The Secret 191

Chapter 191

Luciano was a light sleeper; when he heard soft whispers, he opened his eyes and saw that the patient on the bed had already woken up. She raised her palm to her forehead; apparently she was checking her temperature.

-How does she feel? Do you still have a high fever? He got up and headed for the bed.

Roxana stopped examining herself and then got up little by little.

-I feel much better now. Thank you and sorry for the inconvenience caused tonight," she said in a polite tone.

Seeing that she was distant towards him, she was disappointed. However, she quickly hid her displeasure by remembering that she was unwell.

"You haven't had dinner in a while, are you hungry?" she asked him in an affectionate tone.

As soon as he mentioned that, Roxana realized that she was very hungry. Besides the few bites she ate at lunch, she had practically eaten nothing all day due to the poor appetite the fever brought on. On the other hand, she was reluctant to owe him any more favors, but just as she was about to tell him no, her empty stomach rumbled. In an instant, Roxana blushed, then she remained calm and answered:

—I don't feel like eating anything at this time.

Luciano frowned and left the room immediately. Hearing the door close, he turned and realized the man was gone. Ten minutes later, he returned with a bowl of piping hot oatmeal.

There aren't many options at this hour. I was only able to make this for you with the hospital microwave, I hope you don't mind.

Roxana was surprised by her actions and, when he came to, he had already made the bed for her and placed dinner in front of her.

-Thank you. She — she She got up and ate a bite.

"After considering all that he has done for me, it would be very impolite of me to turn him down one more time."

Luciano waited for him to start eating before going back to his seat.

—The doctor recommended that they hospitalize her to keep her under observation, in case her condition worsens. She should be checked out tomorrow morning and if everything is okay, she can be

discharged," she said quietly.

Roxana looked at him and nodded.

"I feel good now." Thanks for taking care of me tonight. It's getting very late, so you'd better go home and rest because you have to work tomorrow.

He was annoyed to hear that she was kicking him out and not in a subtle way.

"I'm not so irresponsible as to leave her here alone all night," he snapped coldly.

"I'm fine and no longer need special care." It is not necessary for her to stay. In any case, she won't be able to rest well here —insisted Roxana, after frowning.

She didn't want to owe him any more than she already owed him; her voice echoed loudly in the silent hospital room at midnight. Then, upon hearing her words, a sepulchral silence prevailed in the place. However, the man seemed to have no intention of leaving, so she dug her nails into her palms as she explained in a slightly kinder tone, "We're not related

. Therefore, there is no reason for you to take care of me, Mr. Fariña. In fact, I feel overwhelmed when he does. Saying that, she shot a solemn look at the man sitting across from her.

Luciano would never have thought that taking care of her would create a rift between them; he was totally disgusted. However, there was no way he was going to leave her alone. After a few moments of complete silence, he managed to suppress her anger.

-Do not misunderstand me. I just think Ela will be mad at me if she finds out I left her here and came back alone," she said nonchalantly.

In other words, she was implying that she wasn't the reason she insisted on staying. Although Roxana felt a bit uneasy, she couldn't refute. Since she had no choice, she accepted her decision. However, neither had anything to say to each other, which caused a very awkward situation.

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When he finished eating the porridge, Luciano automatically made the bed for him and put the bowl aside. For a long time, they both stared at each other without exchanging a word; the silence between them said it all.

She had rested all day, making it difficult for her to get back to sleep. Even so, she closed her eyes because she didn't want to interact with Luciano, who, on her part, was exhausted after a long day. Little by little, drowsiness invaded him and, in the blink of an eye, he fell asleep.

Minutes later, soft, rhythmic breathing was the only sound in the room. Roxana slowly opened her eyes and glanced in her direction. She had placed the jacket on top of her blanket and had only a thin shirt

on. She crossed her arms over her chest and at the same time seemed to have a hard time resting. She hesitated a bit before deciding to get up and approach him in silence; she then took the jacket from the bed and put it on top of her. Uneasiness washed over her when she saw him up close to her.

