

## Chapter 24

Victoria stood still, with nothing but confusion showing all over her face. She hated the fact that Oscar was seated there, smirking at her. A thought crossed her mind of honestly wishing there was something she could do to wipe the smirk off his face. She honestly had no idea what he was doing here but she could tell it was to attack her. She had predicted him to do worse things but never did it cross her mind that he was going to show up in her office. Beside Oscar was an unfamiliar face dressed in a deep blue suit. She needed no one to tell her who he was as she already had a good idea. And Beside the stranger was Mr. Philips. One of the board members of the company. Opposite them was Ashton who was also seated, exchanging glares with Oscar who doesn't seem to give a f\*\*\*k as he had his attention on Victoria. Vicky stormed out of the Conference room and Kathie followed suit. "What the hell is he doing here? Why didn't you tell me he was here?" "I had no idea, Vee. I swear to you?" "But there's only one way to find out which is to go back in there." "The way you stormed out of the room, I don't think Mr Philip would like that." "To hell with everyone, isn't this obvious? See why I've been avoiding wanting anything to do with that b\*\*\*d. As if what he did isn't enough, he is back here to ruin me!" "Please calm down, Vee. I don't know what nasty plan he thinks he has but I just want you to believe that he's not going to succeed. All hands are on deck. You've got me and most importantly, Gabe." Victoria sighed, "You can do this. You have nothing to fear," Kathie gave her a light squeeze on the shoulder. Victoria made her way back into the conference room and Kathie followed suit. She quietly greeted Mr. Philip and sat beside him. Kathie took her seat beside Vicky. "Yeah, Sorry about this meeting being impromptu but I'm here to discuss something really important." "That's Mr. Oscar Wayde and his lawyer," Philip pointed to Oscar and the man in a deep blue suit seated beside him. "This is Victoria, the Senior Manager, her assistant Kathie, and Ashton Miller, the manager." They all exchanged glares with Oscar and refused to respond to his lawyer's greetings. "Anything the matter?" Philip asked, surprised. He knew the staff of Alic Incorporation to be very polite and Welcoming but the environment was literally very tense. "Nothing Sir, I guess we might as well get right into the conversation." She said with a smile that wasn't reaching her eyes. "Oscar Wayde here is now a shareholder." "What?" Vicky's voice came through before she could control herself. "I had no idea one of the boards wanted to let go of their shares. Besides, even if this would happen, shouldn't the due process be followed?" Vicky said to Philip, trying so hard not to freak out. She literally saw Oscar yesterday so she was wondering how he was able to pull this so fast. "I get you all are surprised but the deed has been done. That's why his lawyer is here, to make sure all necessary procedures are taken and that this becomes official." Chapter 24 "Mr. Wayde is not just any shareholder. He's a major shareholder and will subsequently be introduced to the rest of the team once all the paperwork is finalized. "That's not possible," "Why? Why do you say so?" Philip asked. "Really? A marketing firm? Here in Australia? What for? How the hell is it going to benefit you?" Victoria directed at Oscar. Philip stared at Oscar, and then back at Vicky, wondering where and when they knew each other from. "None of your business." "Of course, it's my damn business." She rose to her feet. "Vicky." Kathie tried to caution her to take her seat. "Let go, Kathie." She mumbled, turning her attention back to Oscar who seemed really unbothered by what She was doing. "Whoever sold it to you, refund the person and get the hell out of here!" "Victoria!" Philip tried calling her to order Ashton rose to his feet. "Vicky is right, Philip. We can't work with him." "Why?" "Because he has no business with owning a marketing firm?" "I'm really surprised and disappointed by your outburst but what has this got to do with you?" "You aren't part of the Board and you don't make decisions for this company." "I know I'm not a Board member. I may not be part of the decision-makers of this company but you should know me by now that I've got the interest of this company at heart. And I give you my word, that Oscar here is bad luck." "Don't talk that way about my client, ma'am." Oscar's lawyer spoke. "Did your Client tell you that he has evil intentions?" "That's a very strong allegation, ma'am." "Then you have no idea who you are representing." "Victoria!!!" Philip called her to order. "Sorry, Philip but I can't be a part of this." Throwing Oscar a glare, as well as his lawyer, Vicky stormed. out of the conference room. "What's going on? Or do they know each other by any chance?" Philip whispered, directing at Kathie, even when it was evident that the rest of the people in the room could hear him. Kathie shrugged, rising to her feet. She picked up her tab and made her way out. Ashton who was still on his feet sighed when Philip gave a confusing look. "Can I see you in private?" Despite how dumb he was looking, Philip stood up and followed Ashton. They stopped right outside the conference room and stood opposite each other. "What the hell is going on? Is there anything I need to know that you guys aren't telling me?" "You've been a top board member and I'm sure you know Vicky well." "Of course I do, but I do not understand why she acted that way in there." "Vicky or a

