week break, mainly because he didn't need much of their services, he was barely at home these days.

Grandpa Go decided to go and check on Nora, there was food in the microwave but he needed someone to heat it up, so he decided to go and call his daughter in law.

He went up the stairs and suddenly paused when he arrived at the door. He thought he had heard something strange, he hoped it was not what he imagined it would be.

Without knocking, he slowly pushed the door open and was shocked to see Nora on her matrimonial bed with another man, a complete stranger. They were both engrossed with each other that they did not notice the old man's presence. Grandpa Go tried to scream her name but he suddenly felt a strange pain on his chest, he clutched on it with his palm and staggered, then held the door for support. Soon he started to feel his sight get blurry and before long, he passed out and collapsed.

The moment he crashed to the floor, that was when Nora realized the presence of another in the room. She had not bothered closing the door because she knew that everybody was out. Oliver had gone to work and he would either return late or the next day, Grandpa Go had gone to gamble and she did not expect him to come back anytime soon.

She pushed her lover aside who was still eager to make love to her, then she stood up with the bedspread tied around her chest and that was when she noticed the old man lying unconscious on the floor.

"Oh my God Williams! ... You have to leave here immediately," she called out to the man.

"But babe..."

"Go, I will take care of things here," she yelled.

The man felt his hard on, going down at the sight of the unconscious man. He quickly got dressed and hurried out of the house.

Nora also called for an ambulance right before she started to dress up. She wondered if the old man had been laying there for long and what he had seen. If he had seen her being intimate with another man, then she was certainly doomed.

There was no doubt that Oliver would divorce her the moment he found out, but that did not bother her much, neither did it make her sad. She was already tired of the relationship and wouldn't mind a divorce, at least she would gain some of

his properties, her only regret was that she didn't have a child for him; if she did, then she would gain much more from him.

The ambulance arrived sooner than expected. Well this was Grandpa Gomez that they were talking about, a former politician and a member of the famous Gomez family.

He was rushed to the hospital immediately and was put on oxygen as he needed or to regain his stability. Nora tried to call Oliver but he refused to pick up, so then she sent him a text message.

Oliver was in his office when his phone rang. It was Nora calling, as usual he ignored the call while drinking coffee from one of his special mugs. Well it was a gift he had gotten from Aria on their monthiversary; that was what they called their one month together celebration after marriage.

His phone made a beeping noise as a text message had come in; he picked it up and saw it was from Nora. He clicked it open sluggishly to know what she had to say.

The message read, "Oliver, your grandfather passed out and had been rushed to Doctor Josh's hospital, please come there now,"

He scoffed and thought she must be joking, but why would she joke over such a thing? Even if she wanted to get his attention, why did she ask him to come to the hospital?

He wondered if this was another game she was playing with the old man. Yes, he had found out that the whole drama they had put on in the past was an act.

Grandpa Go never had a heart failure as the doctor said, and he was not really starving for any of those days.

It was a plan that he had come up with the support of the Doctor, and Nora.

Oliver would never have known if not for the Butler who confessed to overhearing their discussion.

However, he decided to not bring up the matter, the deed had already been done and his wife had already left him. It was almost a year that she did and he had not seen or heard from her. There was no need of dragging the matter, he blamed himself for becoming an emotional fool and also blamed Aria for giving up on him so soon. She did not even try to fight for him, she just left him and fled with their child and he believed he also had a reason to be upset with her.

Oliver decided to call his Grandfather and confirm from him. He dialed the old man's number and Nora picked the call. He disconnected the call the moment he heard her voice.

What was she doing with Grandpa Go's phone? Well, he was still not convinced that what she had said was true, but now he was starting to believe it. He decided to call Josh, of course Josh would never lie to him.

The phone started ringing and before the third ring, the call was answered from the other end.

"Hey Josh, I want to make some enquiries from you," he said.

"There is no need to worry man, your old man is out of danger, he is strong so he will survive," Josh replied immediately. It seemed like he was in a hurry.

"What? So my Grandfather is really there at your hospital?" Oliver queried.

"Um... Yes, wait... didn't you know? He had a heart failure and was rushed to the hospital. It is nothing too serious, I think he must have seen something shocking that triggered his heart failure, but he is out of danger now," Josh assured.

"Alright, I will be there right away, please take good care of him," Oliver pleaded.

That was the first time he had felt any emotion in a long time.

"You don't even need to tell me that, he is family just like you are," Josh replied and maybe smiled on the other side.

"Okay, bye," Oliver concluded and hung up.

He arranged his tie, put on his office suit and headed out of the office in a hurry. He did not bother to inform Sammy or his receptionist, he just ran off to see his old man. Of course he still cared about him.

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Chapter 55

Grandpa Go opened his eyes slowly to the light, he blinked it twice before it adjusted to the brightness of his environment. The first person he saw was Oliver, who was wearing a poker face, then he also noticed Nora standing by the door. Just then he recalled everything that had happened before he blacked out, he remembered seeing his beloved daughter in law in bed with a stranger in their very own house.

He was still in shock with everything that he had seen, he still found it difficult to believe. His eyes could not have been playing tricks on him, Nora was clearly cheating on his grandson in their very own matrimonial home, he had never been more disappointed in anyone.