«She still has the same pretty face from six years ago, but I am no longer the girl in love at that time. I don't know how she sees me now and I don't want to find out either; I just want to lead a quiet life with my two children. Suddenly, she felt a relief; then she walked a few long steps to turn off the lights and went back to bed. As soon as he closed his eyes, many thoughts crossed his mind and he had a hard time falling asleep. Ironically, the soft sounds that were heard in the bed a while ago had woken up Luciano, who was a light sleeper. When she heard his footsteps and approaching him, she preferred to keep her eyes closed and pretend to be asleep.

A moment later, the woman stopped in front of Luciano, who could perceive the faint fragrance of her body. Because of her proximity, the scent made his heart race and his breathing ragged. Somehow, she had the feeling that she was staring at him; therefore, she could only continue dissimulating herself until she heard noises coming from the bed. After her, though her eyes were tired, he slowly opened his eyes and saw her; he fixed her gaze in her direction for the rest of the night. That night, none of them could rest well.

The next morning, Roxana woke up to a disturbance that was heard outside the room.

—The little ones were very worried about Miss Jerez. They've been asking to come see her since dawn," Lisa said helplessly.

Then, the anxious voice of Andrés was heard.

"How is mom?" Does she keep sleeping herself?

-Yeah. You should come in later. Luciano's voice sounded hoarse.

He hadn't rested much. When he fell asleep, the children had already burst into the room and asked to see Roxana. Seeing that she was fast asleep, she led them all outside and she closed the door behind him. Andrés realized how exhausted Luciano was, so even though he frowned, he obeyed. Meanwhile, Bautista looked through the small crack hoping to see his mother, but to no avail, so after that, he got angry. Lisa was holding Estela, who was also worried about the beautiful Roxana. She didn't stop looking at the door, as if they were going to open it if she kept doing it.

Anyway, the children stayed outside and waited in the hallway in silence when the man reminded them again that the woman was still sleeping; consequently, there was silence in the place.

A pleasant but confused feeling came over Roxana when she realized how worried the children were; she was very touched by her concern and she wanted to open the door to receive them. As soon as she sat on the bed, they stared at each other with Luciano through the small window in the door and, when their gazes met, her heart raced uncontrollably. Just when Roxana was still debating how to

answer him, he looked away and, after turning to the children, he announced:

"You can come in now." "Then he opened the door for them.

The three little ones' eyes shone when they saw Roxana sitting on the bed and, without thinking twice, they ran towards her.

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"How are you feeling, mommy?" Do you still have a fever? —Unable to hide their concern, Andrés and Bautista ran to the bed at the same time.

Roxana laughed as she shook her head.

-No. I feel much better now.

The two children were not very convinced so they stretched out their hands to check their forehead temperature themselves. As soon as Roxana saw them, she crouched down to let them touch her. Then, she saw the small figure of the girl who was behind Andrés and Bautista who, with tears in her eyes, was biting her lip with concern; she was quite shy compared to the two boys. Roxana felt very moved when she saw that and she smiled at him.

"Ela, do you want to check if I'm okay?" I ask Estela.

The little girl stiffened for a second and nodded enthusiastically. The next moment, she released Lisa's hand and moved closer to Roxana.

The woman had her body bent as she grabbed the girl's outstretched hand and placed it on her forehead. Shortly after, Estela withdrew her hand and finally smiled.

"They were scared, right?" I'm so sorry I worried you.

With affection, Roxana caressed each one of them after remembering her panicked faces when she saw how they took her to the hospital.

Bautista nodded his head non-stop.

—Andrés and I will be obedient from now on. Mommy, please don't work too hard, okay?

Andrés, who had a serious expression, didn't say anything; however, it was noticeable that he agreed with his brother.

"Okay, I'll take good care of myself," he replied after laughing.

Lisa placed a thermal container on the nightstand and said,

"Did you have breakfast?" I brought something for both of us. Hurry up and eat while it's still hot.

Then, she took out two bowls to serve them the soup and some garnishes: after which, Roxana nodded in response.

-Thank you so much.