new client, who would you trust?" Chapter 24 "Did you just say a new client?" "He's a shareholder which automatically makes him a board member. Once everything is legalized, he's going to be you all's Boss so I would behave myself and control my temper if I was any one of you." "That's the point," "What?" Philip frowned. "I think he's up to no good. He's here to destroy everything." "What do you mean here to destroy everything? Do you know who Oscar Wayde is? Do you know how many businesses he controls worldwide? Oh, you might also want to Google his net worth since you all are making him seem like a gold digger." "For heaven's sake, this dude runs successful businesses that are known worldwide. I and other board members thought it was a good idea to have him as part of the team. It means this firm will progress even more." "I had expected you and Victoria to be excited about this, just as I am. I had envisioned that there was going to be a party in the office, celebrating this huge deal but No! You all are acting nasty." "No one is acting Nasty, Philip. We are all here looking out for this company's best interest." "And yes, I know about Oscar Wayde. He's not popular in Australia but he is in the whole of America and Europe. He's mostly into construction companies, hotels, pubs, restaurants, real estate, and the likes. He even hired companies that are personally in charge of the PR of his investments. What more could he want from a marketing firm?" "I....I....I don't know! Perhaps he wants to explore. That's why he's a shareholder?" Ashton sighed. "You've known Vicky since she started working here! Do you trust her instincts right?" "I used to but I don't know anymore!" "Come on, Philip. Vicky's brother is also a shareholder. Do you think she would lead this firm into evil?" "Please don't words in mouth. I think we all have a common goal here and it's the fact that have this company's interest at heart." put my We all "I saw the potential in Oscar being part of us. He's young, has experience even though not related to marketing and he's successful. And that made us approve of him." "It's okay if you all have known him before and he did something nasty, then let us know. We cannot just discard him, there has to be good grounds." Ashton nodded slowly, understanding where Philip was coming from. "I don't know what came over her but I feel so disappointed because there are better ways to handle situations like this." Philip said after which he went back inside the conference room. He met Oscar discussing with his lawyer. "I'm really sorry about what just happened. "It's fine." He shrugged it off like it was no big deal!", "Really?" Philip said, surprised, truly not finding any trace of anger on his face. "It's fine, Mr Philip." He tucked his hands in his pocket, "Thank you for understanding." "I'm sure all documentation will be done in due time and you will be notified of the next meeting so you can be properly introduced to the board and other members of the company." "No problem. Thank you for seeing me on such short notice." The duo exchanged a handshake with Oscar smirking at Ashton who stood by the door. The moment Victoria stormed out of the conference room, She went straight to her office, ignoring the greetings of the few staff she met on the way. Once she got into her office, She went over to her desk, dropped the tab, and picked up her phone. With shaky hands and glossy eyes after She picked up her phone, She went to her recently dialed numbers, and called the number that was on her mind. Once she dialed the number, she brought the phone close to her ear. "Hi baby," The familiar loving voice came through. "Look, I promised I was not going to interfere in the Board activities of the company but you did not tell me there is a new shareholder." "Yes, there is. And Sorry I did not inform you about it. You've got a lot going on with that stalker. But wait, why do you sound pissed?" "I saw the portfolio and I think it's great that he is part of the team." "Oscar Wayde, the bastard that ruined your sister? Best for the team? I see!!!" "What? Are you kidding? You mean that miscreant is the new shareholder?" Victoria rolled her eyes, not believing that her brother didn't do enough due diligence. "Damn!!!! I'm so sorry, I've been so busy to personally request information. You know it is the company's legal team that takes care of the process. I was only told that it is a good deal and would make the company receive more recognition."

"You know there is no way Oscar can be a gold digger here! You know he is doing this just to spite me!" "Please calm down, Vicky. I will see if there is anything I can do." "I do not know why I did not see this coming. I just did not know he was going to go this far." "Please be calm, Vicky. I will see what I can do from my end. And even if there is nothing to be done, you do not have to worry because even though he is a shareholder, he still doesn't have the highest share which means he can not mess with your employment or take any decisions alone." "That is not the point, Gabe. Look, no one knows that goal digger better than I do. He is here to destroy this company. Please believe me. I know how much sweat you all put into building this place. I wouldn't want you all to lose it." "I understand, Sis. Everything will be fine, I promise. I will reach out to the lawyer again to see how we can sort this. I just did not think he would go this far. After being a beast to you, what the hell does he want?" "He is probably pressed that I am doing well, that I am not broken." "You trust me, Don't you?" Vicky sighed, "I do." "Then be calm and let me handle this." "Sure,"

“Take care. I’ll call you back with a progress report.” “I love you.” “I love you too, Victoria mumbled, ending the call.