"You!" he spat and made to sit up but fell back as pain spread through his chest. "Easy old man, you are still not yet fine," Oliver said solemnly, with a face devoid of emotions. Even though that he was really worried about the old man "What is she doing here? Send her away right now," he muttered in a weak voice. "There would be no need for that, I was already about to leave, I hate hospitals," she scoffed and walked out.

Grandpa Go was shocked out of his own skin, he refused to believe that this was the Nora he knew, the one he had brought to his Grandson as a wife. What had happened to her?

"I am glad you had finally seen her true colors Grandpa, my only regret is that you saw it at the wrong time," Oliver said softly and sat beside the old man.

"Oliver, you won't believe what I saw... I ... I saw her with another man, on your matrimonial bed," he half yelled.

Oliver chuckled, he did not look surprised at all. "Relax Grandpa, first it's not a matrimonial bed because I have never slept on it, talk more of sleep with her, secondly... I already knew she was cheating, I had overheard several times on the phone with her lover," Oliver explained.

"What? And you never cared to tell me?" Grandpa Go queried.

"Tell me honestly Grandpa, would you have believed it if I told you?" Oliver asked.

Grandpa Go was silent, he knew that Oliver was right, he would have never believed if he told him that without proof. He had trusted Nora so blindly because of his relationship with her Grandfather, how could he be so Naïve to let her use him?

He had hurt his own grandchild and blackmailed him into losing the only thing that he valued in life, just for the sake of an ungrateful slvt. He started to feel guilty for everything he had done.

"I am such a folly son, I don't know if you would ever forgive me for ruining your life, I thought I was doing what was best for you, I thought I had your best interest in mind when I made those decisions, I never knew that I was being deceived."

Oliver sighed. "It is alright Grandpa, there is no need crying over Spilt milk. The damage has already been done, I have lost Aria and my baby girl, and I am now

married to Nora," he said and spread his palms with a nonchalant expression on his face.

"But we can still fix things son, you have to divorce Nora immediately. I can help you find Aria no matter which part of the world she is in, I can use my contacts to locate her, please let me help," he pleaded.

"Grandpa, you were the one that asked me to marry Nora for the sake of your promise years ago and I did, if you want me to divorce her then I would do that too. But as for Aria, it was her decision to disappear; she didn't think it was necessary to tell me where she was taking my child. Even without your contacts, I can find her if I want to, but she obviously doesn't want to be found, she doesn't want to be with me anymore so I would just let her be." He stated.

Grandpa Go sighed in regret. He was so mad at himself for what he had done, how could he have been so blind to the truth?

Arianna was Oliver's soul mate, she was his other half and they were meant to be together. She was the lady that brought positivity into his Grandson's life, and yet he made Oliver send her away. He took away his Grandson's smile.

Grandpa Go felt like crying. "Alright Oliver, please get the divorce papers ready, I want that girl out of the Gomez mansion immediately."

Oliver nodded without a smile, divorcing her made no difference to him. He barely remembers that he was even married.

Sammy walked into Oliver's office and was surprised to see it empty. It was still afternoon so he couldn't have headed to the bar already. He checked if Oliver had dropped any notes but there was none.

Oliver barely left his office these days, he only leaves at night from where he hits the club. The very same club where he had met Aria; it has been a year since she moved out but he had still not gotten over her.

"Strange," Sammy muttered and turned to leave, he knew it would not be wise calling Oliver as he was easily offended these days. It was best not to make him get cross with him.

Just then his phone rang and he hoped it was Oliver, but when he checked the caller ID, he realized it was Rosie. He smiled for three seconds, then the smile disappeared. He just remembered that he had promised her lunch together but it was almost four pm.

He answered the call reluctantly, "Hey sleeping beauty," he called, dragging the word nervously.

"Call me that one more time and I will stab you in the eyes," she retorted.

"Wow, you are violent, I like it," he chuckled. Well, one year was enough to make him that bold with her, even though they had not taken it seriously. Things were supposed to be heated up between them by now if he wasn't such a coward.

"What excuse are you going to give me now, I have been dressed up for an hour, waiting for you to come pick me up as agreed," she whined.

"Um..." he muttered, trying to come up with an excuse quickly. He looked around the office and an idea struck his mind.

"Oh, you see the CEO is missing, I don't know where he has vanished to and I can't leave without his permission. You know how Oliver does these days, he would be so cross with me."

"Fine whatever," she interrupted, "But you have to make it up to me tonight..." she added.

"Oh, but how do I do that?" he queried.

She sighed in disappointment, "That is left for you to know, call me when you figure it out," she replied.

Sammy could sense that she had gotten upset with him. Well she had a temper and he was used to that. The poor man had to face the temperamental issues of his sadist boss and psycho girlfriend.

"You know what? I have an idea," he said and smiled.
"What?" Rosie grumbled from the other end.
"I think we can have dinner at your place tonight," he replied with a smile.
"Really? Well that would be cool, bring sodas when coming," she said excitedly.
"Of course I will. Prepare something delicious, I will be coming on an empty stomach." He smirked.
"Sure, see you soon. I will start preparing now and better don't disappoint me again, or it won't end well for you."
"Alright, my violent girlfriend." He laughed. She snickered and he hung up the call.
Well, it looked like he had a boss to find, then a dinner for two to crash. Hopefully, they could do something more than sharing glances and pecking each other tonight.