Seeing that Lisa had already prepared the food, Luciano did not dare to reject her kind gesture despite not having an appetite. Then, at the same time, both of them took the bowls that were placed next to each other and their fingers brushed against each other by accident. Roxana was puzzled and unconsciously looked at the man, who happened to also be looking in her direction. The moment her gazes met, her heart raced; however, she instantly came to her senses and quickly suppressed her emotions. Then, she took the bowl from her as if nothing had happened.

"Mr. Fariña, thank you for spending the night here and taking care of Miss Jerez." Lisa broke the silence.

"I'm glad I did," Luciano said with a nod. Then he looked at Roxana before adding, "After all, Ela loves her very much and has been very good to her." She should do everything in my power to return the favor to Miss Jerez. He tried to justify his actions again and affirmed that he was only doing it for Estela.

Roxana had heard similar words the night before, so she didn't show any reaction when he said that that time. On the contrary, Lisa felt surprised. "The way the two interacted last night showed a breakthrough. I thought...".

"Ah, I see..." she replied wryly, having thought that she misunderstood the situation.

When Andrés found out that Luciano had stayed by Roxana's side all night, he pursed his lips and turned to look at the man as he bowed his head.

"Mr. Fariña, thank you for taking care of my mother," he pronounced quite formally.

At that moment, he thought the same thing as his mother. "Since this man disappointed mom, we should keep our distance from him. However, this time he helped her a lot, so I must thank him."

Bautista followed his brother's example and gave him a courteous nod.

Luciano frowned in response to the children's aloofness, then simply nodded his thanks.

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After breakfast, Roxana thought that it was still early, so she could possibly arrive at the research institute on time.

"My fever's gone." Lisa, could you arrange my discharge? I need to do something at work.

His work progress at the research institute had been affected due to the surgical intervention she had performed on Leandro's relative. Therefore, Roxana did not want to accumulate work and be delayed even longer.

Lisa hesitated at her words.

—Miss Jerez, I think you should stay one more day so they can check your state of health. I know work has overwhelmed her lately and she didn't get sick yesterday for no reason. It was due to fatigue! Now that her temperature is back to normal, she can't cover up for work again. I am very afraid that her body can't take it and she will collapse a second time. Although Lisa hadn't been working for her very long, she'd seen her wear herself out day after day.

«Anyone would believe that Roxana has superpowers if it weren't for the fact that she fell ill yesterday. She never once grumbled about being tired or complained about her hectic routine of juggling her career and raising her children." The more time Lisa spent with her family, the more she sympathized with the single mother of two. She treated Roxana like her own daughter and it distressed her to see her sick.

"There is no problem. I'm already accustomed. Besides, yesterday was just a small inconvenience —said Roxana while she removed the blanket and insisted on getting out of bed.

The expression of the man who was standing not far from her turned grim when he heard that. At that moment, he remembered her amazing resume. How is it that she achieved all those achievements in just six years? What kind of life did she lead when she was abroad? What has happened to get her to where she is today? ».

Lisa was still very worried and since she was not present when the doctor gave her diagnosis, she had no idea of Roxana's real condition; so while she was still debating what to do, Roxana had already gotten out of bed. Concerned, the woman quickly turned to Luciano and looked at him as if she were begging him, since she hoped he would help her convince Roxana to stay. She thought that, somehow, Roxana would listen to him.

As he stared at the stubborn woman, Luciano's frown grew more and more as he got closer to the bed.

—The doctor has said that he must examine her before releasing her. Saying that, he looked at Lisa and said, "Please, I called the doctor."

In the end, the young woman sighed with relief and did as he had asked. On the other hand, Roxana frowned to show her disagreement.

"This is really unnecessary. I know myself and I know my body well. —As a doctor she was well aware of the state she was in.

"It was just a fever, I have recovered and I can be discharged."

"If so, why would she pass out earlier in the house and why would she feel so weak that she couldn't even get out of bed?" Luciano replied.

Roxana was speechless at his words.

As soon as they heard Luciano, Andrés and Bautista joined them.

-Mommy, let's go find the doctor so he can check you out.

Roxana couldn't bear to see her children nervous about her because of her so she finally gave up and obeyed.

Suddenly, Lisa returned to the room with the doctor. After a series of tests, the doctor observed the group and found the man who had admitted Roxana to the hospital.