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Chapter 56

Oliver returned to the house with Grandpa Go, he had been advised to rest in the hospital that night but the old man insisted on coming back, he could not believe the fact that the lady he had trusted so much had made a fool out of him, now all he wanted was to throw her out of the house.

They walked in to meet Nora in the sitting room; she saw them and scoffed then turned back to the TV.

"Grandpa, let me take you to your room," Oliver offered.

"No, I want to have a word with this shameless woman," he replied.

"Hey, watch your tongue old man, I am not your worthless ex daughter in law," she retorted and scoffed.

"Oh yes, but you would be in a few minutes," Oliver said plainly.

"What are you talking about?" she queried.

"Here, divorce papers, I already had them prepared and kept ready a long time ago," he said with a cunning smile.

"What? Are you nuts? So you really think you can get rid of me so easily? I am not that dumb, naïve lady you married and got rid of, I won't sign those papers unless you give me seventy percent share of all you own, just like you did with your first wife," she smirked.

"No you cheap lady, you won't get a dime from us. What do you think of yourself? You would sign these papers right now and leave this building tonight, I don't care where you have to go," Grandpa Gomez yelled.

"Calm down Grandpa, leave that to me," Oliver said softly.

"You and your old man can try as hard as you want, but you are not getting rid of me without giving what I asked for. If you try to throw me out of here, I would call the cops and drag you two to court for physical abuse." She threatened.

"Did you just say court?" Oliver asked with a smirk.

"Yes, I would also report to the most powerful women's rights NGO, I would tell them that you want to mistreat me because I don't have money or a rich family to support me."

"That sounds scary, but I guess you would also have to explain to the NGO as well as the court why you cheated on your husband with another man on your matrimonial bed." Oliver smiled.

"You think you can scare me with that? Trust me, they won't believe a word you said, I would tell them that you both are trying to frame me up for something I

had not done just to get rid of me, I will make everyone think of you as the bad guy who had gotten rid of his first wife when he was done with her and is about doing the same thing to his second, I would tell them you beat me up and treat every woman like a rag doll, believe me Oliver, when I am done with you, that would be the end of your iconic reputation in this city." She scorned.

"Interesting, but none of that is going to happen, not when I have a record of your confession," Oliver said and raised his phone up.

Nora's eyes widened as shock paralyzed her; she could not believe she had been fooled. He was recording her statement

"What? No, they won't believe you, that is not enough evidence to put me away, you cannot do this to me," she said with fear flickering in her eyes.

"Oh Nora dear, it is more than enough evidence, but if that is not enough, then I think a confession from your lover would be an extra leverage." Grandpa Gomez chuckled.

"What? You are never going to find Williams, and even if you do, he would never testify against me, he loves me," she stated in certainty.

"Is that so?" Oliver smirked. "Let us see." He clapped his hand twice and to Nora's surprise, Williams walked into the sitting room.

"What? Willy? I asked you to leave the city for a few days, what are you still doing here?" she queried. Her heart was racing in fear; this was not heading in a good direction for her.

"You see Nora dear, the CCTV camera in the front caught your lover while he was leaving, although I have always known of him, so I had my contacts track him down at the bus station and bring him to me."

"Well he is not going to say a word, right Williams?" Nora asked in fear. Williams remained silent.

"Yes Nora, he would speak against you if you decide to take this matter to court, I mean... Why won't he? We have different video clips of you two having your lovely affairs. I bet you didn't know that there was a camera in that room, I planted it on the day I got married to you because I knew you would do something silly that I could use to throw you out of here; apart from that, I also offered your lover a large sum of money so he is more than willing to testify against you," Oliver explained and chuckled.

Nora was left in shock, she had thought she had everything in control but her whole plan had backfired, the tables had turned on her.

"No Williams, you... you cannot do this to me," she said and rushed to him, dragging him by his collar.

"I am sorry Nora, I chose what is best for my life, moreover I never really loved you, I saw this as an opportunity to have free sex with this beautiful lady and still get money from her, I would be a fool to say no, wouldn't I?" he smirked.

Before he could see it coming, Nora sent a tight slap to his face and he stumbled down. "Fool!! Betrayer! How could you do this to me?" she yelled and cried.

"Okay okay, as much as I love to watch this drama, I have had a long day and I want to rest. If you don't mind, please sign these papers and get out of my house, unless you still want to call the cops then you can as well go ahead," Oliver said nonchalantly and yawned.

Nora fell on his feet immediately, "Please Oliver... don't do this to me, I really love you and I don't know anywhere else to go," she pleaded.

"You are such a drama Queen, please let go of my feet, if you have been keeping records, you would have known that your husband no longer feels any emotions, which is also your fault," Oliver said and scoffed.

She crawled over to Grandpa Gomez's feet and fell on them, shedding crocodile tears, or maybe they were real ones.