"There doesn't seem to be anything wrong with her, so I can clear her." However, from now on, she should pay attention to her health and get enough rest. Remember that health comes first.

Luciano nodded at the doctor's words and glanced at Roxana, who, looking at him, felt somewhat guilty and lowered her head.

-Thank you Doctor. I'll take note of this," she murmured.

Next, the doctor listed a few common reminders and left the room.

When Lisa confirmed that everything was fine with Roxana, she calmed down and went ahead to solve the discharge procedures.

Chapter 195

It wasn't eight o'clock when they left the hospital. Roxana stretched out her rigid body lazily; she was very glad to breathe fresh air again after being confined to a bed for a day.

Andrés and Bautista followed her closely for fear that something would happen to her again.

"Miss Jerez, why doesn't she go home and get some rest?" Maybe she can take the morning off? Lisa tried her best to convince her not to go to work right away.

"I'm in perfect shape, so don't worry about me. After the operation I did the day before yesterday, I ran to the kindergarten in sweaty clothes because I didn't have time to change. Most likely, I caught a cold and that's why I had a fever. I promise to be more careful next time," she assured him with a smile. Then she leaned over and ruffled the children's hair. I have to finish my work at the research institute. Miss

Lisa, can you take them to kindergarten? I'll let Miss Garcia know they'll be late.

The children looked at her with concern since, if possible, they preferred that their mother could take a breather and rest. However, they were well aware that her mother was a workaholic and that she would not put it off for later so, although she took a while, they finally agreed reluctantly.

Roxana turned to Lisa and said,

"I'll let you take the kids to kindergarten, but first I'll tell Mrs. Garcia properly."

Lisa agreed. After which, Roxana approached Luciano, who was already waiting by the main entrance.

"I just wanted to thank you for last night. I took care of Ela last time and now you've returned the favor so we're even now," she said calmly.

Luciano's feelings were the complete opposite of the fearless look he had. Moments later, she broke the silence with a terse reply.

"Of course," she replied nonchalantly; her thoughts were indecipherable.

Just as Roxana was about to turn to leave, a small hand grabbed the hem of her dress.

"Miss Sherry!"

Estela had understood the words that Roxana had said to Luciano and they had left her completely baffled as to who owed what and to whom. To her they were speaking in another language, a strange one, so she hurried to stop her.

The woman stopped and turned to the girl.

"What's wrong, Ella?"

"I like you, Miss Jerez." She—she had teary eyes and made a disgusted face because she felt bad.

Seeing the girl so sad, Roxana felt moved and immediately hugged her.

"I like you too, Ella. Thank you for coming to visit me," she comforted her.

Her warm embrace made Estela feel a little better. Despite that, he didn't like the idea of being separated from her, so he looked at Roxana's back while he masturbated.

Later, Roxana accompanied Lisa and the children to the street to call a taxi.

That morning, Lisa had taken a taxi to go to the hospital while Luciano had taken Roxana the night

before, so they were without her own vehicle. Unfortunately, as it was rush hour, they couldn't escape the traffic jam because not a single free taxi came by, even after waiting for a while.

While Roxana debated whether or not she should bother Conrado so that he would pick her up at the hospital, Luciano told her:

—It's hard to get a taxi at this hour. Let it take you all where you need to go.

Roxana was startled when she heard his voice since she thought the man had already left. "Why are you still here?" She turned around and met the adorable eyes of Estela, who seemed to expect her to accept her offer. It was then that she understood that, although she had a soft spot for the girl, she no longer wanted anything to do with that man. She therefore declined the offer as she frowned.

"Don't worry, Mr. Fariña. I've been giving you enough trouble lately. I'm sure he needs to get to his office as fast as possible, so please go ahead and don't worry about us. We'll manage on our own.

The instant she finished her sentence, she saw how Luciano furrowed his eyebrows angrily. "Did I say something that upset you?" Disconcerted, Roxana did not dare to continue speaking.

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While holding Estela's hand, Luciano stared at the woman who was near him with an indifferent expression.