"Please Grandpa, I am really sorry Grandpa, I am so sorry, please forgive me," she pleaded.

"Let go of me you ungrateful woman, I picked you up from the streets, your family had gone bankrupt and I wanted to give you a good life because of the relationship I shared with your grandfather, did I ever wrong you in any way Nora? So tell me why you did this, tell me why you had to cheat on your husband?"

Grandpa Go queried.

"What did you expect me to do," Nora snapped and stood up. "Your so-called grandson had married me here just for the sake of it, he does not even care to carry out his responsibilities as a husband, it's been one whole year and he never cared to touch me for once. What did you expect a woman with desires to do, keep waiting? Tell me grandpa?" she yelled.

"Oh really? I agree that I refused to get intimate with you, but I know your affair with Williams started just three months after our marriage, wasn't that too soon to jump into a sexual relationship with another man?

Apart from that, what about the terrible things you had done in the past? Like the phone call with your friend on our wedding night, telling her that you had just won a jackpot, that the moment you get an opportunity, you would trick me into signing my properties to you and take over the entire Gomez wealth.

Just so you know, I also have that on record. I had only kept quiet this long because I wanted to gather enough proof and I wanted my grandfather to see you for who you really are." Oliver yelled.

Nora was quiet, she was confused with no idea on how to save herself. She felt like going back in time and changing everything, her life was about to be ruined.

"You know, I have always thought of Aria as the gold digger, but today I realized that I had brought the real gold digger home myself, but no worries, I will fix everything tonight... give her the papers son," Grandpa Go instructed.

Oliver brought out the papers from his breast pocket and handed it to her, "Sign it willingly, unless you want me to call the cops and tell them of all your atrocities, including trying to steal my property," he smiled.

Nora broke down in tears, she took the papers reluctantly and slumped onto the couch, then she took the pen in it and scribbled her signatures on all sides of the pages. After that, she flings the papers at Oliver.

He chuckled, well that was the exact way Aria had flung the papers at him, it seemed like everyone hates those papers.

"You have not heard the last of me Mr. Oliver Stark Gomez, this is not over, I promise," she muttered spitefully.

"Oh yes it is, unless you wish to go to jail, you haven't been to jail in America before, have you?" he smirked. Well for the first time in a long time, he felt really good.

"We shall see," she mumbled and stormed off.

"Won't you take your lover with you," Grandpa Go mocked. "Come on Nora, I am sure you would need him, I mean how are you supposed to survive? You don't have any money on you, do you?" the old man asked and they burst into laughter. They stared at Williams and he did not need a seer to tell him that he needed to get lost. He turned around and ran off immediately.

"I am glad I finally got rid of her," Oliver said solemnly and sighed. "And I think we should send her belongings to her, she is certainly going to need them."

"Yes that is right, I mean she might have to sell a few pieces of jewelry to get her transport fare or something," Grandpa Go joked and they laughed.

"I am really sorry Oliver, sorry that I had to make you go through this. Now please let us get your wife back," he pleaded.

Oliver smiled softly, "No Grandpa, I understand that I treated Arianna badly, but it was her choice to leave, so let her go... if she really loves me, and she is really meant to be mine, then she would come back when the time is right, but I would not go looking for her, not at all." He stated in finality.

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Chapter 57

"How is your grumpy boss doing?" Rosie asked as she drew him to the sitting room, they had both just had dinner.

"He is not naturally grumpy, you know that, he is just a victim of circumstances," Sammy said in his defense.

"Oh that's right, you mean circumstances which he had created," Rosie argued.

"Come on Rosie, I thought we had already discussed and concluded on this?"

"Yeah, we have and I bear no grudges against your friend whatsoever, all that mattered to me was my best friend and she is living a happy life so I don't have a problem."

"Fine then, let's not discuss that... let's talk about something else," Sammy said and sat down.

"Like what exactly, Mr. Sammy?" she chuckled.

"Well... like the good old times, the people we have come across in life and all that," he replied

"Yeah, you remember that one time that we met that weird looking lady at the pet store?" Rosie asked and chuckled.

"Yes I do, like... God, that was creepy," Sammy replied and then laughed.

"I think creepy is an understatement, it was horrible! I swear."

They both laughed hysterically over the little incident, they had been reminiscing.

Their relationship has been improving with the speed of a snail for the past one year and they were barely anywhere from where they began, but at least they showed prospects.

There was finally silence in the room, the laughter had died out. They were now both seated on a couch, watching TV in Rosie's seating room.

"Rosie, I must say, the dinner was amazing, I am not sure there is anything better," Sammy said softly with a smile.

Rosie sat quietly, staring at his face, and then she smirked. "Actually, there is something better, come here you Hunk of a man," she laughed and grabbed his collar.

Before Sammy could see it coming, she crushed his lips with hers while fondling with his buttons. Soon his long sleeved shirt was tossed into the air and it was only a matter of time before they ended up rolling on the bed with their birthday suits.

Well it was one fun long night for both; they had both waited for one long year to get to this point. Well Sammy was never bold enough to take the first step even though he always wanted to, so Rosie figured out that she had to do it.

"Why are you smiling like a Hyena? You have had that smirk on your face ever since morning and you were late to work today?" Oliver queried.