—Even though we're not close, you don't have to avoid me like a virus, Miss Jerez. Anyway, I have to take Ela to kindergarten and I will pass in front of her research institute and from there I will go to Grupo Fariña. That's why I offered to take her. What is it that worries you? Him," he replied in a slightly sarcastic tone; in other words, he was implying that Roxana was thinking too much.

Estela wanted to spend a while with Roxana so he looked at her with a pitying expression when he heard her words.

"Miss Sherry...

Unintentionally, Roxana felt moved, besides, she had no objection to Luciano's words. They simply had nothing to do with each other, so by repeatedly contradicting each other about such inert matters she made her seem quite cruel. After thinking about that, she gave in and told Lisa:

— She can come back. I will take them to kindergarten.

Lisa nodded in affirmation; Andrés and Bautista on their way to Roxana. Since both boys were still prejudiced against Luciano, they were a bit hesitant to realize that the man would take them back.

Estela, on the other hand, had already let go of her father's hand and approached to grab her dress from Roxana; it was evident that he wanted to sit with her. After stroking her head, Roxana ordered the

children:	
—Come up.	

Only after hearing those words did the children slowly get into the car. Roxana got in right behind them with Estela in her arms and sat in the back seat with Andrés and Bautista.

Luciano closed the car door for them and got into the passenger seat. Then he started the car slowly and headed towards the kindergarten. Silence reigned inside the car, since Roxana had nothing to say to Luciano. In addition, the children were also inexplicably quiet, which is why the atmosphere was very depressing during the whole trip.

As the car slowly pulled away, the cameras in the bushes in front of the hospital kept rolling.

By the time they got to kindergarten it was almost nine o'clock. Roxana got out of the car and took the three children to the door of the place, but, as it was very late, it was already closed. So, the woman called Pilar to briefly explain the situation. Then the teacher came out and took the three children inside.

Seeing that her figures disappeared from her field of vision, Roxana turned hesitantly.

At the side of the road, Luciano's car was still parked in the same spot, waiting for her. According to what Luciano said earlier, he would drop her off somewhere near the research institute on his way to her office; however, without the presence of the children, she did not know how to be alone in such a small space with him.

In any case, the research institute was very close to the kindergarten. Back then, part of the reason he had chosen that particular garden was because of the distance to his work, which would allow him to take his children from one place to another; even on foot it would only take half an hour.

As he contemplated whether or not he should walk, the car window rolled down slowly, revealing the man's impatient face. Immediately, Roxana was amazed.

"Isn't she in a hurry to go to the research institute?" Why does she keep wasting time? —Luciano could guess her intentions so she was in a bad mood and her tone of voice wasn't very friendly either.

Hearing that, she pursed her lips and, after a moment, gave him a courteous smile.

—The research institute is close, so I'll walk.

Luciano suppressed her disgust and answered with disdain:

—If Ela finds out that she made her walk, she'll be angry when she comes back.

Roxana was startled by his words. "If neither of them talks about this, how would she find out?" However, she realized that it seemed that the man would not leave unless she got into the car so she, after hesitating for a moment, got into her back seat.

Chapter 197

That afternoon, April noticed that her employees were giving her strange looks when she was making rounds in the office.

"Miss Pedrosa!" Mr. Fariña is so kind to you that we are all dying of envy," joked one of the employees closest to her.

Hearing that, she April was helplessly stunned.

- -Really? How do you know that? she asked lightly as she forced a nonchalant smile.
- —Everyone knows that Mr. Fariña took care of you at the hospital all night. The clerk's smile grew more ingratiating. However, today she came to work on time. He truly is our role model.
- -What are you talking about? April tensed.

«Did Luciano take care of me in the hospital all night? I was in perfect condition these days, so I have not gone to the hospital.

The employee guessed that she was embarrassed, so she took the phone from her and showed her a news item.

-Dont be shy. He's already on the news, so everyone knows. Only after saying that, and belatedly, did she remember to show some concern for the health of her employer and asked shyly, "Oh, by the way, what happened to you last night?" Wasn't it good in the afternoon? Why did he have to go to the hospital all of a sudden?

Abril limited himself to taking a quick look at the content of the news on the phone screen and his bewilderment increased after he caught a glimpse of the headline that said: "Mr. Fariña accompanied his fiancée to the hospital in the middle of the night and took care of her until the end of the day." sunrise".