"Do Hyena's smile?" Sammy chuckled, "Well I slept over at Rosie's place last night," he confessed.

"I see, that is why you look like the happiest man on earth, I know that feeling, I suggest you enjoy it while it lasts," Oliver advised.

Sammy snickered. "Thank you boss, I will," he replied sarcastically, "and you are not looking so bad yourself today, I mean you have a little smile on your face, I have not seen one in the past one year, so tell me... what is the secret"

Oliver sneered, "It's no secret, I am just glad that I got rid of Nora, she is gone for good."

Sammy's face went sour the moment he said that. "What" he muttered.

"Relax Sam, I don't mean I killed her, I mean I divorced her last night," Oliver replied and chuckled.

"Wait, but how come? You mean it was so easy to divorce her? No one stood against you? Not your Grandfather or even the police or anyone at all?" Sammy queried.

"Well no, my Grandfather was actually the one that gave the instructions."

"Wait, you are joking right? Your Grandfather loves Nora, there is no way he is going to stand against her or ask you to get rid of her."

"You are right, unless his beloved daughter in law was caught cheating with a random man on her matrimonial bed." Oliver laughed.

"What? Nora brought another man into the house?" Sammy queried in shock, he could not believe what he had heard.

"Yes, it was not actually her first time of doing it and it is nothing new to me, I have always known that she was cheating but I didn't care to act, I wanted my Grandfather to catch her in the act and he eventually did, even though it took seven months for that to happen," Oliver explained.

"To be honest, this came as a shock to me, I always knew that Nora was a bad person but I never thought that she would be this shameless and wayward."

"Well, that is because you never really knew her, the day she tried to seduce me, that was the day it dawned on me that she was characterless. I mean I was not even married to her yet."

Sammy shook his head in disbelief, then he sighed. "Well, I am glad that she is gone, so what are you going to do now, you are going to bring Aria back, aren't you" he asked.

Oliver sighed and stood up from his office chair, he walked to the window and stood, staring out of the glass. "No Sammy, I think Aria is doing just fine without me, and I have grown to live just fine without her, I don't think we need each other. Yes I do love her and I miss her, but I won't force her to come back, if she is going to come back, then it would be on her own will, it is a choice she has to make herself, just like she chose to leave the city."

Sammy furrowed his eyebrows, "Are you sure about this man? This is your ego speaking, not your heart," he said softly.

"No Sammy, I know what I am saying... I have faith that Aria would come back to me on her own will, not just faith, it is confidence and until she does, I will remain single waiting for her, and if she doesn't come back, then so be it but I would not go looking for her," Oliver refused adamantly.

"Alright Oliver, if you are sure about that, then I wish you luck my friend," Sammy said and smiled.

"Thank you, and same to you... I hope your relationship with Rosie works out, what happened to me and Aria is not something I would wish for anyone, so good luck." He smiled.

"Thanks again Boss, I appreciate it."

"But that doesn't mean I would accept you coming to work late again, the next time it happens, then I will be slicing zero digits out of your paycheck," Oliver threatened and he chuckled.

"Okay boss, it won't happen again," he concluded and stood up from the chair. "I will get back to my office now."

"Yeah and concentrate on work, don't start thinking about Rosie because if anything goes wrong, then you will be fired," Oliver joked and they laughed.

Sammy was glad to see his friend laughing again; he had really missed the happy Oliver. He looked at his best friend one last time with a smile on his lips, and then he walked out.

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Chapter 58

"Where is that little girl?" Arianna muttered while walking from one room to the other. "Princess Lena!" she called out.

"Oh goodness, this girl would give me a heart attack someday, she is just three years old and yet she is already a pain in the ass. I wonder what I would have to face when she gets older." She grumbled to herself.

Just then her phone rang, she checked the caller ID and realized it was Michael calling. Her modeling agent/manager.

She grinned and picked the call. Well she was fond of him as he was the closest friend she had in London. She picked the call immediately and smiled.

"I thought we were taking a break today, I mean there are no performances or practice or meetings to attend, so why is Mr. Michael Osborne calling me today?" she said and giggled.

He laughed on the other side of the phone. "You know what they say Aria dear, all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. What do you think of lunch at the beach? It would be quiet and lonely." He suggested.

"Oh Mike, there is nothing I would love to do more than that right now, but you know better than me that I cannot be seen in such an open place, for the sake of my reputation I have to stay clear, I mean you thought me that yourself you silly boy," she replied and laughed.

"Well that is true, but I also taught you that sometimes you need to break the rules and be happy, you don't have to live like a prisoner all the time just because you are a popular model. By the way, the beach is safe today, I already checked and it is not crowded. Apart from that, you could also come there in a disguise. I have taught you how to be a different person for situations like this, haven't I?" he asked and chuckled.

"Fine, there is no need arguing with you silly boy, send the address and I will be there, but bear it in mind that if anything goes wrong, you will have to take full responsibility and I am not spending a dime," she said and laughed.

"Hey! That is not fair at all, you are richer than me and you want me to pay the debts, well I have fate that nothing would go wrong so yes, I accept your terms and conditions," he replied and chuckled.