"Well, maybe I ate something bad last night. Now I am fine. Go back to work," she replied, smiling.

The employee made some cliché comments while she feigned concern and returned to her work station.

April returned to her office with a grim expression. Immediately, she went to Twitter and searched for news related to Luciano. As soon as she wrote his name, a piece of news appeared that said: "Mr. Fariña accompanied his fiancée to the hospital and showed that their relationship is intimate." The headlines

that appeared below were quite similar. She clicked on the first link and the comments had already exceeded a million. The most popular story had been published by a renowned entertainment page in the industry and read: "Last night, Mr. Fariña personally took her fiancée to the hospital and carried her in her arms the entire way. What an attentive boyfriend! At eight in the morning today, both got into Mr. Fariña's car, accompanied by the man's daughter. His fiancée has a close relationship with the girl, so it seems that the wedding is near. Below the note were two photos: the first was at night and showed Luciano carrying a woman toward the hospital entrance; the second was from the hospital entrance, with Luciano in front of the car while the woman got in with a child in her arms. Judging from the clothes and figure, it was clear that the woman in both photos was the same person, and both images gave the impression that the people featured were very close. In fact, the second photo looked like a portrait of a family of three. However, as the fiancée in question, April was unaware of the entire matter. with Luciano in front of the car while the woman got in with a girl in her arms. Judging from the clothes and figure, it was clear that the woman in both photos was the same person, and both images gave the impression that the people featured were very close. In fact, the second photo looked like a portrait of a family of three. However, as the fiancée in question, April was unaware of the entire matter. with Luciano in front of the car while the woman got in with a girl in her arms. Judging from the clothes and figure, it was clear that the woman in both photos was the same person, and both images gave the impression that the people featured were very close. In fact, the second photo looked like a portrait of a family of three. However, as the fiancée in question, April was unaware of the entire matter.

Not only had Luciano been ignoring her, but the woman in the photos was someone else. She zoomed in on the images and examined them several times before thinking of a familiar figure. "Oh, it's that Roxana bitch again!" After all, both her profile and the silhouette of the woman in the photos matched her perfectly.

Noticing her, April's expression suddenly darkened. The supposed attention that Luciano had shown for her fiancée was just a big misunderstanding. "It wasn't me she took care of all night, but that bitch Roxana!"

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On the contrary, the employees of the place believed the news and did not stop commenting among themselves about April.

- —Before, it was rumored that Mr. Fariña was delaying the wedding because he was not willing to marry Miss Pedrosa. However, and to everyone's surprise, he is a very attentive person in private.
- —Señor Fariña is so handsome and attentive! I want a boyfriend like that too!

Similarly, many similar comments were heard one after another.

Hearing all this, April's expression contorted more than once and she dug her nails into her palms before managing to suppress the fury she felt.

—Don't talk about irrelevant topics during working hours. Dedicate yourself to work seriously!

Saying that, he glared at the employees who were whispering among themselves and turned on his heel as he walked away without looking back. The truth was that she couldn't bear to stay here; the more they talked about the matter, the greater her anger grew.

Leaving the office, she hurriedly drove to her house. At the Pedrosa residence, Gina and Santiago were sitting in the living room and were perplexed when they suddenly saw her daughter enter in a bad mood.

"What's going on, April?" Who offended you in the office that...?

Santiago thought that she had to work and was about to give her daughter some advice when she was here she interrupted him abruptly:

"I work this... I work that... You're only talking about work!" If you're so excited for the company to do well, shouldn't you be excited to be part of the Fariña family? And if so, why don't you have any idea of Luciano's movements?

Upon hearing the comment, Gina and Santiago felt their world come crashing down.

"Is this for Luciano?" Her mother asked, frowning. Didn't Sonia spread the news that they were going to get married? What else could we worry about?

As she said that, April walked up to them on her high heels and tossed her phone onto the couch.

"See for yourselves!"