"Good, you can be expecting me, I will just make a call and instruct the Nanny to come and stay with Princess." She informed him.

"Oh, well that is great, give her a kiss for me," he requested.

"I will, right after I find her, she is just as silly as you." Aria giggled.

"I agree, see you later then, take care." He concluded and hung up.

Aria smiled. "He is such a darling, now where is my little silly girl? Lena!!" she yelled.

It had been three years since Aria moved to London and she had really accomplished a lot in those past three years. Apart from being the third most famous model in London, she was the tenth most recognized model in the world, which was quite an achievement for a girl with no solid foundation or silver spoon to light her path.

She had to claw her way to the top through hard work and determination, but she would never have done it without the support of her new friend and manager, Michael Osborne.

Michael had been an essential element in her success, he was not just her manager, but her friend and her mentor, and he had helped her pull through difficult moments and helped her achieve her dreams.

Now she had a fat bank account, a new exciting life, a new purpose and a strong, beautiful daughter, but her life was not yet complete, there was something missing, a hole that she was unable to fill in all these years. She sorts the answer to the mystery behind that loneliness and even though the answer was clear to her, she refused to accept it, she refused to see it.

Aria arrived at the beach where Michael had invited her to, she was dressed in a simple gown with little makeup, with sunglasses to cover her eyes and a cowboy hat on her head. Well that was her disguise.

As a celebrity, she was not supposed to be seen regularly and in a place like that, if she was seen there, then not only would she be crowded by fans but she would have to answer to the agency that has currently contracted her.

For the value of an item to remain high, then that particular item is expected to be scarce and out of reach for a certain set of people in the society.

Before long, Aria found Michael at a table in an open place; well it was under an umbrella to protect them from the sun. There were other people there at the beach too, but as Michael had assured her, it was not crowded.

She walked up to him and sat down with her head bowed to hide her face.

"Hey, um... sorry but I am expecting someone so you can stay here," he said, and then he suddenly paused and watched her closely. "Aria? Oh my god, I didn't know it was you!" he exclaimed.

"Well, what use would my disguise be if you knew it was me?" she replied and they laughed.

"You look beautiful in this, but why did you have to wear a short sleeved gown?"

The sun would burn your skin!" he exclaimed.

"Relax Mike, I am used to such climate conditions, have you forgotten where I come from? It is usually hot in Nevada," she replied.

"Well a lot of things have changed now, this is London and you are no longer who you used to be then, you are a better person now." He said.

Aria smiled. Well she didn't know about that, yes she had almost everything she had ever wished for right here in London, but she had left a piece of her soul in Las Vegas, it was something that London would never give her.

"Fine, I will wear something more covering next time, thanks for your concern," she replied with a bit of sarcasm and he laughed.

"Good, now what have you done with my Princess Pinky?" he queried.

"Your silly girl has been subjected to grounding with the Nanny, at least I won't have to bother about her for a few hours," she replied.

"You are such a baaaad mom, running away from your responsibilities," he whined and she burst into laughter.

"Hahaha, oh my God mike, you make me laugh so much that my stomach hurts," Arianna said amidst laughter.

"Well I can't help it, a beautiful lady like you deserves that."

"Oh stop it mike, you are making me blush unnecessarily," she replied and looked down.

"Okay, time to be serious... actually Aria, I had a reason for calling you here," he said in a solemn voice.

"Okay, this is the first time I have seen you being serious, this must be really serious, go on... tell me what it is," she permitted.

Michael was quiet for a while, and then he inhaled and exhaled deeply. "You see Aria, I have known you for almost three years now, I want to let you know that meeting you was the best thing that had ever happened to me, because of you, my life has changed for the better.

I always had this dream to manage a famous model someday and you made that dream a reality, it was all because of you that I am where I am today. A woman with so much potential and courage, a woman with great abilities and vision I am not just proud to be called your manager but I enjoy the privilege of being your best friend and mentor. You have impacted my life in so many positive ways that I can't thank you enough.

That is why I have decided to let you know that I ...I want you to know that I love you more than a friend, you mean a whole lot to me and that is why I am making this request, hoping that you will make me the happiest man on earth.

With all that expressed, Arianna Joanna McQueen, would you marry me?" he proposed and went down on his knee with a ring in his hand.

Arianna was shocked; she had not seen this coming. Michael meant a whole lot to her and he had just asked her to be his wife, what was she going to do? Say yes? Whatever decision she took right now would affect the rest of her life, she was at a crossroad and had no idea what to do. Should she follow her heart? Was she to act logically or rationally? She was in a difficult situation!!

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Chapter 59

"Um... Mike, I ... I am really sorry to disappoint you, but I cannot marry you?" Aria replied nervously.

The look on Michael's face turned to disappointment when he heard that. Well what was he thinking? That she would get married to him? There were so many reasons to kick against it.

"But... but why?" he asked and sat up before he would get attention.

"Micheal... look, you are really a nice guy and I do like you, but I cannot get married to you. You see, I have decided that I do not want any man in my life for the meantime, I want to stay alone and apart from that, we cannot get into a relationship due to the nature of our work.

What do you think the people would say if they found out that I was in a relationship with my manager, it would ruin a lot of things for me and you and I am pretty sure you know what I mean." She answered.

"I understand your fears in the work aspect, but why do you not want to get married again? I understand that your first husband hurt you but that was years ago, you ought to have gotten past that now and also know that all men are not the same.

Look, I really love you Aria, I know what I am feeling and if you can give me a chance to show you, then I would not hesitate to make you happy for the rest of your life," he persisted.

Aria sighed and looked away. This was really awkward for her, she wished that this was all a dream but unfortunately, it was all happening real.

"I am really sorry, Mike... but I cannot marry you, this is not just about me, it is about my child's future. I might no longer be married to her father but that doesn't mean that he is no longer her father, Stark Oliver Gomez is still my baby's daddy."

"I understand that Aria, but that cannot be a problem, I mean... you are legally divorced from him, if you get married to me, then I will adopt Princess and we can be happy together," Michael reasoned.

Aria darted her gaze to him immediately, he must be a joker if he thought that Oliver would ever permit the adoption of his child while he was still alive. Even if

Aria tried to run from him, at a point in time, he would certainly come for his child.

Not only can he achieve that by his own power but with the support of the law, he would be unstoppable. The fact that she fled with the child will reduce her possibility of securing permanent custody of the child and she did not even want to think about it. She was already feeling guilty for keeping the father and daughter apart for years now.

Every parent's dream is to watch their children grow but she had taken that dream away from him. Although she had the feeling that Oliver did not want to find her, if he really wanted to, then he would have found her in the past three years.

"Please say something Aria," Michael pleaded.

She sighed and looked up to him. "Listen Michael, I really appreciate everything you have done for me from the first day we met till date, you have been a very important part of my life and I could never repay you for all the good you have done for me. I am really sorry Mike, but I can't marry you, it's just not right and I hope this does not affect the good relationship that we have," she replied.

Michael sighed and shook his head in disappointment, then he put the ring back in his pocket. He took Aria's hand and looked into her eyes.

"You are right Aria, I am sorry for what I have done, I guess I was not thinking straight when I thought there was a possibility of us being together. I mean, how could I not see it, the emptiness in you all these years was not a lack of a partner or lover, it was something you had left behind, it was your ex husband, you are still very much in love with him, aren't you?" Mike queried.

Aria swallowed hard and looked away. "Mike, it would be better if we don't talk about him," she replied.

He nodded. "Alright, I won't speak about him again, and please forgive me about what happened here today, like you said, I hope it would not affect the relationship that we share," he apologized.

"It is alright Mike, I understand that you had not only done this out of infatuation and respect, but you wanted to help me get rid of the emptiness you noticed in me, unfortunately marriage is not something that you should have reasons and conditions for, it is something that should be done with no extra reasons attached but mutual love and understanding, so thank you for trying to keep me happy."

Mike smiled. Even though she refused to admit it, he could tell that she was still very much in love with her ex-husband and he respected her decision. Her love for him must be very strong to have not faded after all these years.

"Okay, so since we are here now, we can at least have fun," he said and she smiled.

Aria was glad that the matter had settled itself, she had been afraid the moment he proposed that the great relationship they shared for years was about to have a crack and fall apart. She really needed Michael in her life, even though he could not replace Rosie or Oliver, but he had just as much value to her as the two of them.

Oliver walked into his mansion sluggishly, he was half sober as he had not drunk much tonight. His eyes located the stairs and he walked to it, he was about to climb up when he heard his dad's voice behind.

"You are back," the old man called out to him.

He turned around with a solemn face. "Good evening Grandpa, I thought you would be sleeping at the Villa today," he muttered

"Yes, but I decided to come and check on my grandson. You have turned this place into a graveyard, why did you send the servants away?" he queried.

"Relax Grandpa, it is not like I fired them, I just gave them a break and they still receive their full salary monthly so you shouldn't worry about them."

"It is not them that I am worried about, it is you son... you have been alone in this house for the past six months, you go to work, head to the bar after that and come back home drunk, is this all you want to do with your life? Come on Oliver, stop punishing yourself like this.

I suggest you go and find your wife, bring her back home. I know you had hurt her because of my selfish gains, that I cannot apologize enough for, but please let me make things right. I will go to London and apologize to her myself, I will bring her back to you, just give me your permission son," grandpa Go pleaded.

"No Dad, there is no need for that. I already told you, if Aria is ready to come back to me, then she would. Until then I would just let her do all that she wants, I will leave her to make choices for herself, she knows what is right and wrong."

"Fine if you insist, but look at you, I have not seen you looking so terrible, come with me, let's go have fun." He ordered.

"Oh come on Grandpa, I am not in the mood." He whined.

"Stark Oliver Gomez, I didn't say you have a choice, aren't you used to me forcing things on you already? So don't try to fight, it is useless. Just come with me right now!" Grandpa Go ordered.

"Fine Grandpa, but where exactly are we going?" he grumbled.

Grandpa Go smiled. "Oh boy, it will be just like the good old days, we will first go to some fancy five stars hotel and eat till we are full, then we will head to the casino next."