At that moment, the couple exchanged a glance before picking up the phone in bewilderment. After seeing the contents of the screen, both of their faces darkened. For them, it was customary to watch financial news and they rarely paid attention to entertainment news, therefore, it was the first time they had seen the news that Luciano had taken care of his fiancée the night before. Of course they knew that his daughter had been home all night; furthermore, they were also able to notice that the silhouette of the photograph of her was not of her at all.

"Who is the woman in the photo?" Gina asked with a frown.

April took a deep breath, sighed heavily, and sneered at the phone screen without saying a word.

-Who is the woman? Is she that young woman with the last name Jerez? Gina insisted when she didn't get an answer.

Besides Roxana, he couldn't think of anyone else.

"Of course she was that b*tch!" —April answered through gritted teeth after hearing her name.

It doesn't matter that she embarrassed me at the banquet that day, but my impending marriage to Luciano is now public knowledge, and she shamelessly continues to cling to it! Fortunately, the photos the media took are blurry, and they can't tell it wasn't me. Otherwise, I would be a laughing stock again!" Thinking of that, her face flushed red with anger and she clenched her hands, which she held at her sides, into fists as she dug her nails into her palms.

Although Gina already harbored that assumption, her expression darkened upon receiving confirmation from her daughter. The woman thought that the marriage between the two families would be something guaranteed after the news of the imminent wedding between Luciano and Abril leaked out; she never imagined that trouble could still arise. "I didn't know that Luciano and that woman were so close!"

"Don't panic. Since everyone says it was you, we'll just feign ignorance," Gina ordered as she looked up after a long moment.

Of course, April wouldn't take the initiative to humiliate herself to her, so she agreed with a sneer.

Chapter 199

April, Gina and Santiago argued for a long time before reaching a consensus for Sonia to resolve the matter. After all, Mrs. Fariña was the one who most supported the idea of Abril marrying and becoming part of her family. Furthermore, Luciano would still obey her to a certain extent. With that in mind, Gina decided to invite Sonia right away.

"Are you here too, April?" What would you like to eat? Today I invite. —Sonia didn't notice anything strange while she sat in front of them smiling.

—Thank you, Mrs. Fariña, but today I don't have much of an appetite. April forced a smile.

Saying that, she lowered her head dejectedly and placed both her hands on her knees with her fingers interlocked.

"Aren't you in a good mood?" What has happened? asked Sonia worried when she saw that.

However, April refused to purse her lips and shake her head, which caused the woman to look at Gina in bewilderment. She's this she too forced a smile as she took the phone from her and went to Twitter. On that occasion, she didn't even have to search, since the news was on the trending list, so she opened it immediately and handed the phone to Sonia.

Look at this headline.

Given the expressions of both, the woman was concerned, but even so, she reached out to take the

phone.

I knew they made a perfect couple. —While she read the news, the woman outlined a smile. There is no doubt that Luciano will treat Abril better once they are married.

She noticed again the expressions of the women in front of her and it seemed strange to her, but she couldn't understand the reason; As expected, he hadn't realized that the woman in the photo wasn't April.

"But..." Gina suppressed her disgust and looked at her daughter before commenting with a conflicted expression, "April wasn't sick yesterday and she was home with us all night."

As soon as she heard that, Sonia's smile faded. «April was at home last night; in other words, the woman in the photo is not her. So... who else could she be? ». The woman stared at the screen and made a small guess to herself. She didn't know if what she thought would help the situation, but the more she looked at the woman in the photo, the more it seemed to her that she was Roxana.

"I was afraid there might be a misunderstanding, so I wanted to ask if Luciano has a cousin or something," Gina commented, forcing a smile with an understanding expression. Otherwise, this is truly unacceptable.

At that moment, Abril finally raised her head and waited for Sonia's response with an expression of hurt and hope. Seeing that her future daughter-in-law was suffering in such a way, Sonia felt guilty when she looked again at the image of her son carrying another woman and did not dare to tell the young woman the identity of the young woman in the photo. .

-No matter what happens; the news of the wedding has already been released," the woman commented after a moment. Now that such a scandal broke out, our family is to blame. Don't worry, April. I'll talk to Luciano so that this doesn't happen again in the future.