Grandpa Go was referring to the time when Oliver had lost his parents recently, he had drowned in depression and Grandpa Go took it as his responsibility to put a smile back on his face. So every night they would go to clubs, restaurants, and parties to watch girls dance. After which they will proceed to the biggest casino in Las Vegas and gamble with their fortune. The old man was really a fun guy and very few people would believe that he was a successful politician with his responsibilities.

"Oh not the Casino Grandpa," Oliver whined. He was not in the mood to go there but his Grandfather was determined to cheer him up and the Casino was just the right place for that.

"Oh yes the Casino, it is going to be a very long night," the old man chuckled and drew Oliver by the hand towards the door.

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Chapter 60

Oliver walked into his office and almost jumped out of his skin when he saw Sammy there.

"Hey, what are you doing here? You scared the life out of me," he grumbled and dropped his briefcase on the table.

"Well, you were late to work today, so I came here to reprimand you," he replied. Oliver shot a mean glance at him; that was a look to kill.

"Hey, don't give me that look, you always scold me when I am late to work so why shouldn't you be scolded when you do the same?" Sammy queried with wrinkled eyebrows.

"Because I am not just the founder and the owner, I am the chief executive officer of this company, no one gets to question me," he retorted.

"Whatever, you arrogant fellow... so tell me, what were you up to and where have you been? I branched at your house last night after visiting Rosie, the place was locked. Also, why has your phone been turned off since last night?"

"I see you prepared a questionnaire for me, anyway... it was all Grandpa Go's idea, he forced me to go out with him last night for some fun, I didn't like the idea but I must admit I enjoyed it, and my phone's battery went off since last night, I have not cared to charge it since then," Oliver narrated, then he walked to his chair and sat down.

"I see, that is thoughtful of your Grandfather, I don't know why you have been locking yourself up for the past few months. Like, isn't it time for you to move on? I mean, even your wife has moved on... look, she is all over the TV and magazines, she is famous now." Sammy stated and threw a magazine on his table, it had Aria's picture on the cover page.

Oliver sighed, "Yes, she is a famous model now, she walks up on stage dressed like a queen and the crowd goes crazy, she lights up the auditorium with her charming smile but what people can't see is the pain behind that smile, but I can see that very clearly, she is obviously still hurting, she hasn't moved on so don't think otherwise," Oliver replied in certainty.

"I see you keep a close eye on her, well since you can see this, why don't you get back together with her, swallow your pride and bring her back man," Sammy advised.

Oliver scoffed and shot him a stern glance. "I have told you several times not to bring up this discussion, Aria has made her choice in life and I won't go against it, I would let her do things her own way. Also, did you really think that pride was my problem? That such a stupid feeling could keep me away from the woman I love? Then you are very wrong.

Look here Sammy, I am not feeling too proud to beg her for mercy; it is not like I have not done that before in the past. But I am just... I don't know if to say upset with Aria, do you think what she did was right? Yes, I had hurt her when I made her sign those papers, but was that enough reason for her to take our child away from me?

I mean, it has been almost four years Sammy, and she did not even care to let me see my child for once. Not like I can't go there and take the child from her, not like I can't take her to court and get complete custody of the child for life, but I just want to respect her choice, I don't want to complicate things between us any further.

I would never try to go after her and plead for her to come back. I'm very happy that she is making a name for herself. In fact, I am amazed by her progress. I am very proud of her. If she still cares about me, then she would come back to Las Vegas with my child or try to reach out to me, only then would I try to make things right between us, only then can I plead for her forgiveness." Oliver flared in a high tone.

Sammy could see his friend was hurting badly, he did not want to make him any sadder than she already was.

"Alright Oliver, but for how long do you two intend to play this game?" Sammy queried.

"Game? You are getting it all wrong, this is not a game Sam. As long as Aria is happy over there, then I don't have a problem, I won't try to convince her to come back so that it wouldn't be like I am making her do it out of pity for me, she should choose by herself what she wants her future to look like, if she thinks she wants to spend it with me, then so be it, but if she is happy without me, then so be it too." Oliver concluded.

Sammy sighed; he could not understand what Oliver's logic was all about. He clearly needed Aria and she needed him too, so why would he not just bring her

back? It made no sense to him and he only saw it as pride, but if he could not bring Oliver to Aria, then perhaps he should try bringing Aria to Oliver.

"Alright man, I will get back to my office now, I dropped some files on your table, please look into them," he said and stood up.

"Alright I will, and one more thing Sammy, I can see that you are keeping records of Aria's achievements, which means you are following her. Please, if you even value our friendship, then don't try to fix things between us with your own power, let fate take care of things her way and you should rather concentrate on Rosie, you two have been dating for three years, is that all you want from each other, think about your future too, you are not getting younger." Oliver said and turned on his monitor screen, ready to work for the day.

Sammy wondered if his friend was a wizard. How did he know what was going on in his mind? Well he was still going to find a way to bring those lovers together, what use of a friend was he if he could not make his friend happy again, he was bored and tired of this stern Oliver already.

As for him and Rosie, he clearly understood what Oliver was trying to say without hurting his feelings. He was going to think about it when he arrived at his office, maybe he could find a way to help both himself and his best friend.