April's eyes darkened a little, but she nodded meekly. Sonia did not have the courage to stay, so she got up and left with long strides after saying goodbye to both.

In the blink of an eye, April's expression darkened completely. After returning to the Pedrosa residence, she couldn't help but look at the news again, especially the comments. One of them said: "Wow, Mr. Fariña carries the woman in his arms perfectly! His fiancée of hers is so lucky! ». Another later commented, "Even though the resolution of the photo is terrible, I can see that the aura and silhouette of her fiancée are amazing! As expected of Mr. Fariña's wife!" Similar comments followed all over the news. Without exception, everyone praised Luciano's attention to the woman in the photo and how they looked like a perfect couple.

Seeing the comments keep popping up, April pressed the lock button hard and the screen immediately went black. A moment later, a click echoed through the room. The phone, which was initially in the hands of the young woman, at that time was on the ground with a cracked screen.

Chapter 200

Roxana had just left work when she heard that the employees of the research institute were talking about the marriage of Luciano and Abril.

—Mr. Fariña is so attentive! In fact, he took care of his fiancée all night. If he was my boyfriend, he would never do it.

"Besides, he's handsome and a millionaire." His fiancée is also beautiful. She looks quite similar to Miss Jerez, so she must be a beauty.

They all shared a similar opinion. The group of researchers talked while walking and, when they saw Roxana, they even said goodbye to her.

—See you tomorrow, Dr. Jerez.

Smiling, Roxana greeted one by one; however, she couldn't help but feel puzzled after hearing her conversation. «Luciano took care of his fiancée all last night? But he was with me the whole time. When did he see April? ». While he thought that all this was strange, Conrado approached her.

-You are free tonight? How about we have dinner together?

After coming to his senses abruptly, Roxana looked at him with an apologetic expression.

"I still have to rush to kindergarten to get my children, so I'm afraid we'll have to leave it for another day." When we're done with the project, I'll treat everyone to a meal.

Hearing that, a hint of disappointment flashed in Conrad's eyes, but in the end, he said nothing. While talking about the project, both of them left the research institute. Since Roxana hadn't driven to work, she decided to call a taxi along the road. A moment later, slowly, Conrado stopped the car in front of her.

"Didn't you come by car?"

Roxana shook her head

—Where are you going? I will take you. Anyway, I have nothing to do tonight and it's not easy to get a taxi here. Conrad had a warm, friendly smile.

Roxana hesitated for a moment. She looked at the time and saw that, indeed, it was the time when Andrés and Bautista left school. Because of that, she didn't reject the offer, instead she opened the car door and got in.

As soon as he sat down, he received a call from Javier, who asked him about the progress of the project. The young woman limited herself to explaining everything briefly and succinctly. After ending

the call, she was about to put the phone away when she received a notification. He was the headline of a news item that said: "Mr. Fariña took his fiancée to the hospital in the middle of the night and kept her company until the next day."

Seeing that, Roxana remembered the situation from the night before and the conversation she had heard from her employees. Without even thinking, she opened the link and two blurry photos appeared before her eyes. Seeing them, she froze, since she didn't even have to open them to know that the woman who appeared was her.

The first photo was taken when she was delirious with a high fever and was probably from when Luciano drove her to the hospital. Even when she woke up on the spot, she was still in the man's arms. However, she never imagined that they would look so close in the photo. Also, the man seemed to take special care when he carried her in her arms. The second photo of her was taken when she got into the car with Estela in her arms, while Luciano remained on one side of her. Roxana did not know where the person she took the photographs was hiding, since neither of them had noticed her presence. Furthermore, it was evident that the paparazi who published the news had not been able to distinguish between her and April. Fortunately, the photos were very blurry, so only the closest people could tell that the woman was her.

With a frown, Roxana continued scrolling down and reached the comments, where everyone confessed their envy for Luciano's attention to her. Little did they know that the young woman was not the least bit happy about it. After looking at the comments for a considerable time and verifying that no one had noticed that the woman in the photos was not April, Roxana put the phone away with mixed feelings. With the idea of avoiding unnecessary trouble, the woman had no intention of clarifying the situation; on the contrary, he found the whole misunderstanding of her quite amusing.